

Question for written answer E-004697/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Recommendation on harmful practices

In its Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 and its LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025, the Commission committed to adopting a recommendation on the prevention of harmful practices against women and girls. A call for evidence was held in May 2022, with adoption planned for the fourth quarter of 2022, yet publication continues to be postponed.

1. Will the Commission adopt this recommendation before the end of 2025, as failing to do so would contravene commitments made in these strategies?
2. Will the Commission ensure the recommendation comprehensively addresses all forms of harmful practice against women and girls in all their diversity, including: non-vital medical interventions on intersex persons without fully informed consent (intersex genital mutilation), which all EU Member States recognise must be banned, in the Council of Europe's recommendation on equal rights for intersex persons (CM/Rec(2025)7)¹; forced medicalisation and sterilisation of transgender people, which the LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025 commits to address; and the obstetric and gynaecological violence women face when accessing sexual and reproductive healthcare, including the denial of, and mistreatment during, abortion care, which seriously violate their sexual and reproductive rights?
3. If this recommendation is never adopted, how else does the Commission intend to address these grave human rights violations?

Submitted: 26.11.2025

¹ CM/Rec(2025)7 – Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to member States on equal rights for intersex persons, <https://search.coe.int/cm?i=091259488028b934>.