

**Question for written answer E-014557/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Return of illegal immigrants in the EU

Since the start of the migration crisis, the focus of speeches by Europe's political leaders has been very heavily on the unconditional redistribution and reception of migrants, which has given an unprecedented boost to illegal immigration. The consequences have been dramatic: shipwrecks, slums with unspeakable living conditions, such as the "jungle" in Calais, exasperation of local residents, violence and the rise of extremism and populism.

Meanwhile, too few voices have been raised in favour of protecting the EU's borders and ensuring that the laws governing foreigners while they are on the territory of Member States are observed. The authority, credibility and sovereignty of the States is at stake.

In France, out of 60 000 asylum seekers each year, two thirds are rejected. Fewer than 10% of those rejected are actually returned to their country of origin. The others therefore remain quite illegally in France or the Schengen area.

The first victims of these people remaining illegally are the genuine war refugees.

Against this background, what actions does the Commission plan to take so that Member States can make the return of illegal foreigners more effective and systematic, particularly in the context of the so-called Return Directive, which offers options which are underused by many Member States?