

**Question for written answer E-002842/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Migrant in transit drowned in Irún

A few days ago a migrant in transit drowned in the Bidasoa River in Irún, trying to enter France from Spain by swimming across the border. A number of groups and NGOs such as SOS Arrazakaria have denounced the difficulties faced by migrants in transit at the border for years. Some transport companies require documentation in order to purchase a bus ticket for cross-border journeys, an act expressly declared illegal by the CJEU, just like the expulsions by France back to Spanish territory in the Pyrenees in the small hours of the morning without any assistance being provided in Spain. The French, Spanish and Basque authorities are *de facto* acting in breach of European legislation, which stipulates that there should be no border controls within the Schengen territory. This situation leads many migrants to take decisions that endanger their lives or, at the very least, leave them facing inhumane situations, which are far removed from the principle of reception or the respect for their fundamental rights.

What action does the Commission intend to take at the borders between the Member States – and in Irún in particular – to restore the rule of law and migrants' rights to transit and reception?