

Question for written answer E-002442/2019
to the Commission
Rule 138
Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi (PPE)

Subject: Coalition of the willing - Revision of the Dublin Regulation

Developments regarding the migration/refugee issue over the last few months have highlighted the fact that Member States have conflicting interests in this area; as a result, the EU is increasingly distancing itself from an approach involving a compulsory mechanism for the allocation of refugees to all Member States.

In essence, the summit talks are moving towards the adoption of a system for the reception of refugees by as many Member States as possible on a voluntary basis (a coalition of the willing). The Union is thus reverting to temporary, non-binding solutions to the refugee problem, as a bold reform of the Dublin Regulation aimed at definitively resolving the issue on the basis of solidarity without exceptions is confronted with the unwillingness of a significant number of Member States to comply.

In the meantime, refugee flows are increasing in the central Mediterranean area and in my country, Greece; this means that the Member States responsible for initial reception are continuing to bear a disproportionate share of the burden, which is putting pressure on local communities and triggering a whole range of reactions.

Given that, despite the significant steps taken to date, Europe remains divided in the face of a critical problem which is of concern to the vast majority of European citizens, will the Commission say:

How does it view the so-called 'coalition of the willing'?

How will it put pressure on non-compliant Member States in particular to consent to a definitive revision of the Dublin Regulation?

