

**Question for written answer E-001772/2016
to the Council**
Rule 130
Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)

Subject: Merits of the Visegrád Group's immigration policy

The migration crisis which is currently bringing the EU to its knees has exposed the deep political divide between those countries which are in favour of immigration and the countries of the Visegrád Group (Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia), which are fiercely opposed to it on the grounds that what has become a mass influx of migrants poses a threat to the demographic, political, social and cultural balance in Member States.

In mid-February, the Visegrád Group met in Prague and announced that it was willing to work together with Bulgaria and Macedonia to close the Balkan route to migrants. Austria is clearly moving in the same direction.

Meanwhile, other countries, such as the Netherlands, Denmark and Sweden, are gradually reintroducing border controls. Such measures, however, still fall laughably short of what is required given the scale of the crisis.

Rather than bemoaning the 'isolated initiatives' of Member States, the Commission should acknowledge its own inability to resolve the crisis and radically change its ill-thought-out stance in favour of immigration.

In this context, what steps will the Council take to:

- ensure that illegal immigrants are detained and expelled from the EU?
- give Member States full control over their borders once again, given the Commission's ineffectualness?
- initiate at long last effective cooperation between Member States to put an end to mass immigration?