

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003684/25
to the Commission
Mélissa Camara (Verts/ALE)
(23 September 2025)**

Subject: Detention conditions and forced returns at the Turkish border at centres partly funded by the European Union

Many testimonies and reports highlight serious concerns about detention centres on the Turkish border, where migrants and refugees are detained. Cases of forced returns to Syria and other countries have been reported, in violation of the principle of non-refoulement enshrined in international law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

It is extremely difficult for independent organisations and elected representatives to verify detention conditions in these centres, even though some of them are partly financed by EU funds in the framework of EU-Türkiye cooperation. This lack of transparency fuels serious concerns about the use of European public money and respect for the fundamental rights of those detained.

Can the Commission say:

1. What precise information does it have on detention conditions and forced return practices at these centres?
2. What safeguards has it put in place to ensure that EU funding does not contribute to violations of fundamental rights?
3. What steps does it intend to take to ensure independent and effective access to these centres, including for non-governmental organisations and elected representatives?

Submitted: 23.9.2025

**Answer given by Ms Kos on behalf of the European Commission
(28 November 2025)**

The Commission is aware of allegations of human rights abuses in removal centres partly funded by the EU and of forced returns at the Turkish border.

The Commission takes these seriously and is committed to ensuring that EU funding is used in accordance with international and EU standards.

To this end, the Commission has been providing financial assistance to Türkiye to improve conditions in removal centres and enhance access to rights and services for migrants and refugees. Since 2016, it has conducted regular monitoring visits in these centres.

The Commission also requires that all EU-funded projects in Türkiye be implemented in accordance with EU standards and principles, including the respect for human rights and the principle of non-refoulement. Following the allegations of human rights abuses in the media in 2024, the Commission has strengthened its regular independent monitoring visits.

The Commission is supporting actions to build the capacity of staff on fundamental rights and freedoms in the context of immigration detention and is providing training to institutions that oversee detention facilities and handle complaints. The Commission notes however that it is for the Turkish authorities to grant access to removal centres.

Therefore, the Commission will continue working with the authorities to facilitate access for monitoring purposes, while respecting their prerogatives in this regard.
