

Question for written answer E-015260/2015/rev.1
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Jean-François Jalkh (ENF)

Subject: VP/HR - Failure of diplomacy with Turkey

On Sunday, 29 November 2015, Europe bowed to Turkey's demands by sending EUR 3 billion to Ankara in return for a pledge to limit illegal emigration from Turkey to Europe. This decision is proof that the only response Europe has to a crisis of policy and identity is to 'flash the cash'.

The only irregular migrants who could have a legitimate, if not legal, claim to enter Europe are Syrians, yet it is Syrians that Turkey has apparently promised to accommodate within its borders at our expense. The millions of economic migrants from Africa, Central Asia and the Indian subcontinent therefore fall outside the scope of this agreement.

Some things cannot be bought: not security, and certainly not courage. In actual fact, the EU was in a position of strength, since it could very well have sealed its border with Turkey and subsequently held negotiations on what assistance to provide, subject to various conditions; first amongst them the complete closure of Turkey's southern border, the gateway for human and material resources to Islamic State.

Have there been any discussions with Turkey on the possibility of its closing off its southern border?