

**Question for written answer E-003697/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Improvement of the child protection system

Child protection is an essential obligation of Member States and a fundamental principle guiding EU action, as stated in Article 3(3) of the Treaty on European Union and Article 24 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights. It is estimated that more than 750 000 children in the EU live under some form of protection measure¹, a growing figure that highlights the need for robust, rights-based systems that prioritise family-based care and guarantee the best interests of the child.

To understand the scope of this reality and design effective policies, it is essential to have common data and indicators. The Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)² notes that protection systems are complex and that no common understanding currently exists among states. Meanwhile, the Commission, through Recommendation (EU) 2024/1238, formulated key guidelines to promote integrated child protection systems and advance deinstitutionalisation.

Therefore:

1. How does the Commission intend to monitor these recommendations?
2. Does it plan to submit any proposal to improve data availability?

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¹ UNICEF, Children in alternative care: Comparable statistics to monitor progress on deinstitutionalisation across the European Union, 2021: <https://www.unicef.org/eca/media/19756/file/UNICEF-DataCare%20Policy%20Brief.pdf>.

² FRA, Mapping Child Protection Systems in the EU – Update 2023: <https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2024/mapping-child-protection-systems-eu-update-2023>.