

**Question for written answer E-005513/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: Human trafficking in the Sinai peninsula

Since the dictatorship in Eritrea was tightened in 2008, some 50 000 young people have fled the state heading for Europe or neighbouring countries. However, there is a massive difference in numbers between those who escape Eritrea and those who make it to Europe, Ethiopia, Sudan, Djibouti, Libya or Egypt. En route between the Eritrean border and Kassala, the first city to be reached in Sudan, a third of refugees are kidnapped by traffickers who take them, in exchange for money, to the Sinai desert, where they are imprisoned and tortured. According to the report 'The Human Trafficking Cycle: Sinai and Beyond', there are over 10 000 people whose whereabouts are currently unknown.

1. Does the Commission have up-to-date figures on these migratory flows which would make it possible to ascertain how many people are still in transit and being held by this network?
2. What action is being taken to identify those responsible and break up this network of human trafficking in the Sinai peninsula?