Question for written answer E-005532/2015 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: International arrest warrants against asylum seekers and refugees

Mr Ismail Zat, a Turkish citizen, was granted asylum by Greece in 2001 because he feared persecution by the Turkish authorities on account of his anti-government ideas and participation in trade union activities.

In 2013, following the issuing of an international arrest warrant by Turkey, the Athens Court of Appeal ruled in judgment 127/2013 not to extradite him on the basis that, as a refugee, he had to be protected from the probable threat to his life and freedom he would face if forced to return.

However, three months ago Mr Zat was arrested in Germany, after Turkey issued a red notice on the same grounds as the one that had been rejected by the Greek Court of Appeal. He has been in custody ever since, awaiting extradition.

- 1. What steps have been taken to safeguard the protection of recognised refugees and asylum seekers from repeated extradition procedures/Interpol warrants and arrests in other Member States, which constitute further targeting and prosecution against them?
- 2. What steps have been taken to safeguard mutual recognition of criminal judgments so as to ensure the principle of *ne bis in idem*?

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