

**Question for written answer E-004958/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Judith Sargentini (Verts/ALE), Bodil Valero (Verts/ALE), Barbara Lochbihler (Verts/ALE) and
Maria Heubuch (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: The EU's migration policies in Niger: shopping lists and adverse effects

On 24 August this year, Der Spiegel published an article on the EU's migration policies in Niger¹. Freely translated, the article states that: 'off the record, EU officials speak of "shopping lists" of the 44 Nigerien ministers in return for ongoing cooperation: cars, planes, helicopters'.

The following day, the New York Times published an article on the EU's efforts to reduce the number of migrants travelling through Niger². The article claims that the EU's efforts have badly hurt the local economy, raised grave security concerns and led to the opening up of alternative migration routes to Algeria and Morocco. In it, the Nigerien interior minister is quoted as saying that 'the fight against clandestine migration is not winnable'.

1. Could the Commission clarify whether or not such a 'shopping list' does indeed exist and whether any other demands have been made by Nigerien ministers in exchange for continued cooperation on migration?
2. Considering the adverse effects of the fight against migration, does the Commission consider the Nigerien example a success?
3. Did the Commission foresee the adverse economic and security implications of the EU's migration management policies and, if so, how was the decision reached to prioritise migration management?

¹ <http://www.spiegel.de/plus/fluechtlinge-in-europa-wer-rein-darf-und-wer-nicht-a-00000000-0002-0001-0000-000159070505>

² <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/25/world/africa/niger-migration-crisis.html>