

**Question for written answer E-003430/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Agreement between Italy and Albania on migrant reception and processing facilities in Albania

According to recent news reports<sup>1</sup>, Italy and Albania have agreed to build reception and processing centres in Albania for migrants rescued at sea by Italian vessels.

1. What is the Commission's assessment of this agreement in light of Italy's obligations under the Charter of Fundamental Rights, the Reception Conditions Directive and Asylum Procedures Directive, which apply to all applicants for international protection in a Member State's territory, including those in its territorial waters (and which must be implemented), as well as in light of international law and European case-law<sup>2</sup> on the extension of a State's jurisdiction to ships flying their flag?
2. Does the Commission agree that this extra-territorial reception and processing violate the aforementioned legal obligations and, if so, what actions will it take against Italy?
3. What is the Commission's assessment of this agreement in light of Albania's accession process and obligation to comply with the EU acquis – in particular the aforementioned legislation – and what action does the Commission plan to undertake towards Albania in order to avoid divergence from the acquis?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.politico.eu/article/italy-and-albania-strike-rwanda-style-migrant-deal/#:~:text=The%20plan%20will%20see%20up,year%20held%20in%20northwest%20Albania.&text=Italy%20will%20build%20two%20migrant,two%20countries%20announced%20on%20Monday>  
[https://www.repubblica.it/politica/2023/11/06/news/migranti\\_meloni\\_accordo\\_albania\\_edi\\_rama-419723671/](https://www.repubblica.it/politica/2023/11/06/news/migranti_meloni_accordo_albania_edi_rama-419723671/)

<sup>2</sup> e.g. European Court of Human Rights judgment in the case of *Hirsi Jamaa and Others v. Italy* (Application no. 27765/09) of 23 February 2012.