

**Question for written answer E-005669/2020/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Assita Kanko (ECR)

Subject: Famine in Burkina Faso

The World Food Programme has reported that the number of those facing famine in Burkina Faso has tripled to 3.4 million. This is due to intensification of the Sahel conflict and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their ability to earn enough to meet their basic daily needs. Such circumstances are scarcely conducive to the empowerment of women, who may be married off in exchange for cattle, while girls receive less to eat than boys.

What action is the Commission taking to help address the famine, increase local food production and supply and, at the same time, uphold gender equality?

The worsening food shortage in Burkina Faso is largely attributable to the upsurge of jihadist violence in the Sahel. Has the Commission assessed EU measures in response to the Sahel conflict and what conclusions have been drawn regarding ways of making them more effective?

On the other hand, African leaders must also take their share of responsibility. Will this lead to a rethink of relations with Africa?