Question for written answer E-005571/2021 to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Pushbacks and the deterioration of migration

Recent events show the continuous deterioration of the rights of migrants in the EU and at its external borders. As concluded in the Council of Europe’s Anti-Torture Committee 2020 report, Croatia continues to use violence against asylum seekers1. Furthermore, Greece continues to push back asylum seekers indiscriminately and violently. The latest example of this is the illegal deportation of a regular EU citizen employed by the EU border agency Frontex, as reported by the New York Times on 1 December 2021. Abuses and violations of basic human rights have also been repeatedly reported in Libya. Lastly, on 28 November 2021, the New Yorker detailed the violent and secret incarceration of migrants intercepted by the Libyan Coast Guard, supported through European funding2. In this context, the Commission proposal for a Council Decision on provisional emergency measures is an indiscriminate denial of the right to asylum and the pushbacks in Poland and the Baltic states, and further weakens the obligations of Member States in the field of asylum and puts at risk the access to international protection for migrants3.

1. What is the Commission’s position regarding the abovementioned violations?
2. Is the Commission considering opening infringement proceedings against Member States that continue to illegally push back migrants?

Supporter4

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1 https://rm.coe.int/1680a4c199
2 https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/12/06/the-secretive-libyan-prisons-that-keep-migrants-out-of-europe
3 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2021%3A752%3AFIN&qid=1638547296962
4 This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Rosa D’Amato (Verts/ALE)