

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001440/24
to the Commission
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)
(27 July 2024)**

Subject: The ‘Rwanda plan’ as an innovative solution for tackling illegal migration

Many Member States are considering the ‘Rwanda plan’ for transferring asylum seekers to safe third countries. Clearly, the political will repeatedly expressed at the ballot box by European citizens, against illegal migration, may help to overcome the legal objections.

The Hungarian Presidency of the Council proposed drawing up third-country agreements with the Sahel countries Chad, Mauritania and Senegal.

Shortly before her re-election, the President of the European Commission spoke of ‘innovative national strategies to tackle illegal migration’, and it is crucial to make good use of all ideas to tackle illegal entry in the most effective way.

It should be emphasised that it is in the interests of, for example, Arabic-speaking illegal migrants that they should be transferred to an Arabic-speaking country so that they can integrate as quickly as possible into the labour market. Otherwise, we are talking about a waste of time and resources, along with the impact on European citizens’ feeling of security.

In view of this:

1. Does the Commission consider that it would be useful to collaborate with countries, regions and cities outside the EU that would be willing to take in asylum seekers or illegal migrants who at present are illegally on European soil, so that agreements can easily be reached for transferring them to those destinations?
2. Does the Commission see a need for cooperation within the framework of the International Organisation for Migration, with a view to registering countries willing to admit Africans and Asians who would want to enter the EU illegally?

Submitted: 27.7.2024

**Answer given by Ms Johansson on behalf of the European Commission
(24 October 2024)**

The Commission welcomes constructive approaches to achieve a fair and stable legal framework on migration provided that they fully uphold the respect for fundamental rights and EU and international law, while achieving efficient asylum and return procedures in line with the adopted Pact on Migration and Asylum ⁽¹⁾.

The Commission will continue to support reflections on innovative strategies which contribute to acceptable and durable solutions for migrant and for partner countries as long as they are rooted in EU and international law.

The EU pursues comprehensive, balanced and tailor-made partnerships with third countries where migration should be built in as one of the core issues, and works with reliable stakeholders with whom it shares interests.

⁽¹⁾ https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/migration-and-asylum/pact-migration-and-asylum/legislative-files-nutshell_en