

**Question for written answer E-000350/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Bettina Vollath (S&D)**

Subject: Implementation of Directive 2003/86/EC on the right to family reunification

Despite the existence of an EU directive, the reunification of families does not work in practice, as confirmed by the Commission's Legal Migration Fitness Check <sup>1</sup>. Council Directive 2003/86/EC of 22 September 2003 on the right to family reunification was adopted almost 15 years ago. The Commission's most recent statement on this issue <sup>2</sup> criticises the implementation of this Directive. Everybody has the right to contact their family members, yet current policies in the Member States hinder the ability to exercise this right, and can often lead to complicated procedures and delays.

1. When does the Commission plan to publish its next communication to Parliament on this issue?
2. How does the Commission intend to promote the implementation of this Directive?
3. How does the Commission plan to address Member States' deleterious practices in family reunification?

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<sup>1</sup> Legal Migration Fitness Check, Contextual analysis: Intervention logic Directive specific analysis, Annex 1Ciii

<sup>2</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on guidance for application of Directive 2003/86/EC on the right to family reunification