Question for written answer E-004507/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Dan-Ştefan Motreanu (PPE)

Subject: Combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children

Directive 2011/93/EU on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children is a comprehensive legal instrument containing provisions on criminal law and criminal law procedure, measures on assistance to victims and preventive measures, including administrative measures. Its implementation calls for close cooperation between a range of actors, such as law enforcement authorities, the judiciary, parents associations and family associations working in the field of child protection, non-government organisations, internet service providers and other such bodies.

The European Parliament resolution of December 2017 highlights the fact that many Member States are yet to implement the directive, and particularly its provisions on the prevention, investigation and pursuit of criminal offences, and assistance to victims and their protection.

Replacing this directive with a regulation directly applicable in all EU Member States would solve the problem of the current directive not being transposed and would introduce clear standards and provisions establishing EU-wide responsibility for combating this phenomenon.

Will the Commission replace the Directive on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children with an EU regulation uniformly applicable to all Member States?