



Plenary sitting

B9-0120/2022

8.2.2022

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 143 of the Rules of Procedure

on tackling the growing problem of organised begging in the Member States

Guido Reil, Nicolaus Fest

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on tackling the growing problem of organised begging in the Member States

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 143 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas beggars from Roma communities are a growing problem in different Member States¹;
 - B. whereas different police reports and officials indicate that these beggars are part of organised clans with a hierarchical structure, and with clear indications of human trafficking², exploitation and violations of children’s rights;
 - C. whereas many rural Roma communities in Central and South-eastern Europe see freedom of movement in the EU as a business model through which they travel unfettered to beg on the streets of Western Europe; whereas these migrants are supported by their local family network³;
1. Is concerned about the growing problem of organised begging in different Member States and the serious violation of children’s and human rights it entails;
 2. Is concerned that a future accession of countries from the Western Balkans will lead to more poverty migration and a further increase in organised begging;
 3. Calls on the Commission to draw up a report mapping and explaining the phenomenon of organised begging with a view to offering possible ways for the Member States and regional and local authorities to tackle this pressing problem, and to gather ideas for further action.

¹ Cetin, S., ‘Beggars become social problem for heart of the EU, Brussels’, *Anadolu Agency*, 17 January 2020; Spain, J., ‘Ireland’s big street begging scam’, *IrishCentral*, 29 March 2019.

² Briellmann, S., ‘For the experts it’s clear: “beggars are part of a clan”’, *Nebelspalter*, 16 March 2021.

³ Friberg, J. H., ‘Poverty, networks, resistance: the economic sociology of Roma migration for begging’, *Migration Studies*, Vol 8, Issue 2, June 2020, pp. 228-249.