

**Question for written answer E-003670/2022/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

José Ramón Bauzá Díaz (Renew)

Subject: Rise in number of migrants reaching the coasts of the Balearic Islands, Almería, Murcia and Alicante from Algeria

According to the Spanish National Immigration and Borders Centre (CENIF), some 15% of migrants who have arrived in Spain by means of illegal routes in 2022 have done so via Algeria. Transit through Algeria has more than doubled in the last year and now people are arriving from countries from where it would previously have been impossible to get to Spain. They are also reaching the coasts of Almería, Murcia and Alicante.

This state of affairs coincides with Algeria's suspension of the Treaty of Friendship that it signed with Spain in 2002. That treaty, together with the search and rescue (SAR) agreement of 2007, served as the basis for their readmission agreement. The breakdown of cooperation on migration shows that Algeria is not interested in working together to reduce irregular migration. According to the 2021 annual report by the Spanish Refugee Aid Commission (CEAR), almost all sub-Saharan irregular migrants arriving in Morocco to get to Spain had previously gone through Algeria.

In the light of the above:

1. Does Frontex expect entries via Algeria to increase?
2. What steps will the Commission take to ensure Algerian cooperation on migration control?
3. What action will the Commission take in response to Algeria's failure to comply with international migration law?

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