

**Question for written answer E-001725/2012
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Foreign homeless persons

Many homeless persons in Denmark come from other EU countries. Inter alia that is demonstrated by a study carried out by the Danish National Centre for Social Research¹.

Similarly, organisations working with the homeless state that foreign homeless persons make up a large proportion of the homeless in shelters, in particular in Copenhagen. Some foreign homeless persons have mental health problems and have no prospect of finding work in Denmark, and experts believe that they are therefore best served by returning to their homeland.

A number of other EU countries seem to be experiencing the same problem with foreign homeless persons. Accordingly, the 'Reconnection' project has been set up in the United Kingdom to help foreign homeless persons return to their homeland².

1. Is the Commission aware of the problem of foreign homeless persons and what is its position on the problem?
2. Has there been EU-level action to coordinate cooperation in this area (e.g. by sharing best practice, developing a network for organisations working with the homeless, etc.)? If so, what specific action will the Commission take to address the problem?

¹ <http://www.sfi.dk/Default.aspx?ID=10305>

² <http://www.homeless.org.uk/Reconnection>