Question for written answer E-003485/2014 to the Commission
Rule 117
Barbara Lochbihler (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Detention of asylum seekers in Hungary

In my Written Question E-008939 to the Commission submitted on 22 July 2013, I referred to issues relating to asylum seekers in Hungary such as an increase in the number of asylum applications, a new law on detention which makes no mention of individual legal rights, a generalised review procedure and a lack of accommodation for refugees. I am concerned that these constitute a violation of the European Convention on Human Rights and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. On 31 October 2013, the Commission gave a very general answer in which it stated that, as guardian of the Treaties, it monitors Member States' compliance with EU law. In the light of this, I would like to broach the subject again.

- 1. The Commission has since launched infringement proceedings against Hungary. What do the proceedings concern? Have they already been closed? If so, what was the outcome? If not, what outcome is expected?
- 2. The projects financed by the European Refugee Fund and the European Return Fund are described on a Hungarian website, as cited in the Commission's answer. Unfortunately, I am unable to understand the details. I would therefore like to ask a more precise question. Can the Commission be sure that the above funds have not been used to finance projects which have resulted, directly or indirectly, in asylum seekers being imprisoned? If so, how? If not, can it provide further details?
- 3. It appears that Hungary, citing a lack of accommodation facilities, has repeatedly refused to take in asylum seekers who, under the Dublin Regulation, should have returned to Hungary. Among them are four families who are staying in Baden-Württemberg. What is the Commission's view on this? Does the Commission believe that the Dublin System should be changed as a result?

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