

**Question for written answer E-006045/2012
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Timothy Kirkhope (ECR)

Subject: Improved budget monitoring mechanisms - disaggregated data on children

Article 3 of the Lisbon Treaty explicitly recognises the promotion of children's rights in internal and external affairs as an objective of the EU. Article 24 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights recognises the principle of the best interest of the child and the right of all children to participation. The Europe 2020 strategy outlines targets for Europe in 2020. Of the five targets, two are directly linked to children and youth: education and poverty.

Currently, the Commission does not collect or provide consolidated information on expenditure on children through its funding instruments and programmes. DG Justice is in the process of developing its data collection mechanisms, and there is a need to ensure that data on children will be available in order to (a) track progress and (b) assess the needs for further investments towards the achievement of agreed objectives and quantitative targets.

With these points in mind, how is the Commission planning to ensure the timely, accurate and disaggregated data collection needed to monitor progress towards meeting the policy objectives and financial targets for children in the next MFF (2014-2020)?