

**Question for written answer E-003089/2023  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Milan Zver (PPE)**

**Subject:** Immediate end to contentious funding of NGOs which enable smuggling of illegal migrants into the EU

The EU is facing illegal migration pressure at one of the highest levels since 2015. The war in Israel has the potential to provoke a new mass of migrants coming to Europe and security assessments point to a high risk of infiltration by Hamas terrorists. The EU's current (in)action suggests that it does not actually want to resolve the problem, despite statistics showing that the migration question has, since 2015, been one of the most important issues on which citizens expect a response. The implementation of some of the European Council conclusions – setting up reception centres outside Europe, the strict return of irregular migrants and the closure of the EU's external land and maritime borders to illegal migrants – would seemingly put an immediate stop to illegal migration to Europe. Unfortunately, it is also clear that a number of NGOs are cooperating in the smuggling of migrants and are receiving some of their funding from both the EU and the Member States.

In light of the above:

1. Can the Commission provide a list of NGOs that have received EU funding and which are participating in operations that transport illegal migrants to the EU?
2. Does it believe that NGOs funded by one Member State (e.g. Germany) should be denied access to EU funds to carry out operations that make the situation in another Member State (e.g. Italy) more difficult?
3. When will it stop funding NGOs which bring illegal migrants to the EU?

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