

**Question for written answer E-009417/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Presence of Frontex in Ceuta and Melilla

The Spanish Government consistently refuses to allow Frontex forces to adopt an active role on the land borders of the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla. Last March, following a written question by UPyD to Cecilia Malmström, the Commissioner replied that 'the Spanish authorities have not asked Frontex to deploy a rapid border intervention team'. Furthermore, the government assured the Spanish parliament last spring that it would be 'difficult' for the Frontex rapid intervention forces 'to fit' in Ceuta and Melilla due to the 'peculiarities' of the borders there.

Bearing in mind the gravity of the situation on the land borders of Ceuta and Melilla, which in terms of immigration and security clearly has consequences affecting the EU as a whole, it is crucial that the reasons why Frontex forces are not deployed in this zone should be explained.

Is the Commission of the view that there should be a Frontex presence at the Melilla border? Has the Commission proposed to Spain that Frontex should be deployed on the land borders of Ceuta and Melilla? If the answer is yes, what was Spain's response to that proposal?