

**Question for written answer E-015104/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi (PPE)**

Subject: Strengthening legislation to tackle violence against women

A recent survey by the European Women's Lobby has found that in Europe today the phenomenon of violence against women is not being adequately addressed in practice and indeed is increasing, aggravated by the refugee crisis. Firstly, there is a lack of statistics that could help effectively map, prevent and combat the phenomenon. Then, in many European countries, such as Greece, there is a severe shortage of practical support measures for the victims of violence and of qualified staff to assist them.

In fact, in Greece the situation has become even more difficult because of the high unemployment rate of almost 30%: the incidence of domestic violence is on the increase, due to financial problems. At the same time, the percentage of women who report violence is falling, as they are essentially unable to leave a violent partner.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

- Will it enhance the support structures for victims of violence and take immediate action to strengthen the existing legislative framework so as to include new forms of violence against women – internet trolling, for instance?

- Given that policy makers in Member States suffer from a shortage of information about the extent and nature of the problem, will it consider the possibility of creating a single transnational European platform for all Member States which will record reported incidents of violence against women?