

**Question for oral answer O-000011/2012
to the Commission**

Rule 115

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on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Subject: The situation of migrants and asylum seekers in Greece

The European Court of Justice and European Court of Human Rights have found Greece in breach of fundamental rights regarding its treatment of asylum seekers in numerous cases. In September 2010 Greece submitted to the Commission its National Plan on Asylum and Migration Management, according to which the EU is requested to provide Greece, for the next three years, with financial contributions (regular and emergency) for infrastructure and services, know-how and training, supervision and quality assessment of the immigration flow system, besides the provision of emergency funding for the implementation of the transition phase of the asylum process and the first screening and reception centres.

A year and a half later, the humanitarian situation remains very worrying for asylum seekers and migrants entering Europe through the Evros region, with lives being lost, basic rights being denied and children still being detained in appalling conditions. At the same time, Greece has moved quickly to militarise the Greek-Turkish border and start constructing a fence and a ditch along the border, while the construction of reception centres for migrants, for example, is far behind schedule. The Greek authorities seem to have problems absorbing the funds earmarked for improving their asylum system.

1. What is the evaluation of the Commission of the Greek national plan – have shortcomings been identified? What are the main obstacles to implementing the National Plan?
2. How much funding does the Commission and the Member States provide to Greece for asylum and migration management? From which funds is this provided, and for which measures?
3. What does the Commission intend to do in order to ensure that the Greek authorities use the resources available to improve reception capacities and ensure higher standards to people in need of international protection?

Tabled: 23.1.2012

Forwarded: 25.1.2012

Deadline for reply: 1.2.2012