

**Question for written answer E-000518/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Female genital mutilation: making the complete eradication of this barbaric practice a condition of development aid

The International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) took place on 6 February 2022.

With this in mind, on 4 February 2022 the Commission published the following joint declaration against this cruel practice: 'Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a crime and a violation of women's human rights. We must stop it'.

Female genital mutilation occurs mainly in some 30 countries in Africa and the Middle East, but is also performed in some Asian and Latin American countries.

According to a study by the European Institute for Gender Equality, some Member States have observed an increase in this type of gender-based violence due to the migration of people from countries where FGM is performed.

The Commission states that 'in 13 European countries alone, 180 000 girls are at risk of being mutilated, while 600 000 women are living with the consequences of FGM in Europe'.

Given the EU's global reach and that it is the largest donor of development aid, does the Commission intend to make the support received by the relevant countries conditional on the complete eradication of this barbaric and lethal practice?