

**Question for written answer E-001371/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Janina Ochojska (PPE)**

**Subject:** Enforcement of Member States' compliance with EU provisions on readmissions

In September 2020, the Commission unveiled the New Pact on Migration and Asylum, which comprehensively covers the elements needed to improve Europe's migration system and aims to strengthen the EU's common system for returns.

The pact modifies the assumptions of the 2016 reform of the Common European Asylum System and includes new legislative procedures that describe the return policy more broadly and emphasise the importance of increasing synergies between external border controls, asylum procedures and return procedures.

The European Commission is working to increase the effectiveness of return policy and has the appropriate resources to do so. With regard to returns, a key role in operational cooperation is played by FRONTEX.

In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/1896 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Border and Coast Guard, the role of Frontex is to provide Member States with technical and operational assistance vis-à-vis return operations requested by Member States or provided on the Agency's initiative. However, Member States have bilateral readmission agreements and do not implement EU readmission agreements as there are no corresponding bilateral implementation protocols at the national level.

In the light of the above:

How does the Commission force Member States that invoke bilateral agreements to comply with EU provisions on readmissions?

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