Question for written answer E-000022/2023 to the Commission

Rule 138

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Subject: Reports on the use of EU funding to carry out fundamental rights violations at EU

borders

Following the recent Lighthouse Reports investigation¹ on the clandestine and abusive detention of asylum seekers in Hungary, Croatia and Bulgaria, additional reports² have revealed how EU funding from the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), the Internal Security Fund (ISF) and the Border Management and Visa Instrument (BMVI) has been used to carry out these fundamental rights violations.

- 1. Can the Commission confirm the use of EU funding for these containment actions, and how does it assess the findings of these reports in light of the fundamental rights conditionality obligations laid down in the Common Provisions Regulation and the AMIF, ISF and BMVI Regulations?
- What concrete steps will it take to ensure compliance with these obligations, including when deciding on new national applications for EU funding, and how does it monitor the implementation of EU-funded national programmes in accordance with fundamental rights obligations?
- 3. The reports also revealed that two reception centres were built in Bulgaria using EUR 5 million in AMIF funding, but that these sites are not being used to house asylum seekers. Can the Commission provide an overview of all EU (co-)funded reception centres for asylum seekers and confirm whether or not they are being used for their stated purpose?

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¹ https://www.lighthousereports.nl/investigation/europes-black-sites/.

https://twitter.com/LHreports/status/1602657895342297088.