

**Question for written answer E-000022/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Recognition of gender apartheid

Afghan women face all manner of prohibitions and obligations.

They are not allowed to study beyond primary school, are excluded from medical schools, are not allowed to work in national or international NGOs and generally have limited access to employment, particularly in the public sector.

They do not have access to most public spaces, must be accompanied by a male chaperone if they wish to leave their homes, are not allowed to sing or recite poetry in public and are forced to speak with hushed voices.

They are forced to block up the windows of the domestic areas they inhabit so that they cannot be seen from the outside, which means building human-sized walls.

These measures not only restrict their freedoms, but also aim to eradicate their participation in the social, cultural and economic life of the country.

On 4 October 2024, the Court of Justice of the European Union delivered a judgment recognising the right of all Afghan women to obtain refugee status in the EU.

Does the Commission intend to recognise gender apartheid as a crime against humanity, as called for by Parliament on 14 September 2024?

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