

**Question for written answer E-007123/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)**

Subject: EU development aid and cooperation in the area of preventing unacceptable phenomena, including illegal migration towards Europe

The EU is the world's largest donor in the area of development and humanitarian aid, and is Africa's most important economic, trade and security partner. A huge amount of money is streaming from Europe to African countries through initiatives such as the European Development Fund, the European Neighbourhood Instrument and the Financing Instrument for Development Cooperation.

Africa's economic development is particularly important for the EU, which is working to improve stability, security and peace in the world. Developments in the past few years have brought home to the EU more clearly than ever the importance of putting these principles into practice. In the context of the migration crisis, the EU Member States have begun to view the African countries not as passive recipients of development aid, but as partners who, in exchange for this support, can help with controlling and managing migration flows.

Unfortunately, there are also some in the EU who believe that this approach is wrong because development aid should never be connected with cooperation in any area, including migration. I take a very different view. We cannot offer assistance in the elimination of certain undesirable phenomena and, at the same time, allow the other side not to take effective action in this area.

Can the Commission give its views on the issue of making development policy contingent on cooperation in the elimination of illicit activities in third countries?