

**Question for written answer E-003310/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Jordan Bardella (ID)

Subject: Effectiveness of partnerships between the European Union and countries of departure in the fight against illegal immigration

Ursula von der Leyen has proposed that partnership agreements be concluded with Senegal, Mauritania, Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon to reduce illegal migration flows from these countries.

Despite their high cost, the previous partnerships, notably those with Türkiye and Tunisia, have proved ineffective. For example, Türkiye is still refusing, for the most part, to take back the illegal immigrants who have come from Türkiye itself, despite European taxpayers paying it EUR 6 billion to do so. Tunisia is suspected of being the – direct or indirect – source of the sudden mass influx of migrants to the island of Lampedusa in September 2023. Moreover, the number of illegal immigrants arriving in Italy from Tunisia increased by 83% during the first nine months of the year.

What changes does the Commission plan to make to future partnerships to prevent the failures seen with previous agreements?

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