

**Question for written answer E-000285/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Richard Sulík (ECR)**

Subject: Protection missions - conclusions of the Paris summit of 28 August 2017

On 28 August 2017, the French President Emmanuel Macron held a summit in Paris which was attended by senior government figures from Germany, Italy, Spain, Chad and Niger, as well as members of the Libyan Government of National Accord and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

Among other things, the participants agreed on further discussions concerning 'protective missions' to Africa (Chad and Niger), during which representatives of the Member States, seconded to Chad and Niger on a short-term basis, should assess asylum requests from those people referred to in a closed list created by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. The conclusions were confirmed in the Joint Statement of 28 August 2017 (points 2.2 – 3). The statement was accompanied by a document entitled 'Protection Missions for the Resettling of Refugees in Europe'. According to this document, the protection missions are aimed at opening up legal migration for persons in need of protection in accordance with international and European law. In the meantime, France has carried out two four-day protection missions, on the basis of which a number of asylum seekers will be resettled in the foreseeable future.

Is the Commission or the Council considering setting up 'protection missions', as outlined at the summit, during which seconded staff from the Member States would carry out the initial assessment of asylum requests in centres on the ground in Africa, for instance in Chad or Niger?