

**Question for written answer E-003208/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Apparent violations of the Asylum Procedures Directive in Greece

1. The Commission and Greek courts have asserted¹ that requesting an appointment to apply for international protection via the Greek Government's online platform constitutes making an asylum application. Article 6 of the Asylum Procedures Directive (APD) provides for a maximum time limit of 10 working days for the registration after making an application, yet applicants continue to wait for weeks or even months for appointments at the Malakasa registration facility. What action does the Commission intend to take against this non-compliance?
2. The Commission has raised concerns² regarding the fact that Greek authorities³ have arrested, issued return decisions and detained asylum applicants, even when they presented the confirmation receipt produced by the online registration platform. Does the Commission consider this practice to be in line with Greece's legal obligations under the APD, the Reception Conditions Directive and the Return Directive and, if not, what actions does it intend to take?
3. There is still no standard operating procedure for the identification of vulnerabilities in the Greek asylum system⁴. Does the Commission consider Article 41(d) of the Greek asylum code to be compliant with Article 24 of the APD and, if not, what actions does it intend to take?

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¹ Admin. Court of Athens, AP741/2023; AP721/2023; Admin. Court of Kavala, AP421/2023; AP382/2023; AP379/2023; AP209/2023; AP164/2023; Admin. Court of Komotini, AP209/2023: <https://shorturl.at/gjBGX>.

² Commission 2023 Operational Conclusions: 12th Steering Committee Meeting for Migration Management.

³ Greek Refugee Council 2023 Updates from the Field: May 2023: <https://www.gcr.gr/en/news/ta-nea-apo-to-pedio/item/2156-updates-from-the-field-may-2023>.

⁴ RSA 2023, Registration of asylum applications in the new mainland RIC in Greece: <https://rsaegean.org/en/registration-ric-mainland-greece/>; Mobile Info Team 2022 Statement on New Registration Procedure: <https://www.mobileinfoteam.org/new-registration>; ASGI 2023 Asylum in Greece: a pre-announced blockade: <https://en.asgi.it/asylum-in-greece-a-pre-announced-blockade/>.