

**Question for written answer P-000205/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Petras Auštrevičius (ALDE)

Subject: On Pakistan's participation in GSP+

Modern slavery, also known as bonded labour or Peshgi, is commonplace in Pakistan's brick kiln industry, as well as in the agriculture sector. It is estimated that there are at least two million people trapped in modern slavery in Pakistan, resulting in the third largest population of bonded labourers in the world.

As a beneficiary of the EU's GSP+ trade benefit program, Pakistan is required to ratify and implement 27 core conventions, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the Forced Labour Convention, and the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention. All four conventions prohibit forced labour.

Against this backdrop:

1. Does the Commission accept that Pakistan is in breach of the ICCPR, the ICESCR, the Forced Labour Convention and the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention?
2. If so, how does the Commission justify continuing Pakistan's GSP+ benefits?
3. How is the Commission monitoring Pakistan's implementation of the other core conventions?