

**Question for written answer E-003246/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Willy Meyer (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Deportation of illegal immigrants using flights of shame

On 11 March 2013, it was announced in the Spanish Official State Gazette that the 'Services for the air transport of passengers for the movement of foreign nationals and police officers responsible for their custody between various points within the national territory and from those to other countries' contract would be awarded with an estimated value of over EUR 24 million.

The successful tenderer for this contract was Air Europa Líneas Aéreas S.A.U. and Swiftair S.A., which have since been commissioned with these mass deportations. However, members of the campaign to close the Immigrant Detention Centres have condemned the selective raids carried out by state security forces searching for illegal immigrants of a certain nationality, most likely to facilitate the deportation work of these airlines. Despite the numerous declarations against human trafficking and the trade related to illegal immigration, we are sure that in this case companies right here in Europe are participating in this business.

Furthermore, the European Commission has requested that Spain, as well as Cyprus, Italy and Luxembourg, implement Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, since these countries have not adopted any national legislation to apply this Directive. Under these conditions of legal uncertainty, Spain has carried out these deportations without adequate guarantees to protect the rights of the victims of human trafficking.

Is the Commission aware of the aforementioned deportations?

Does it believe that the actions of Spain or the airlines cited above contravene any of the provisions of Directive 2011/36/EU?

Does the Commission believe that in carrying out these selective expulsions the Spanish Government is providing adequate protection for the potential victims in accordance with this Directive and Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA?

Does it believe that the selective raids, which the Spanish Government has not denied, are in line with the provisions of the Return Directive and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union?