

**Question for written answer E-004618/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Trafficking in human organs: is the European Union at a crossroads?

'Providing assistance to those who have had to flee their homes and seek a better life in Europe is a humanitarian imperative'¹.

'We also need to apply and vigorously enforce our new common European rules to penalise human traffickers. Criminals who exploit the pain and needs of people in distress or suffering from persecution need to know: Europe is on guard and will bring them to justice at every turn'².

With no money to pay the smugglers, immigrants in distress are willing to pay in human organs. This is not a new phenomenon, and children are seriously affected. It concerns illegal immigration from North Africa³, but also from the Middle East (with the largest flows of immigrants to the European Union at the moment being from this region)⁴. It should be stressed that these practices persist only because there are buyers, including within the European Union.

This intolerable phenomenon and the deafening silence that surrounds it mean that it is extremely urgent for the European Union to provide a serious multilateral response. What is the Commission going to do?

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/migration/index_fr.htm.

² http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/docs/pg_fr.pdf#page=10.

³ http://frontex.europa.eu/assets/Publications/Risk_Analysis/Fran_Q3_2014.pdf.

⁴ <http://cipadh.org/le-trafic-dorganes-et-limmigration-clandestine-en-europe>.