

**Question for written answer E-005246/2020  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Julie Lechanteux (ID)**

Subject: Return and readmission of migrants in third countries

On 23 September 2020, the Commission presented its new Pact on Migration and Asylum. Among the proposed measures, the Commission envisages strengthening cooperation with countries of origin on the return, readmission and reintegration of irregular migrants.

On 28 July 2020, the Court of Auditors published an audit entitled *EU Migrant return policy — cooperation with third countries on readmission*<sup>1</sup>.

According to that audit, since 2008 some 500 000 foreign nationals have been ordered to leave the EU each year because they entered or are staying here illegally. However, only 38% of them return to their country of origin or the last country through which they transited to enter the EU. The figure falls below 30% for returns to non-European countries. This is a real failure on the part of the EU.

According to the auditors, these low rates of return can be explained, in particular, by the difficulty of cooperating with the migrants' countries of origin.

What instruments does the Commission intend to use to require the countries of origin of irregular migrants to reintegrate their nationals?

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.eca.europa.eu/Lists/ECADocuments/AP20\\_07/AP\\_Migrant\\_return\\_policy\\_EN.pdf](https://www.eca.europa.eu/Lists/ECADocuments/AP20_07/AP_Migrant_return_policy_EN.pdf)