

**Question for written answer E-001712/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Addressing drug-facilitated sexual assault: a call for enhanced EU measures in light of the Pelicot case

The ongoing Pelicot trial (which commenced on 2 September 2024) has highlighted a deeply troubling issue: drug-facilitated sexual assault. This case, involving the use of drugs to incapacitate and sexually abuse victims, underscores the severe and insidious nature of such crimes. It serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need for a robust and comprehensive response from the EU in its fight against violence towards women.

Given the significance of the Pelicot case:

1. How does the Commission assess the relevance of drug-facilitated sexual assaults, such as those highlighted in the Pelicot case, in the context of EU-wide efforts to combat gender-based violence, including through the Commission's Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 and the Victims' Rights Directive?
2. Drug-facilitated sexual assault is not explicitly addressed in the proposed EU directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence¹. Does the Commission intend to explore legal harmonisation or specific provisions in this directive, to better address drug-facilitated sexual assault?
3. In the context of ongoing EU efforts to strengthen cooperation and support for victims of gender-based violence, how will the Commission ensure that lessons from the Pelicot case are incorporated into EU strategies such as the Strategy on victims' rights (2020-2025) and the work of the European Institute for Gender Equality?

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¹ Proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on combating violence against women and domestic violence (COM/2022/0105).