

**Question for written answer E-002203/2020  
to the Commission  
Rule 138  
Stelios Kympouropoulos (PPE)**

**Subject:** Violence against women in Pakistan

The 2014-2020 EU budget for bilateral cooperation with Pakistan is EUR 603 million, 15 % of which is being spent on improving governance, the rule of law and the protection of human rights. This budget is complemented by a bilateral investment allocation of EUR 15 million.

As a beneficiary of the Generalised Scheme of Preference Plus and a signatory of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, Pakistan is required to work towards eliminating discrimination and violence against women.

The Global Gender Gap Index 2018 revealed that Pakistani women and girls still face significant challenges.

According to the NGO White Ribbon Pakistan, 4 734 cases of sexual violence, 15 000 honour crimes, more than 1 800 cases of domestic violence and over 5 500 kidnappings of women were recorded between 2004 and 2016.

More than 51 241 cases of violence against women were reported between January 2011 and June 2017, but only 2.5 % of all reported cases resulted in a criminal sentence.

1. Is the Commission cooperating with the Pakistani Government to effectively address this issue, and if so, is conditionality a useful tool to this end?
2. Has it offered to share its judicial expertise?
3. Considering their cultural proximity, does it intend to propose and support cooperation between Pakistan and the rest of the countries of the Indian subcontinent to enable them to make joint progress in this area?