

**Question for written answer E-001803/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Seán Kelly (PPE)

Subject: Sexual assault in Sierra Leone

In February 2019, Sierra Leone declared a national emergency regarding sexual and gender-based violence after it came to light that recorded cases of rape and assault had doubled during the previous year.

President Julius Maada Bio announced the national emergency following a series of high-profile assaults, one third of which were on minors.

Can the Commission outline what action, if any, has been taken to assist the Sierra Leonean Government in its efforts to tackle this deeply troubling situation?