

**Question for written answer E-006096/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Dominique Martin (ENF)**

Subject: European Solidarity Corps: humanitarian tourism worth EUR 1.26 billion

On 11 June 2018 the Commission proposed that the 'European Solidarity Corps' programme be renewed for a further period, from 2021 to 2027. The idea of the programme, backed by a budget of EUR 1.26 billion, is to place 350 000 young Europeans in subsidised volunteering activities, traineeships, or jobs.

Assessment findings from previous years suggest that young people are not particularly interested in this programme<sup>1</sup>. The assessments in question have not, however, been validated<sup>2</sup>.

In future, humanitarian aid operations in non-European countries will be eligible under the programme. Given the risks involved in humanitarian tourism, what safeguards has the Commission put in place to ensure that no volunteers will be assigned to NGOs implicated in recent scandals<sup>3</sup>?

Why is the Commission putting forward a EUR 1.26 billion programme when the assessment documents have not been validated?

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<sup>1</sup> 'low intake of volunteers'

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014\\_2019/plmrep/AUTRES\\_INSTITUTIONS/COMM/COM/2018/09-24/COM\\_COM20180440\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014_2019/plmrep/AUTRES_INSTITUTIONS/COMM/COM/2018/09-24/COM_COM20180440_EN.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Neither the Commission report to Parliament and the Council nor its staff working document on the interim evaluation of the EU Aid Volunteers scheme was adopted on 11 July 2018.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.lalibre.be/actu/international/apres-oxfam-l-ong-medecins-sans-frontieres-plongee-dans-un-scandale-sexuel-5b2b951b5532a2968895b44d>