

**Question for written answer P-000030/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Miltiadis Kyrkos (S&D)

Subject: Funding for refugee shelters

Refugee shelters in Greece, which currently contain a large number of unaccompanied children, are now encountering major problems of a bureaucratic nature arising from the recent decision to transfer responsibility for administering the European Refugee Fund (ERF) from the Ministry of Employment to the Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection.

The funding programme for refugee shelters is scheduled to end on 31 January 2015, which will be a major financial blow, leaving them with insufficient funding to continue operating.

At the same time, priority should be given to the protection of unaccompanied minors and efforts should accordingly be stepped up in this direction with a view to determining their best interests and ensuring their safety, this being a fundamental principle of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In view of this:

1. Is the Commission willing contact the Greek authorities with a view to resolving the problem without delay?
2. Given the gravity of the situation and the large number of refugees, is it willing to adopt less bureaucratic procedures with regard to funding for refugee shelters so as to ensure that they can continue to operate without interruption?