

**Question for written answer P-002087/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Viorica Dăncilă (S&D)

Subject: Access to the labour market for women from rural areas

Gender equality is a common value shared at EU level and a necessary condition to promote greater fulfilment of the workforce and social cohesion.

In many Member States access to the labour market for women from rural areas is limited, and the chances of developing a business in the agricultural sector are relatively low.

This reality is also confirmed by a DG AGRI study of May 2014, which reveals that most farms in the EU are held by men and only a small proportion by women.

How will the Commission work with the Dutch Presidency as regards its level of commitment and related engagements, with a view to undertaking to support and stimulate access to the labour market for women from rural areas as a priority in future development actions?