



Plenary sitting

B8-0596/2018

20.12.2018

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on reinvesting people smugglers' earnings in humanitarian aid and the development of migrants' countries of origin

Mireille D'Ornano

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on reinvesting people smugglers' earnings in humanitarian aid and the development of migrants' countries of origin

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, according to a detailed report produced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the estimated earnings for people smugglers operating on Mediterranean routes totalled between EUR 274 and 300 million in 2016, money taken from 375 000 migrants;
- B. whereas people smugglers use apps (Viber, Skype, WhatsApp) to communicate and social media (Facebook) to advertise and describe the services they offer, complete with photos and prices; whereas migrants are sometimes able to review people smugglers using these platforms;
- C. whereas people smugglers are exploiting people's desperation in order to make a profit, endangering the lives of hundreds of thousands of migrants on dangerous sea crossings;
 1. Calls on the Commission to encourage cooperation between Mediterranean states to identify traffickers, with the help of the apps and social media that they use;
 2. Calls on the Commission to demand the seizure of traffickers' earnings, with a view to reinvesting the money in humanitarian aid and the development of migrants' countries of origin.