

**Question for written answer E-009893/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Rachida Dati (PPE)**

Subject: The need for an effective and coordinated policy on the return of irregular migrants

Between 2013 and 2014, there was a 12% increase in the number of decisions by Member States to return irregular migrants, while the number of such migrants actually returned remained stable. This is an additional argument that can be used by the criminal networks which organise trafficking in migrants, as would-be migrants have reason to hope that they will be able to remain in the European Union even if their status is irregular.

Policy on returning would-be migrants is therefore among the operational priorities of Frontex. The Commission plans to step up the role of Frontex by allowing it to launch operations to return irregular migrants to their country of origin, while respecting their fundamental rights.

This downstream reinforcement is a counterpart to Frontex's role in receiving migrants upstream of the major access points. The aim is to impart coherence to the agency's strategy in order to control the migratory pressure with which the EU is confronted.

1. How will the Commission ensure that Frontex can take the greatest advantage of the information gathered at access points and via the Schengen Information System in order to manage return operations effectively?
2. What sources of funding are to be used to pay for these return operations initiated by Frontex?