

**Question for written answer E-004188/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Gianantonio Da Re (ID)

Subject: Action by the Commission to protect children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse during crises and emergencies

On 16 December 2020, the Council of Europe announced the publication of a 'Handbook on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse in Crisis and Emergency Situations'. The Handbook describes the danger of sexual exploitation and abuse of unaccompanied minors, particularly against the backdrop of a migration crisis. Reception centres are often overcrowded and fail to provide adequate protection for minors at risk of sexual violence and sexual exploitation.

In view of this and given the vital importance of identifying and registering potential victims of child abuse in order to ensure that they are protected and receive the necessary psychological and other support:

1. Can the Commission say what measures it intends to take to prevent and combat these abhorrent crimes?
2. Will it encourage coordination between the agencies responsible for migration issues and child protection, for example through the adoption of specific protocols to protect such victims?

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