Question for written answer E-000662/2022 to the Commission Rule 138

Assita Kanko (ECR)

Subject: Image of a veiled woman to promote the Conference on the Future of Europe

One of the images in the promotional campaign for the Conference on the Future of Europe shows a woman wearing a headscarf. The image is accompanied by the message: "Make your voice heard, the future is in your hands". It treats this religious symbol as a folkloric accessory, whereas the Islamic veil is today imposed by coercion on too many women in numerous Muslim countries and even in territories within our Member States, which goes against the principle of equality between men and women.

This is reminiscent of a campaign by the Council of Europe where posters were also launched to promote the headscarf, with the slogan "Beauty is in diversity as freedom is in hijab". It was subsequently withdrawn and the Commission admitted to having co-funded it but not to having been involved in its creation.

- 1. Will the Commission withdraw this campaign image and explain how and by whom the campaign was decided upon?
- 2. Does it believe that the future of Europe must be embodied in European values, namely those of Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union?
- 3. When and how will it prioritise the fight against the subjugation of women including Muslim women and the protection of their universal rights?

Supporter¹

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¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the author: François-Xavier Bellamy (PPE)