

BG **ES** CS DA DE ET EL **EN** FR GA HR IT LV LT HU MT NL PL PT RO SK SL FI SV


Parliamentary questions

31 May 2016

E-004527-16

Question for written answer
to the Commission
Rule 130
Ángela Vallina (GUE/NGL)

► **Subject:** Commission's reasons for not declaring 2016 European Year for combating violence against women and girls

 Answer(s)

Replying to question No E-015220, as to why 2016 had not been declared a European Year for combating violence against women and girls, the Commissioner responsible stated that any such designation 'would need to have demonstrable added value over and above the ongoing and programmed actions'.

The fact is, however, that the 30 measures listed in the strategic working document for 2016-2019 include awareness-raising activities to combat gender-based violence through the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (6 February) and the Day Against Violence Against Women And Children (25 November).

Given the importance of the issue and the fact that one woman in three in the EU suffers some form of violence on a daily basis merely because she is a woman, does the Commissioner intend, during her term of office, to declare a European Year for combating violence against women and girls, in accordance with the remit set out by Parliament in its resolution of 9 June 2015?

How much funding has the Union provided to programmes for putting an end to violence against women?

Original language of question: **ES**

Last updated: 16 June 2016

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Parliamentary questions

25 July 2016

EQUALITY

Answer given by Ms Jourová on behalf of the Commission

The Commission is strongly committed to combating violence against women and, as noted by the Honourable Member, the Strategic Engagement for Gender Equality (2016-2019) includes a list of actions to combat gender-based violence and support its victims.

These actions include awareness-raising activities around the relevant International Days and carrying out focused actions to combat violence against women in 2017, with a specific focus on awareness-raising, but also introducing and implementing legislation, improving knowledge, and data collection. In this context, the Commission will co-finance national awareness-raising activities and support civil society organisations, as well as work to develop an EU survey on gender-based violence and ensure the full implementation of relevant EU legislation in this area. The Commission will also continue its efforts to achieve EU accession to the Istanbul Convention.

Approximately EUR 14-16 million per year are dedicated to the Daphne strand of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme, the priority of which is to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, in particular groups at risk of violence in close relationships, and to protect victims of such violence. In 2016, the Commission intends to supplement these funds with approximately EUR 4 million from the Gender Equality strand of the REC Programme, for a restricted call for proposals to support Members States' awareness-raising activities, as described above.

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