

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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1 February 1979

DOCUMENT 600/78

ORAL QUESTION (O-124/78)

without debate, pursuant to Rule 46 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Mrs DAHLERUP  
to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject : Gynaecological examinations by immigration authorities  
in the United Kingdom

It has been alleged by the 'Guardian' newspaper, and not denied by the British authorities, that immigrant women are being subjected to intimate gynaecological examinations (the so-called 'virginity tests') in order to identify women attempting to enter the United Kingdom illegally.

Such a procedure constituting a serious violation of human rights, and, in particular of the rights of women, and being, in consequence, in conflict with the principles laid down in the Treaty of Rome, will the Commission protest immediately in the strongest possible terms to the British Government and demand the discontinuation of this practice ?