

**Question for written answer E-000599/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Dolors Montserrat (PPE)**

Subject: Dire state of children's rights, mental health and families' quality of life in Spain

Spain has the highest child poverty rate in the EU. More than two million children and teenagers live in poverty – 28 % of all children and teenagers –

according to UNICEF's 2024 State of Children in the European Union report.

The report also shows that more than 11 million children and young people in the EU suffer from a mental health condition, such as anxiety or depression, with a fifth of teenagers affected.

Another unsettling problem is that one in eight children aged 12 regularly receives unwanted sexual requests on the internet.

1. What is the Commission doing about this alarming state of affairs, and is it calling on national governments to act?
2. In view of the concerning figures placing Spain as the worst country for child poverty in the EU, will the Commission ask the Spanish Government to focus attention on advancing and improving children's rights and families' quality of life and ramp up investment?
3. Does the Commission see a need to strengthen mental health strategies with a larger budget and more resources?

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