

**Question for written answer E-002517/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Nikos Pappas (The Left)

Subject: Public statements on the management of migrant arrivals and Member States' compliance with EU law

Recent public statements by senior government officials in Greece regarding the treatment of boats carrying migrants have raised concerns about their compatibility with obligations to protect human life at sea and those seeking international protection.¹

The EU is founded on respect for human dignity and human rights (Article 2 TEU). Articles 1, 2, 18 and 19 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights guarantee human dignity, the right to life, the right to asylum and the prohibition of refoulement. Furthermore, Article 78 TFEU, the new Pact on Migration and Asylum (Regulations (EU) 2024/1348, 2024/1356 and 2024/1358), the 1951 Geneva Convention, Article 98 of UNCLOS, as well as the SOLAS and SAR Conventions require the protection of human life and respect for international search and rescue obligations at sea.

Accordingly:

1. How does the Commission assess public statements by state officials that may be perceived as incompatible with the above obligations and with the principle of non-refoulement?
2. What measures can the Commission take to ensure that public statements do not encourage practices that may endanger human life at sea or undermine the implementation of European immigration and refugee law?

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<https://www.ethnos.gr/Politics/article/410929/thathboyliaxoymethbarkasalosapotisdhloseistoyboridhgiatoyismetanastes>.