

Question for written answer E-005335/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Border controls at Ventimiglia

The end of lockdown coincided with the resumption en masse of operations by the transalpine police to push back migrants at the Franco-Italian border.

With the reintroduction of controls on internal borders, allowed by Articles 25 and 29 of the Schengen Borders Code for no more than two years, rights have for a long time now been systematically violated, with the Dublin Regulation contravened as pushbacks often fail to protect unaccompanied minors.

Through its controls on the border at Ventimiglia, France is creating de facto a historic legal precedent by placing internal borders on the same level as external ones and regarding every person stopped as an illegal.

This is a seriously disturbing situation and not just for the migrants. France's Council of State has described it as a serious threat to the right to asylum (Case No 440756).

In light of the global health crisis and the repercussions such behaviour could have:

1. Does the Commission consider behaviour of this kind to be in line with EU law? Why has it not yet been penalised?
2. How will it ensure these actions cease immediately?