

**Question for written answer E-010142/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: World Refugee Day and EU immigration policy

On 20 June, which is World Refugee Day, we remember that we are facing one of the most serious refugee crises since World War Two, with over 51 million displaced people throughout the world in the middle of 2014. According to the United Nations 'every minute eight people leave everything behind to escape war, persecution or terror, with most having to choose between something terrible and something even worse'.

The vast majority of refugees are being hosted by neighbouring developing countries that are also unstable. According to AI, over 3 500 people lost their lives in the Mediterranean Sea in 2014. In the first four months of 2015 alone, 1 700 people died – 800 of them on 18 April.

The EU cannot distance itself from what is happening. We received 626 000 requests for asylum in 2014. However, we are not making the humanitarian efforts that the situation requires.

Can the Commission state what progress is being made on a common immigration policy that can respond immediately to the humanitarian tragedy in the Mediterranean, and to its causes, by reinstating and promoting genuine cooperation and solidarity policies?