

Question for written answer P-001304/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Possible decision by Greece, under Article 72 TFEU on the maintenance of law and order and internal security, to deviate from the provisions of Title V TFEU and the Schengen Agreement

Following the recent decision of the NATO to provide assistance in dealing with the refugee crisis, it has become a matter of external and internal security for the EU Member States.

Under Title V TFEU regarding the area of freedom, security and justice and Article 67 in particular, the Union is required to frame a common policy on asylum, immigration and external border control.

Moreover, under Article 4(2) TEU, national security remains the sole responsibility of each Member State, while Article 72 TFEU states that Title V shall not affect the exercise of the responsibilities incumbent upon Member States with regard to the maintenance of law and order and the safeguarding of internal security.

In view of this and of the massive and constantly swelling tide of refugees entering Greece from the beginning of 2015 until now:

What stance will the Commission adopt should Greece decide to avail itself of the possibility offered to Member States under Article 72 TFEU to close its borders with third countries and deviate from the provisions of Title V TFEU on the one hand and the Schengen Agreement on the other?