

**Question for written answer P-008819/2016/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Nicola Danti (S&D)

Subject: Appointment of the British national Simon Mordue as an official

The Commission recently decided to appoint Simon Mordue, who is English but also holds an Irish passport, as the new Director-General of the Department for Migration and Home Affairs. Mr Mordue will have a major role to play in that – as is stated in the press release issued by the Commission – he ‘will be in charge of key EU policies in the area of migration and home affairs and, notably, the European Agenda for Migration’, and of the management of hotspots.

The United Kingdom chose on 23 June 2016 to leave the European Union and we are at a very tricky stage in the political and institutional process, pending the formal triggering of Article 50 by the UK Government and the subsequent launch of institutional negotiations.

Does the Commission not feel it rather inopportune at this juncture to appoint someone from a country that will cease to be an EU Member State to the key post of director-general with decision-making powers in the sensitive area of migration policy and home affairs, which will be crucial for the future of the EU and will also constitute one of the main issues in the Brexit negotiations?