

Question for written answer E-001527/2022/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 138
Assita Kanko (ECR)

Subject: Agreement between Rwanda and the UK regarding illegal migration

On 14 April 2022, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson presented a new agreement for the relocation of those seeking illegal entry to the UK across the Channel, sending them to Rwanda for the processing of their asylum applications as part of a pilot project, for which Rwanda would be paid EUR 144 million.

Commissioner Ylva Johansson has described this migration agreement as inhumane and unacceptable. Be that as it may, it is far from clear what alternative solution is available to the EU to put people smugglers out of business and ease the pressure on the EU asylum system.

Given the slow progress made by the migration package of 23 September 2020:

1. Is the European Commission planning to follow the example of the UK and conclude a similar deal with Rwanda on the offshore processing of asylum applications?
2. Does the European Commission consider the current EU migration system to be humane, given the large number of refugee lives lost at sea because of failure to get to grips with the problem of people trafficking or make any progress on the migration package?
3. With which countries could the European Commission conceivably conclude such an agreement, given the reservations expressed by Commissioner Johansson regarding the deal with Rwanda?