

**Question for written answer E-002378/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Raquel García Hermida-Van Der Walle (Renew)

Subject: EU funds used to deport asylum seekers and refugees from Türkiye to unsafe countries

On 11 October 2024, a consortium of investigative journalists published a report detailing how the Turkish authorities have used EU-funded infrastructure and vehicles to forcibly deport asylum seekers and refugees from Syria and Afghanistan, among other countries, to their home countries. Refugees in Turkish reception centres have reported torture, neglect and the denial of access to EU-funded supplies that are meant to improve conditions. The investigation revealed that the Commission, which is responsible for overseeing funding to Türkiye, has repeatedly ignored warnings from civil society, lawyers, diplomats and its own staff indicating that EU funds were being used to support the deportation of tens of thousands of asylum seekers and refugees to countries where returned people face serious risks of persecution, inhumane treatment or death¹.

1. When did the Commission become aware of this practice, and when did it decide not to take any action?
2. Does the Commission agree that it has an obligation to ensure that EU funds are not used to support actions that violate human rights, and that deporting asylum seekers and refugees from Türkiye to unsafe countries is inhumane and forbidden under EU law?
3. What are the Commission's exact criteria for assessing the human rights situation and the actions of the Turkish Government and suspending funding, and does the current situation, as revealed by the above-mentioned report, give grounds for a suspension of funding?

Submitted: 31.10.2024

¹ <https://www.politico.eu/article/the-eu-is-helping-turkey-forcibly-deport-migrants-to-syria-and-afghanistan/>.