

**Question for written answer E-002599/2024/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: ‘Men Having Babies’ surrogacy conference

From 15 to 17 November Brussels hosted the ‘Men Having Babies’ conference – Europe’s biggest event in support of wombs for rent. This abnormal practice reduces women to gestation machines and children to mere commodities, fuelling a global market made up of clinics, intermediaries and insurance companies, where the only ones who stand to lose something are the woman and child. Womb-renting is a profound violation of human dignity, turning the gift of life into nothing more than a commercial transaction.

In spite of this, while the European Union should be protecting fundamental rights, it actually risks legitimising this practice with initiatives such as cross-border parenthood, which aims to provide for automatic recognition of parenthood certificates issued by other Member States, and by allowing similar events to take place in the heart of Europe.

In view of this:

1. What action could the Commission take to prevent events such as ‘Men Having Babies’ from taking place?
2. How will it ensure that cross-border parenthood does not legitimise surrogacy?
3. What will it do protect women and children from this form of exploitation?

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