

Question for written answer E-003907/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Suspension of access to asylum in Greece

On 11 July 2025, an amendment¹ was adopted in the Hellenic Parliament, ordering a three-month ban on access to asylum for people arriving irregularly from North Africa by boat, stating that such persons would be returned to their country of transit or origin without registration.

The Commission is kindly requested to respond to the following numbered questions:

1. What is the Commission's assessment of this amendment in relation to Greece's obligations under Articles 4, 18 and 19 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the Asylum Procedures Directive (2013/32/EU), the Reception Conditions Directive (2013/33/EU) and the Return Directive (2008/115/EC)?
2. What is the Commission's assessment of the argument used by the Greek authorities, stating that the increased number of arrivals presents an 'asymmetrical threat that supersedes the basis of international and EU law on the asylum procedure' and an ensuing 'absolute objective incapacity to process asylum applications in due time'?
3. In the light of the Commission's position on questions 1 and 2, what action will it take regarding Greece's obligations under Article 17 of the Treaty on European Union?

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¹ <https://www.hellenicparliament.gr/UserFiles/bbb19498-1ec8-431f-82e6-023bb91713a9/13000939.pdf>.