

**Priority question for written answer P-001515/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Definition of a woman and situation of women in Europe

Women are currently facing social changes that discriminate against them or blur the line between feminine and masculine. A striking example of this is the presence of so-called 'transgender' athletes in women's sport: it has led to controversy over the change in category for these people, their performance and their eligibility to take part in the women's category, with some men pushing for this due to their lack of success in the men's category.

Some argue that 'a penis is a penis, not a male sexual organ'¹ or prefer to replace the word 'women' with the phrase 'people who have a uterus'².

1. What is the Commission's definition of the term 'woman'? Does it regard being a woman as a biological reality or a feeling?
2. Are there any figures or statistics on the transitions of minors in Europe?
3. Does it believe that 'transgender' athletes should be able to compete in women's events³?

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¹ Le Planning familial, '*Lexique trans*', 5.10.2020, <https://www.planning-familial.org/sites/default/files/2020-10/Lexique%20trans.pdf>.

² Le Planning familial, Facebook, 26.12.2020, <https://www.valeursactuelles.com/societe/les-personnes-qui-ont-un-uterus-quand-le-planning-familial-refuse-dutiliser-le-mot-femme>.

³ Le Point, '*Athlétisme: les athlètes transgenres exclus de la catégorie féminine*', 23.3.2023, https://www.lepoint.fr/sport/athletisme-les-athletes-transgenres-exclus-de-la-categorie-feminine-23-03-2023-2513282_26.php.