

**Question for written answer E-002086/2024/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Tineke Strik (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Recent ECA report 17/2024: ‘The EU trust fund for Africa – Despite new approaches, support remained unfocused’

On 25 September 2024, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) issued special report 17/2024 entitled ‘The EU trust fund for Africa – Despite new approaches, support remained unfocused’¹. The ECA concluded that ‘the Commission does not have formal internal procedures for reporting, recording and following up on allegations of human rights violations in relation to EU-funded projects’. The report also stated that ‘there is no system for showing that information of this kind has been properly examined and taken into account when deciding whether to continue or suspend EU support’. It recommended ‘strengthening the identification of human rights risks and taking mitigation action’ and proposed three specific ways to do so.

1. In its formal response, the Commission stated that it accepted all the recommendations, but did not specify how it would follow up on allegations of human rights violations and translate this into a decision on whether to continue EU support. Can the Commission clarify how it intends to do this?
2. How does the Commission plan to enhance its accountability to the Parliament, in line with both its budgetary prerogatives under the Treaties and its commitment to enhance Parliamentary transparency related to the external aspects of migration, as stated in the political guidelines for the next Commission² ?

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¹ <https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/publications/SR-2024-17>

² https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648_en