Question for written answer E-003693/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)

Subject: Austria's asylum policy

On Wednesday 27 April, while the Interior Minister, Wolfgang Sobotka, was announcing that Austria 'cannot shoulder the whole world's burden', the Austrian Parliament, which is majority social-democrat and christian-conservative, voted in favour of changing its asylum policy.

Migrants identifying themselves as refugees will now only be given a residence permit of up to three years, after which time they will be obliged to return to their country of origin if the situation becomes stable and peaceful there.

The right to family reunification will be restricted, the maximum number of refugees limited and border controls stepped up.

It is also now possible for a 'migration state of emergency' to be declared for a period of two years, during which the migrants can be turned back. In order to enter Austria, migrants must be able to prove that they were persecuted in the country they passed through directly before entering Austria.

Faced with this ever-growing influx of migrants, at a time when European countries are being forced to take urgent measures to compensate for the laxity of certain Member States, will the Commission reform the Dublin Regulation by applying the wise but admittedly insufficient measures adopted by the Austrian Parliament to all the Schengen countries?