

**Question for written answer E-000557/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Pushbacks and detention of asylum seekers in Lithuania

In 2021, in response to the increasing number of people looking to enter the country from Belarus, Lithuania adopted a decree allowing asylum applicants to be automatically denied the right to international protection and placed in detention. In July 2022, the Court of Justice of the EU ruled that this practice is unlawful because it is incompatible with European legislation¹. In spite of this judgment, the Lithuanian Government recently approved a proposal for a law formalising the practice. If passed by the Lithuanian Parliament, the new legislation will take effect in June 2023.

1. Is the Commission planning to launch an infringement procedure against Lithuania regarding these policies, given their incompatibility with European legislation?
2. Can it provide more information about its exchanges with the Lithuanian authorities, including what has been discussed and any outstanding issues?
3. What is its view on the recent legislative proposal on asylum in Lithuania and what measures will it take if the law enters into force?

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¹ Judgment of 30 June 2022, *M.A. v Valstybės sienos apsaugos tarnyba* (Lithuanian State Border Guard Service), C-72/22 PPU, EU:C:2022:505.