

**Question for written answer P-008835/2015  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Pregnant ten-year-old girl denied abortion in Paraguay

According to media reports, a ten-year-old girl in Paraguay has become pregnant after having suffered sexual abuse by her stepfather. The Government of Paraguay has refused to let her have an abortion since the twentieth week of pregnancy has passed, notwithstanding the fact that the pregnancy was only discovered in the twenty-first week. The Paraguayan Minister of Health has already rejected the possibility of allowing the child's pregnancy to be terminated.

According to Amnesty International and other organisations, not only could forcing the ten-year-old girl to give birth place her health at risk, it could also constitute a violation of the UN's Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, ratified by Paraguay and all EU Member States.

Does the High Representative agree that forcing a child to give birth after having been raped constitutes an instance of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, and should, therefore, be investigated and punished?

Will the High Representative contact the Paraguayan authorities to express the EU's position rejecting the statement by the Paraguayan Minister of Health, and the attitude of the Paraguayan Government, and to try to find a solution for the girl?