

**Question for written answer E-001923/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Renewed instrumentalisation of migrants by Turkey

The renewed instrumentalisation of migrants by Turkey at the expense of Greece and the EU, in breach of the EU-Turkey Statement of March 2016, has been causing particular concern.

In a bid to ramp up tensions in the Aegean, Turkey is once again sending waves of illegal migrants to the Greek islands and to Evros. This comes in the wake of a series of incursions by Turkish fighter planes into Greek airspace over the last 24 hours.

Within the space of a few hours, five vessels carrying around 500 migrants set off from the Turkish coast in an illegal bid to enter Greek territorial waters off the islands of Chios and Samos.

At the same time, intense migrant activity is being observed at the Evros land border, with around 300 daily attempts being made to cross from Turkey into Greece.

In view of the aggressive policy still being followed by Turkey in the Aegean, notwithstanding its contractual obligation to control trafficking rings on its territory:

1. Does the Commission plan to take immediate and rigorous countermeasures in response to Turkish attempts to intimidate Greece and Europe?
2. What view does it take of the policy being adopted by Turkey with the approach of summer and what action does it plan to take to prevent it from further aggravating the situation?