

**Question for written answer E-001636/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Mathilde Androuët (ID)

Subject: How is Hungary's containment policy regarding illegal immigration incompatible with the Treaties?

On 2 February 2021, Commissioner for Values and Transparency Věra Jourová signalled, in the daily *Handelsblatt*, her desire to reactivate punitive procedures against Hungary (a reduction in budgetary funds and even the withdrawal of voting rights in the Council) under Article 7 of the Treaty on European Union. Hungary was, she said, guilty of 'violating basic democratic rights' for expelling, albeit in a non-violent way, illegal immigrants who had entered the country illegally. Article 7 may be activated if there is 'a clear risk of a serious breach by a Member State of the values referred to in Article 2'. According to Article 2, 'The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities.' How can the Commission consider that a country's desire to curb illegal immigration, with massive support from its population, is in violation of the rule of law and Article 79(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and constitutes a 'violation of basic democratic rights'?