

**Question for written answer E-005116/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Filip De Man (ID)

Subject: Migration crisis Unequal treatment of Belarus and Turkey

Last Monday, the Commission President urged Member States to impose new sanctions on Belarus, despite the fact that the Commission had opposed sanctions against Turkey during the Greek migrant crisis of 2020.

Turkey is continually breaching its agreement with the EU through its long-established strategy of using migration as a weapon against Greece. Back in the 1990s the incumbent President of Turkey, Turgut Özal, provocatively announced: 'We have no need of a war with Greece. All we need to do the job is to send them a couple of million migrants.' Despite receiving financial aid to the tune of billions, Ankara has never honoured the 2016 agreement. For example, it caused a fresh migrant crisis in February-March 2020 by bussing migrants to the Greek border, having falsely claimed that it was open.

1. Does the Commission recognise that Turkey and Belarus are being treated differently, despite the fact that both are seeking to exploit the migrant situation in a bid to destabilise the Union?
2. Does it acknowledge that the unequal treatment of the two countries is motivated by European financial interests in Turkey?