

**Question for written answer E-002653/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Returns of migrants from detention centres in Albania and breach of Directive 2008/115/EC by the Italian Government

On 9 May 2025, the Italian Government carried out the first repatriation of five Egyptian nationals directly from Albania, taking them from the Gjadër detention centre for repatriation and putting them onto a flight to Cairo, without any Italian judicial oversight at the transfer stage and in the absence of clear regulatory coverage¹.

There are serious doubts as to whether these actions are compatible with Directive 2008/115/EC on returns and with the principles enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, in particular with the right to an effective remedy and the protection of fundamental rights.

The Italian Court of Cassation has questioned the compatibility of the extraterritorial management of detentions and returns at the centres in Albania, indicating that such centres are not considered to be on Italian or EU territory. It has raised the issue with the Court of Justice of the European Union.

The Commission has already said that the extraterritorial management of returns has no basis in EU law.

In light of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware of what happened on 9 May 2025?
2. Does it consider this action by the Italian Government to be in line with the EU legislation in force? If not, where is there a conflict?
3. Will it take action to ensure full compliance with EU law on returns and also uniform application of EU migration and asylum rules?

Supporter²

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¹ <https://altreconomia.it/il-primo-rimpatrio-italiano-di-migranti-irregolari-direttamente-dallalbania/>.

² This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Dario Tamburrano (The Left)