

**Question for written answer E-001402/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Erik Marquardt (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Living conditions for refugees on the Greek islands

Living conditions for refugees on the Greek islands still do not meet minimum European standards. Thousands of people housed in tents are being exposed to record low temperatures. There is still no running water in the camps on Lesbos and, in the freezing cold and snow of January, only 23 showers were supplied with hot water. In a report by the EU Lesbos Task Force published in early February, the Commission claimed that all tents had been made winterproof. It also suggested that the weather in winter on Lesbos is generally dry and that temperatures rarely drop below 10 degrees Celsius. Yet the Greek Government continues to draw on EU funds to build more secure and guarded centres.

1. Taking the criteria of minimum humanitarian standards and freedom of movement, in what ways does the new Kara Tepe camp represent an improvement over the Moria camp?
2. On 3 February 2021, the local council in Mytilini decided to set up an EU-funded secure and guarded camp for a total of 3500 people. What measures does the Commission intend to take to keep its promise to Parliament that the camps at the EU external borders will not be closed camps?
3. There is increasing evidence that these temporary camps which are not fit for human habitation will still be in operation next winter. What is the schedule for the construction of decent accommodation, and how will the Commission ensure that this schedule is met?