

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003214/26
to the Commission
Alvise Pérez (NI)
(6 August 2026)**

Subject: Invasion of Ceuta and infiltration by Moroccan intelligence agents

Ceuta, an external border of the European Union, is facing mass irregular entries from Morocco. Around 72 000 people entered in a single week ⁽¹⁾, overwhelming reception resources. The President of Ceuta requested a declaration of a national emergency and establishment of a single command, while the parties represented in the city called for deployment of the armed forces. The Spanish Government rejected this mechanism, arguing that immigration does not constitute a risk covered by civil-protection legislation.

Recent developments have aggravated the situation. The Guardia Civil has reportedly identified agents of the Moroccan intelligence services among those who took part in last week's invasion. Their infiltration across an EU external border raises concerns beyond migration: foreign interference, instrumentalisation of migratory pressure and collection of information on Spanish security deployments. It also calls into question Morocco's reliability as an EU-funded security partner. The security of the EU is directly affected.

1. Will the Commission urgently request information from Spain and, with Europol and Frontex, assess whether this infiltration constitutes state-sponsored instrumentalisation of migration and a threat to EU internal security and the Schengen area, and take or propose measures available under EU law?
2. Will the Commission immediately review EU-funded cooperation with Morocco and, if effective cooperation is not restored, suspend the relevant payments and propose that the Council freeze the corresponding cooperation arrangements?

Submitted: 6.8.2026

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(2 October 2026)**

The EU is closely following developments on the situation in Ceuta and is fully engaged to ensure the security of the EU's borders and avoid loss of human lives.

On 9 September 2026, the Commission decided to provide Spain with EUR 114.7 million in emergency assistance to help manage the situation in Ceuta ⁽¹⁾.

This financial support builds on the Commission's immediate response from the first day, when it offered Spain both financial and operational assistance.

The Commission also coordinated and facilitated the mobilisation of support from the EU agencies: the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, the EU Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) and the EU Agency for Asylum responded positively to Spain's request for operational support, further strengthening the assistance available.

The EU is in constant contact with Member States and with Europol regarding the situation in Ceuta. It is for the Spanish and Moroccan authorities to establish the facts and get the full picture of what happened; an investigation is ongoing.

Morocco is an important partner, notably on migration and border management. EU financial support to Morocco aims to strengthen border management and the capacity to counter migrant smuggling. This cooperation has delivered tangible results with a significant reduction in illegal arrivals.

The EU funding is conditional and consistently monitored through robust accountability mechanisms, including regular reporting, programme evaluations, verification missions and indicators linked to disbursement.

The Commission is discussing with the Moroccan authorities how to further develop cooperation on migration, in particular on return and readmission, also as part of the negotiations of a comprehensive and strategic partnership.

¹ https://www.interior.gob.es/opencms/va/detalle/articulo/Grande-Marlaska-agradece-el-reconocimiento-y-el-apoyo-de-sus-homologos-europeos-a-la-respuesta-de-Espana-ante-la-crisis-de-Ceuta/?utm_source=chatgpt.com.

⁽¹⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_1799.