

**Question for written answer E-006908/2011  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: EU support to refugees and to the democratic transition process in Tunisia

From 14 January 2011, the EU has announced its commitment to supporting the democratic process in Tunisia. The EU delivered humanitarian aid for the reception of hundreds of thousands of refugees arriving in Tunisia since the uprising and the fighting in Libya, and contributed to the creation of refugee camps and the repatriation of third country nationals to their country of origin.

On 15 June 2011 in Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights, the European External Action Service (EEAS) representative reported that 6000 persons were still present in the camps, and that promises for the resettlement of 780 refugees had been made.

Can the Commission indicate which Member States pledged to take in refugees? Can the Commission inform Parliament about the state of play of the discussions with the Council and the Member States on the reception of refugees whose case has been accepted?

The EU also announced that in addition to humanitarian aid, financial support would be made available to address the economic crisis resulting from the fall of resources generated by tourism and the decline in trade with Libya. The EEAS services confirmed to the Subcommittee on Human Rights that the financial instruments had been identified. However, the funds have not yet been released.

Can the Commission inform Parliament about the date for the release of the funds?