

**Question for written answer E-001639/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Involvement of Frontex in refugee pushbacks

A new investigation¹ has revealed how Frontex was involved in the pushbacks of at least 957 asylum seekers in the Aegean Sea between March 2020 and September 2021.

While Frontex denies these allegations and maintains that its officials comply with human rights legislation, credible reports from the UN and the Council of Europe as well as human rights groups have called pushbacks in the Aegean a systematic practice.

1. Aside from freezing part of Frontex's budget while the allegations are investigated, what measures will the Commission take to hold those responsible to account, and how will it ensure that the agency upholds the principle of non-refoulement in its practices?
2. In the light of previous investigations over Frontex's complicity with the Greek authorities, how is the Commission addressing the human rights abuses against refugees and migrants in Greece, both with regard to Frontex and the Greek authorities?

¹ <https://www.spiegel.de/ausland/frontex-in-illegale-pushbacks-von-hunderten-fluechtlingen-involviert-a-086f0e5a-0172-4007-b59c-7bcd325cc75>