

**Question for written answer E-004174/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Damien Carême (The Left)

Subject: Deportations of Ukrainian nationals from the United States via Polish territory

According to the joint investigation entitled ‘The Deportation Project’¹, the United States uses Rzeszów airport as a logistical hub to deport Ukrainian nationals. At least 50 people have reportedly been deported in this way. Escorted by US officials in the presence of Polish officers, they were taken overland to the Ukrainian border. The Polish authorities say they provided only ‘necessary technical and organisational support’ to an operation led by the United States.

1. Is the Commission aware of these operations, and has it asked the Polish authorities for information?
2. Given the ongoing war in Ukraine, does the Commission consider that such returns may amount to refoulement, contrary to Article 19(2) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights, and can the Commission establish under what conditions the transit took place and whether Poland guaranteed access to an asylum procedure, as required by Article 18 of the Charter, given that these persons were formally brought onto its territory?
3. To the extent that some of the persons concerned fall within the scope of Article 2 of Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382², does the Commission consider that their transit and return are compatible with the temporary protection regime under Directive 2001/55/EC³?

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¹ <https://www.derstandard.at/story/3000000340135/das-geheime-system-hinter-trumps-drittstaaten-abschiebungen>.

² Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2001/55/EC, and having the effect of introducing temporary protection (OJ L 71, 4.3.2022, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2022/382/oj).

³ Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001 on minimum standards for giving temporary protection in the event of a mass influx of displaced persons and on measures promoting a balance of efforts between Member States in receiving such persons and bearing the consequences thereof (OJ L 212, 7.8.2001, p. 12, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2001/55/oj>).