

**Question for written answer E-002809/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Culturally motivated offences

A culturally motivated offence is an act committed by a member of a minority ethnic culture which, while considered an offence by the competent jurisdiction's legal system, is accepted, endorsed or even encouraged by the perpetrator's cultural group.

Because of migration, EU Member States have seen their societies become increasingly multi-ethnic, leading to a steady rise in culturally motivated offences in the last decade. However, crimes committed by members of different ethnicities can undermine the application of criminal law if a citizen of a foreign state commits an act that is considered to be an offence in a Member State but is tolerated in their country of origin. A good example is the recent case in Brescia, where the public prosecutor recently requested that a Bengali man be acquitted of a charge of domestic abuse against his wife because such behaviour is accepted in his 'culture' of origin.

If an offence threatening the victim's primary assets is driven by cultural factors, courts in Member States hand down tougher sentences because their laws view such acts as criminal offences.

Can the Commission therefore explain how it will encourage the adoption of uniform EU rules recognising cultural motivations as a common aggravating factor in crimes?

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