

**Question for written answer E-013301/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Hasty deportation of migrants to Morocco

NGOs and the media have condemned the hasty deportations of migrants undertaken in Melilla.

In 2012, Morocco ratified the 1992 Spanish-Moroccan agreement on the readmission of illegal foreign migrants¹, which offers legal protection to the officers of the Spanish Civil Guard who carry out the deportation. However, this bilateral agreement, providing that deportation is carried out without complying with the subsequent procedures in terms of seeking asylum, would breach the Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, signed by Spain and the EU, and the right to seek asylum.

Apparently, night-time deliveries of immigrants by the Civil Guard to the Moroccan security forces are conducted by sea or land in sector A 13, a location where there are no surveillance cameras.

What is the Commission's view regarding the bilateral agreement between Spain and Morocco on the readmission of illegal foreign migrants? Does the new European legislative framework allow for the existence of such bilateral agreements?

Given that Melilla forms part of the external borders of the EU, does Frontex cooperate in carrying out these deportations?

¹ <http://www.boe.es/buscar/doc.php?id=BOE-A-1992-8976>