

**Priority question for written answer P-000144/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Statements by the German Interior Minister on asylum seeker returns to Greece

According to statements by the German Interior Minister that were published in the German newspaper Bild¹, the German Government has apparently agreed with Greece that, as of June 2026, the latter will take back asylum seekers who entered through its territory first and then made their way to Germany. Meanwhile, instead of relocating asylum seekers within its territory, Germany has stated that it will pay Greece EUR 20 000 per person, buying its way out of its obligation with a financial ‘bonus’. The announcement has caused particular concern, as it places a disproportionate burden on Greece, as a frontline state.

Can the Commission answer the following:

1. How does it view the statements made by the German Interior Minister about the above-mentioned agreement with Greece on mass returns of asylum seekers having been secured in June 2026?
2. How does it intend to protect Greece from the risk of becoming a permanent parking place for illegal migration flows, when the solidarity mechanism allows Germany to buy its way out of its obligations?
3. What steps will it take to prevent a two-speed Europe, in which, ultimately, some Member States are bearing the full brunt of the illegal migration crisis?

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¹ <https://www.bild.de/politik/ausland-und-internationales/hammer-deal-von-dobrindt-griechenland-und-italien-wollen-migranten-zuruecknehmen-6937023311f914c89b856fad>