

**Question for written answer E-002996/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Francesc Gambús (PPE)**

Subject:     Refugee management at local and regional level

Commissioner Avramopoulos recently observed on Twitter: 'Cities are at the forefront of the refugee crisis. Mayors and their municipal authorities play a very important role in the integration process.' In response to this situation, numerous local and regional bodies in the European Union have in fact contacted the Commission with offers of assistance.

In views of this:

1.   What has been the Commission's reaction to these offers?
2.   To what extent can local and regional bodies assist the Commission in managing the refugee crisis?
3.   To what extent is it possible for the Commission to establish a more direct relationship with local and regional authorities in Europe and what steps can it take to this end?