

**Question for written answer E-015702/2015  
to the Commission  
Rule 130  
Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)**

Subject: EU financial assistance for Lebanon and human rights situation

The Commission has provided financial assistance for Lebanon at various times in order to support the accommodation of refugees, who make up a quarter of the country's population.

However, the World Food Programme reports that the funding available will cover only 55% of this year's needs. Furthermore, corruption and mafia involvement mean that aid does not always reach the refugees.

The arrival of refugees has been a factor in the political instability affecting the country, as well as the significant deterioration with regard to human rights. In spite of the aid received, the government is facing serious problems in providing basic services both for the country's own population and for the refugees.

In the light of this situation, and bearing in mind that respect for human rights forms the basis of the EU-Lebanon Association Agreement (2006/356/EC):

1. Does the Commission believe that the assistance currently being provided for Lebanon and the contributions from the Member States, which have offered only EUR 40 million of the EUR 610 million pledged for the Trust Fund for refugees, are sufficient?
2. Will it take steps to prevent any improper use of this aid?
3. Given the critical situation facing them, what other assistance in addition to economic assistance will be offered to the Lebanese authorities, within the framework of close EU-Lebanon relations?