

**Question for written answer E-001711/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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**Subject:** Commission taking action in response to Afghanistan's Propagation of Virtue and Prevention of Vice Law

Afghanistan has issued a law on the propagation of virtue and prevention of vice which prohibits women from singing, reading aloud and being heard in public. Women in the country are thus no longer just banned from showing their body but also from being able to speak in public. It is a barbaric law depriving women of dignity and humanity, which has rightly been condemned by the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative for Foreign Affairs.

In 2023, after laws against women's rights were imposed, the EU agreed to release EUR 140 million of assistance – from funds that had previously been frozen – for humanitarian objectives, including to support women's empowerment. It seems clear that these policies have not worked and that merely making statements of condemnation will no longer suffice.

Some countries that support the Taliban regime have cooperation projects or institutional relations with the EU.

In view of the above:

1. Does the Commission plan to take any real action other than making praiseworthy but ineffective statements of condemnation?
2. Will it take political action against the Taliban and the countries that support them so as to put an end to their regime and this inhumane law?

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