

**Question for written answer E-001426/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: EU Trust Fund for Africa – 2023 discharge

In the framework of the 2023 discharge procedure, the Commission recently published its ‘Communication to the European Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors; annual accounts of the European Development Fund for the financial year 2023’¹. We should like to pose the following questions in this connection:

1. According to the Commission, the objectives of the mission are to: ‘contribute to better migration management’ as well as ‘addressing the root causes of... irregular migration’ (p. 62). At the same time, the Commission states that ‘irregular border crossings’ from Tunisia and Libya increased by 50 % in 2023 compared to 2022 and that ‘pressure on the Western Mediterranean and Atlantic routes substantially increased... + 95 % compared to 2022’ (p. 65). Can the Commission please explain how this fits in with ‘better migration management’?
2. According to the Commission ‘420 voluntary returns’ and the ‘reintegration of 509 returning migrants’ took place in 2023 (p. 64). Does the Commission not consider this a meagre result, given that a total of 157 951 ‘irregular migrants’ reached Italy and Malta (page 65)?
3. The Commission states that the EU Trust Fund for Africa has created 11 087 new jobs (p. 64). Can it explain – in broad terms – what type of jobs are concerned and whether they are in the public or private sector?

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¹ COM(2024) 273 final