

**Question for written answer E-003566/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Potential impact of Niger's denunciation of the agreement on curbing illegal immigration

In 2015, as we faced a major migration crisis, Niger emerged as a key partner for the EU in Africa in tackling illegal migration. According to the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the country has blocked more than 95 000 migrants seeking to enter the EU illegally since 2016¹, thanks to the adoption of an anti-immigrant law.

The repeal by the military junta that has taken power in Niger of laws seeking to tackle migrant smuggling will inevitably exacerbate the flow of irregular migrants from the region to Europe.

1. Has the Commission carried out an analysis of the extent to which the repeal of the law will affect the scale of illegal migration of people from Africa to Europe, and how does the Commission intend to counteract the next wave of illegal migration from this part of the world?
2. Niger has received significant funding from the EU to control the flow of migrants² and to support development³. Given the political situation in Niger, will the Commission suspend the disbursement of funds to this country?
3. Does the Commission have its own assessment of the effectiveness of the agreement with Niger on curbing illegal immigration, and does it plan to sign such agreements with other African countries?

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¹ <https://www.lefigaro.fr/international/la-politique-migratoire-de-l-union-europeenne-fragilisee-au-niger-20230809>

² <https://ecdpm.org/application/files/7016/9443/5852/What-Does-Regime-Change-Niger-Mean-Migration-Cooperation-With-EU-ECDCM-Briefing-Note-168-2023.pdf>

³ <https://trust-fund-for-africa.europa.eu/system/files/2023-06/2022%20Annual%20Monitoring%20Report%20for%20the%20Sahel%20and%20Lake%20Chad%20Region.pdf>