Question for oral answer O-000073/2014
to the Commission
Rule 128
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on behalf of the PPE Group

Subject: 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which has been ratified by 194 countries, including all EU Member States. The promotion and protection of the rights of the child are explicit objectives of the EU (Article 3(3) TEU). The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (Article 24) recognises a child’s right to protection and care and the right to be heard and taken seriously, and it requires that the best interests of the child be a primary consideration in all EU action.

– Following the adoption of the communications ‘Towards an EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child’, ‘An EU Agenda for the Rights of the Child’, ‘A Special Place for Children in EU External Action’; the Council conclusions on the ‘Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child in the European Union’s External Action’; and the adoption of child-focused EU guidelines, how will the Commission and High Representative ensure that the commitments made regarding children’s rights are implemented across EU internal and external action?

– How will the Commission and the High Representative ensure that the best interests of the child are taken into account in any proposed EU legislation?

– Given the effect of the current humanitarian and economic situation on children, what initiatives will the Commission and the High Representative take to develop a more comprehensive children’s rights framework, as a follow-up to the EU Agenda for the Rights of the Child adopted in 2011?

Tabled: 16.10.2014
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