

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0938/08

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to the Commission

Subject: Problems concerning under-age street musicians in Europe

Dutch cities, and other cities in Europe, regularly have to deal with under-age street musicians. Research has shown that these children usually come from Eastern Europe, and include Roma children from Romania and Bulgaria. There are fears that child labour is involved and that these under-age street musicians are not complying with their national law on school attendance.

Would the Commission therefore state:

Is the Commission aware of the problem concerning under-age street musicians in Europe?

Can the Commission state how controls on under-age street musicians are carried out in other EU Member States? Will the Commission be proposing a solution to the problem of controlling under-age street musicians?

Can the Commission state whether information is being exchanged between the national supervisory bodies on enforcing the law on school attendance? Is the Commission prepared to improve such an exchange of information between the national supervisory bodies? Will the Commission be proposing other solutions to the problem concerning the exchange of information between the national supervisory bodies on enforcing the law on school attendance?