

**Question for written answer E-001425/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Strategy of weaponising illegal migrants from Turkey

The EU-Turkey agreement is a monument to failure, as Turkey is acting completely without restraint. In addition to the organised weaponising of illegal migrants in February 2020, Turkey persistently attempts to smuggle them across Greece's borders. In a typical case, on 20 July 2024, a Greek soldier was shot from the Turkish side of the border, apparently in order to intimidate the Greek border guard service.

On 22 July, at their informal meeting in Budapest, Home Affairs Ministers agreed that they needed to work out new cooperation agreements with third countries, 'such as those concluded with Tunisia, Turkey and Egypt'. It is indisputable that the progress of the agreements with Tunisia and Egypt has nothing in common with the essentially circumvented agreement with Turkey, which weaponises illegal migrants in order to blackmail the EU to achieve its own ends.

In view of this:

1. Having observed that Turkey could not care less about what it has agreed to, by what effective economic means does the Commission consider that it can punish Turkey whenever Greek border security reports Turkish violations?
2. To distinguish between cooperative and uncooperative states when it comes to bilateral agreements, has it any plans to make a proposal for a point system for the qualitative evaluation and grading of the agreements concerned?
3. Has it any effective cooperation agreement with services inside and outside of Turkey that can gather effective evidence of the illegal strategy pursued by Turkey's political leaders in this sector?

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