

**Question for oral answer O-000123/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 128

Judith Sargentini

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Malin Björk, Cornelia Ernst, Marie-Christine Vergiat, Marina Albiol Guzmán, Barbara Spinelli, Kostas Chrysogonos, Merja Kyllönen, Patrick Le Hyaric, Dimitrios Papadimoulis, Kostadinka Kuneva, Stelios Kouloglou, Sabine Lösing

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Birgit Sippel

on behalf of the S&D Group

Sophia in 't Veld, Cecilia Wikström, Angelika Mlinar, Filiz Hysmenova, Nathalie Griesbeck, Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz, Morten Helveg Petersen, Petras Auštrevičius, Hilde Vautmans, Urmas Paet

on behalf of the ALDE Group

Kati Piri, Ana Gomes

Subject: 'EU-Afghanistan Joint Way Forward on migration issues': Role and consultation of the European Parliament

On 4 October 2016 the European Union and Afghanistan signed a 'Joint Way Forward on migration issues'. The document provides a clear framework for cooperation on forced return and readmission to Afghanistan. Article 79(3) TFEU provides an explicit legal basis for the conclusion of agreements with third countries for the readmission to countries of origin or provenance of third-country nationals who do not or who no longer fulfil the conditions for entry, presence or residence in the territory of one of the Member States. In line with Article 218(6)(a)(v) TFEU, the European Parliament's consent must be obtained prior to the conclusion of association and similar agreements. Moreover, in line with Article 218(10) TFEU, the European Parliament shall be immediately and fully informed at all stages of the procedure.

1. In light of the above, how and when does the Commission intend to formally consult and inform the European Parliament in relation to the conclusion of a 'Joint Way Forward' covering return and readmission cooperation between the European Union and Afghanistan?
2. How does the Commission assess the compliance of the procedure that led to the signature of the 'Joint Way Forward' between the EU and Afghanistan with Articles 79(3) and 218 TFEU?

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Deadline for reply: 24.10.2016