

**Question for written answer P-001186/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Gérard Deprez (ALDE)**

Subject: Number of Member States that consider Turkey a safe third country

Directive 2013/32 of 26 June 2013 on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection defines the concepts of safe third countries (Article 38) and European safe third countries (Article 39) in the context of applications for international protection.

In practical terms, this means that asylum seekers who pass through a country deemed to be a 'safe third country' by a Member State will not have their application processed by the Member State in question, and will instead be sent back to the transit country.

The two articles also stipulate that Member States must keep the Commission regularly informed of the third countries to which this concept is applied.

Can the Commission say which Member States have previously considered, or currently consider, Turkey to be a safe third country?