

**Question for written answer E-004780/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Markus Buchheit (ID)

Subject: An EU 'placebo' consultation exercise on migration

From 30 July to 27 August 2020, the Commission asked citizens for their opinions on a new migration and asylum pact.

Citizens' involvement in such important issues is a good thing – even if it has to be assumed, on the basis of the description of the survey, that feedback is unlikely to have a decisive influence over the content of the migration and asylum pact.

What is surprising, however, is the extremely low rate of participation in the survey on the projected initiative. As at 2.18 p.m. on 24 August, only 130 people had provided feedback. Not until after there had been a report on Achgut.de did the number of responses increase to just 973 by 14.29 on 26 August.

1. What action did the Commission take to publicise this consultation exercise, how big was its advertising budget, and what communication plan was drawn on (if any)?
2. Why was the roadmap to be assessed by citizens on this initiative (Ares(2020)4017751) available in English only, and why was the two-page document not even translated into the Commission's working languages, which, in addition to English, are German and French?
3. In spite of what was a very low rate of participation, does the Commission nonetheless intend to submit a proposal on a new migration and asylum pact?