

**Question for written answer E-001561/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Elena Valenciano (S&D) and Juan Fernando López Aguilar (S&D)

Subject: New measures for an efficient and credible EU return policy

On 2 March the Commission presented a renewed EU Action Plan on Return and a set of concrete recommendations to Member States. According to Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos: *'With (this) Action Plan and Recommendation, the Commission is providing support to Member States in their efforts to step up returns, as called for by the EU leaders at the Malta Summit.'*

1. Does this increasing number and prioritisation of return initiatives – which are also contained in the New Migration Partnership Framework or 'EU-Afghanistan Joint Way Forward on Migration Issues' – constitute a holistic and balanced approach for the European Agenda on Migration, or is it merely a response to pressure from Member States seeking to achieve short-term results in terms of migration control?
2. Through which mechanisms does the Commission expect to implement this renewed Action Plan and the raft of recommendations?
3. Does the Commission expect to be more successful in this sort of action in terms of returns than in the implementation of the relocation and resettlement programmes, whose very poor compliance rate alone speaks volumes about the level of commitment of the Member States to the management of migration and refugee policy based on solidarity?