

**Question for written answer E-001261/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Konstantinos Papadakis (NI)

Subject: Tragic death of three more refugees off the coast of Samos

A father and his two children have been found dead off the coast of Samos, despite the best efforts of the port police to save them. This had added to the tragic toll of those who have perished in the Mediterranean (2 275 in 2018) while attempting to flee the wars ignited by the EU, US, NATO and their governments and escape the poverty and destitution that reflect the inhuman face of capitalism.

In a statement issued in response to the inadmissible anti-immigration policy being pursued by Viktor Orban and in its campaign to portray EU 'solidarity' with migrants, the Commission is in fact advocating a repressive policy, including the use of Frontex patrols to police EU borders. It is also manifestly unwilling to provide a minimum degree of protection for those who have been uprooted by issuing them with humanitarian visas. It clearly welcomes the decrease in the number of arrivals in Greece thanks to the unacceptable EU-Turkey agreement that has left thousands of refugees doubly hemmed in and forced to endure atrocious living conditions. It is calling for still more expulsions, reconfirming its view that the term 'legal migration' refers only to those able to provide the cheap skilled labour being sought by European monopolies. This is in fact described as 'progress' in the most recent communication regarding the implementation of the 'European Migration Agenda'.

In view of this, how does the Commission respond to the fact that repressive EU policy towards refugees and migrants, which is being closely adhered to by the Syriza Government, is leading to tragic deaths in the Mediterranean, while thousands remain doubly hemmed in, forced to endure atrocious living conditions and deprived of the right to travel to their countries of destination?