

**Question for written answer E-000561/2021/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Huge influx of Tunisian migrants arriving on the Italian coast

The Tunisian Forum for Social and Economic Rights has reported that more than 13 000 Tunisian nationals landed illegally on Italian shores in 2020, compared to 2 654 in 2019, a fivefold increase. Smugglers are increasingly using the Tunisian towns of Sfax, Zarzis and Mahdia as points of departure..

By way of a reminder, the perpetrator of the Notre-Dame Basilica attack carried out in Nice on 29 October 2020, Brahim Issaoui, was one of the 13 000 migrants who arrived in Italy. He was able to move freely from Lampedusa through Sicily to Rome and then make his way to France to carry out a massacre. At no stage did he undergo proper border checks, even though he was the subject of an expulsion order issued by the Italian authorities.

Can the Commission say how many of these 13 000 migrants left Italy for another Member State and how many were actually deported?

Will it take steps to curb the risk of Islamist terrorism posed by this mass influx of migrants?

Does it consider that its policy of promoting mass immigration to the European Union, in particular by providing financial support to NGOs which are complicit in the activities of smugglers, made the attack in Nice easier to carry out?

**Supporters<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> This question is supported by Members other than the authors: Hélène Laporte (ID), Gilles Lebreton (ID), Mathilde Androuët (ID), Annika Bruna (ID), André Rougé (ID), Thierry Mariani (ID)