

**Question for written answer E-006912/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Sotirios Zarianopoulos (NI)

Subject: Inadmissible 'private sponsorship scheme' for the relocation of refugees and migrants

In its recent communication, the Commission, with the support of the national governments, including SYRIZA-ANEL, announced that it was encouraging Member States to launch 'private sponsorship schemes' enabling groups of individuals or 'civil society' bodies to organise and fund relocations in accordance with national law.

To this end, the Commission has asked the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) to coordinate a pilot project for the launching of 'private sponsorship schemes' with the Member States concerned.

This is a provocative and dangerous initiative in so far as it gives individuals, business groups and NGOs the task of 'selecting', skilled or unskilled refugees and migrants as a source of cheap labour for monopolistic employers and other organisations in the Member States or as a means of exerting imperialistic leverage in their countries of origin.

In view of this:

What is the Commission's position regarding calls to end any 'private sponsorship schemes' for the purposes of relocation and ensure prompt and responsible action by the appropriate government authorities to enable the thousands of refugees and migrants trapped in Greece to reach their intended destinations without the need for individual initiatives, sponsorship schemes or NGO involvement?