

**Question for written answer E-000140/2026
to the Commission**

Rule 144

Afroditi Latinopoulou (Pfe)

Subject: Effective deterrence and expulsions as a prerequisite for the protection of the EU's external borders

The following should be noted in relation to the agreement on the 'Solidarity Pool' for 2026 and the new arrangements for speeding up expulsions and supporting Member States that are considered to be under pressure from illegal migration:

Said arrangements must be in line with the EU's obligation to rigorously protect the external borders and to effectively prevent and deter illegal crossings, in accordance with the relevant legislation in force. Available resources must therefore exclusively go towards strong border control measures, preventing flows and speeding up expulsions, so as not to place a disproportionate burden on frontline states such as Greece.

Can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does it ensure that saving resources leads to increased operational deterrence and effective guarding of the external borders, limiting illegal arrivals?
2. How does it guarantee that 'alternative solidarity measures' (staff, logistical support) will be used exclusively for surveillance and deterrence, without creating new structures that encourage illegal arrivals?
3. What is the binding operational plan for the implementation of the new return rules and the centres outside of the EU to substantially increase expulsions and significantly reduce illegal flows?

Submitted: 14.1.2026