

Question for written answer P-014006/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Sander Loones (ECR)

Subject: Will Turkey soon be taking asylum-seekers to European or Turkish safe havens?

The Commission and Turkey have agreed a joint action plan to tackle the asylum crisis. They have agreed, inter alia, that Turkey will expand the interception capacity of its coastguard by patrolling more and thus increasing the intensity of its search operations. During the Brussels mini-session on 14 October 2015, Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker confirmed that he had proposed to President Erdogan that a joint Turkish-Greek team be used as a coastguard.

1. Does the Commission intend that, in addition to Frontex, Turkish naval vessels should enter Greek territorial waters to take intercepted asylum-seekers to a safe haven in the EU?
2. Or does it intend, on the contrary, that Turkish vessels should take intercepted asylum-seekers to safe havens in Turkey?