

**Question for written answer P-001237/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Marek Jurek (ECR)

Subject: Statement by Commissioner Margrethe Vestager for The Irish Independent

On 17 July 2017, I received a reply (E-003367/2017) to my written question (E-003367-17) in which Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis wrote: 'The Commission acknowledges the differences in the EU Member States' national policies and laws with regard to abortion, on which there is no EU policy or legislation'.

Asked about the issue of abortion in an interview published by The Irish Independent on 13 January 2018, Commissioner Margrethe Vestager – who should also take into account the ECJ ruling on human dignity in the prenatal phase of life – spoke about how she considered abortion to be a 'right' for women. Given that abortion is illegal in Ireland under the Irish Constitution, which guarantees the right to life of the unborn child:

1. When did the Commission's position change, and when did it stop recognising the differences between countries on abortion, making abortion the subject of its policy?
2. How was this decision taken?