Question for written answer P-004824/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Barbara Spinelli (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Compliance of Norway with Directives 2013/33/EU and 2013/32/EU in assessing asylum

applications from vulnerable applicants

A case concerning a victim of gender-based violence was resubmitted to the ECtHR on 9 June 2016. The applicant had been tortured and subjected to severe gender and domestic violence because of loving a man other than the one with whom her family had arranged a marriage for her. She had fled Iraq and reached Norway, where her asylum claim was rejected in a procedure insensitive to her vulnerability, status and asylum examination needs. As Norway is part of the Common European Asylum System, and because the applicant had been subjected to serious forms of violence, Norway had an obligation under Directives 2013/33/EU and 2013/32/EU to assess her special reception needs individually and to address them throughout the course of the asylum procedure, as well as to provide access to appropriate psychological treatment and a female interpreter. The prospect of her being granted a humanitarian visa to an extra-EU country is also currently being examined on the grounds that the Union is not safe for her, given the current situation, policies and assumptions seemingly prevailing in the EU.

In light of the above, what steps does the Commission intend to take to ensure that applications from vulnerable applicants comply with Directives 2013/33/EU and 2013/32/EU?

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