

**Priority question for written answer P-002066/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Nathalie Colin-Oesterlé (PPE)**

Subject: Cross-border family conflicts

As States parties to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), the Member States are bound by its rules.

On 25 June 2019, the Council adopted Regulation (EU) 2019/1111, which aims to strengthen children's rights in cross-border family conflicts within the European Union.

The grounds of jurisdiction in matters of parental responsibility are shaped according to the best interests of the child. They should also be applied with due regard for that child.

The Regulation also states that any reference to the best interests of the child should be interpreted in light of Article 24 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, which is legally binding for the Member States, as well as the UNCRC.

Article 24 also specifies in particular that 'every child shall have the right to maintain on a regular basis a personal relationship and direct contact with both his or her parents, unless that is contrary to his or her interests'.

However, in matters of parental responsibility, many decisions made by the Jugendamt – Germany's child welfare service – call this principle into question, creating de facto discrimination between the German parent and the non-German parent, including loss of parental authority and rights of access.

As guardian of the Treaties, how does the Commission intend to address this situation?

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