

**Question for written answer E-001730/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Norica Nicolai (ALDE)

Subject: European Migrant Smuggling Centre

Europol's research indicates that 90 % of migrants arriving in Europe have been assisted by a criminal organisation. The recently established European Migrant Smuggling Centre will seek to provide the necessary platform by which Member States can improve their exchange of information and operational coordination in order to combat organised migrant smuggling.

In this context, I have the following questions for the Commission:

1. How successful is this centre projected to be when it is known that there are current shortcomings with Europol and the flow of information among Member States? Essentially, how will this centre specifically seek to improve the current system?
2. Success depends heavily on the engagement of Member States and other partners through enhanced information sharing and operational cooperation. How does the Commission plan to promote and foster this increased cooperation through the centre?