Question for written answer E-000147/2022 to the Commission

Rule 138

Tom Vandendriessche (ID)

Subject: The use of inclusive language for religious holidays following Commissioner Dalli's

guidelines

Equality Commissioner Helena Dalli proposed guidelines on the use of terms referring to Christianity on Christian holidays, and on gender-based language.

In view of the void created following the withdrawal of those guidelines, I have several questions for the Commission:

On 24 May 2020, Commissioner Dalli tweeted: 'Wishing #EidMubarak to all European Muslims and those around the rest of the world'. Eid Mubarak is a traditional Islamic greeting used on the occasion of the Feast of Sacrifice and the Sugar Feast:

- 1. How should we express wishes regarding religious holidays in future without referring to Islam, considering that Muslims make up 6-8% of the EU's population according to the latest estimates and that, therefore, more than 90% of Europeans are non-Muslims? How can these celebrations and the related wishes be made more inclusive?
- 2. Is Commissioner Dalli's distinction between Christian and Muslim holidays legitimate, and how does Commissioner Dalli plan to deal with this issue better in future?
- 3. How can Coming-Out Day, Pride Month, Purple Friday, Pink Saturday, the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia, the International Day of Transgender Visibility and Bisexuality Day be celebrated in a neutral way, given that the majority of Europeans are cisgender and heterosexual?