

**Question for written answer E-000338/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jean Lambert (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Afghan migrant returnees

In 2015, Member States issued 38 890 Afghans with an order to leave the EU. It is not clear whether those returned received support and training for reintegration back into Afghan society. The EU does offer support for reintegration to address the immediate needs of the returnees and their host communities. However, this has only been implemented at the national level in Norway, Sweden and Austria. Furthermore, the reintegration package appears to suggest that Member States support returnees' development once they have arrived back in Afghanistan and not whilst they are in the EU.

The Joint Way Forward agreement between the EU and Afghanistan places emphasis on the reintegration of Afghans once they have left the European Union. The recent dramatic increase in returns to Afghanistan from the surrounding countries, notably from Pakistan and Iran, will have a significant further destabilising impact on the country.

1. What action is the Commission taking to ensure that returnees from the EU to Afghanistan can successfully reintegrate and contribute to the country's development and economic prosperity?
2. Is the Commission taking action to encourage Member States to offer training and upskilling to Afghans (and other nationalities) whilst they are in the EU?