

**Question for written answer E-003735/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Jordi Cañas (Renew)

Subject: Signing of agreement between the EU and Morocco on readmission of unaccompanied minors

On 10 June 2021 Parliament adopted resolution 2021/2747(RSP), in which it rejected Morocco's use of border controls and migration – especially that of unaccompanied minors – to bring political pressure to bear on EU countries, and urged the Commission and Morocco to conclude, formally and as soon as possible, an agreement on readmission of minors.

On 1 June 2021, King Mohamed VI instructed the Ministries of the Interior and the Exterior to find a solution to the problem of unaccompanied Moroccan minors in EU countries¹. Despite this, over 800 minors are currently still being housed in reception centres in the city of Ceuta because of the inertia, or even in some cases a complete lack of interest in collaborating on the issue, of the Moroccan authorities.

Given the public commitments made by Morocco and the fact that in 2000 the Council gave the Commission a mandate to negotiate the signing of a readmission agreement with Morocco, so far to no effect:

1. Has the Commission initiated contacts with Morocco in order to sign an agreement on readmission of minors?
2. Will the Commission link any new programme on cooperation to compliance with resolution 2021/2747(RSP), the signing of an agreement on readmission of minors and compliance by Morocco with the Convention on the Rights of the Child?

¹ <https://www.europapress.es/eseuropa/noticia-ue-mohamed-vi-ordena-solucionar-problema-menores-no-acompanados-espana-otros-paises-ue-20210601175821.html>