Question for written answer E-004570/2018 to the Commission
Rule 130

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Subject: Dramatic situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

According to estimates, more than 12 000 migrants have entered the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina so far this year, with thousands now located in the towns of Bihac and Velika Kladusa, where Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and other NGOs have denounced the dramatic conditions in which they live, with neither adequate reception structures, nor sufficient basic and medical assistance available.

In addition, some newspapers and organisations have reported an alleged use of violence by the Croatian authorities against refugees crossing the border from Bosnia and Herzegovina. On 15 August 2018, The Guardian denounced alleged thefts and systematic violence by the Croatian police against refugees, also reported by MSF.

Is the Commission monitoring the use of European funds granted to Bosnia and Herzegovina for assisting migrants and ensuring adequate reception structures, including the EUR 1.5 million allocated in June and the EUR 6 million allocated in August?

What measures does the Commission intend to take to verify the alleged abuses and ensure respect for fundamental rights, including the right to request asylum in the EU?

Is the European Border and Coast Guard present at the border between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina and, if so, how many units are involved?