

Question for written answer E-005934/2020

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 138

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Subject: Entrenched discrimination against Afghan girls with disabilities

The budget of the multiannual indicative programme for Afghanistan 2014-2020 averaged EUR 200 million per year. With rising numbers of innocent casualties of the conflict, support must be allocated to helping women and girls, especially those with disabilities.

In their report entitled 'Disability Is Not Weakness', Human Rights Watch concludes that Afghan women and girls with disabilities face 'entrenched discrimination' and sexual harassment in accessing government assistance, education, employment, and healthcare – rights that should be guaranteed by the Afghan constitution and international conventions.

'All Afghans with disabilities face stigma and discrimination in getting government services, but women and girls are the "invisible" victims of this abuse' says Human Rights Watch.

Against this backdrop:

1. What specific measures are focused on the empowerment of Afghan women and girls with disabilities?
2. Will the EU insist that the Afghan Government implements reform policies and practices to allow women and girls with disabilities to fully exercise their rights?
3. Will the EU consider specific budget allocations in the next EU-Afghanistan programme to develop accessibility solutions in order to provide quality inclusive education for girls and women with disabilities and to ensure access to public buildings through infrastructure modifications?