Question for written answer E-003828/2020 to the Commission Rule 138
Jean-Paul Garraud (ID)

Subject: EU-Turkey migration agreement

In 2016, the EU signed an agreement with Turkey aimed at controlling illegal immigration into Europe from Turkish territory. In return, the EU released EUR 6 billion for the management of the 4.5 million refugees in Turkey.

In early 2019, Turkey suspended the agreement, opened its borders and arranged for the migrants to be transported to Greece. According to press reports, the EU is paying additional sums to Turkey as well as facilitating access to visas for Turkish nationals. However, the answer of 20 May from Mr Várhelyi to my written question P-001722/2020 states that 'no decisions have been taken yet on these matters'.

In June, the Turkish army deployed in Libya at the request of the legitimate Libyan Government, providing Turkey with yet another means of pressurising Europe through its control of a new migratory route. On 24 June, the Committee on Budgets adopted a report under which EUR 485 million will be provided for refugees in Turkey. According to a Greek Minister, Turkey has declared its land borders with Europe open and said that the Turkish Coast Guard will escort boats carrying migrants to the Greek islands.

What will the Commission do to prevent Turkey from continuing to blackmail Europe with the threat of a flood of refugees in taking control of the main migration routes to Europe?