

**Question for written answer E-001106/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Demetris Papadakis (S&D)

Subject: Threefold increase in the number of migrants arriving in Cyprus this year

A threefold increase in asylum claims in the first two months of 2022 compared to the corresponding months of 2021 suggest that the problem will continue to grow. Moreover, the expected arrival of Ukrainian war refugees in Cyprus make it necessary to provide shelter for those who have been forcibly uprooted from their homes and their country.

According to the Ministry of the Interior, the number of asylum-seekers in the first two months of the year was 2 062, compared with 722 over the same period last year, while the arrivals of unaccompanied children has this year amounted to 156 compared to 49 in 2021.

In addition to the Green Line, which is the point of entry into the Republic of Cyprus for 85% of irregular migrants, there are also concerns about other irregular migrants travelling from Turkey through the occupied territories.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say whether special assistance can be provided for countries such as Cyprus that are struggling to assimilate a disproportionate migratory influx?
2. What action will it take to stem the tide of irregular migrants from Turkey to Cyprus?