

**Question for written answer P-002845/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Illegal entry via Istanbul Ataturk Airport

For several years now, the European Migration Network (EMN) and Frontex have been pointing to the central role played by Istanbul Ataturk Airport as a hub for illegal migration to the EU. Case studies by EMN and the 2018 Risk Analysis report by Frontex both indicate that Istanbul Ataturk Airport constitutes the main and final hub for illegal onward journeys by migrants into the EU. According to Frontex, it is the airport accounting for the largest number of migrants flying into the EU with falsified documents. EMN case studies describe in detail how people smugglers use unlawful methods to enable migrants to embark on illegal onward journeys to the EU. Several factors point to inadequate, not to say negligent, security checks at Istanbul Ataturk Airport which are not fit to deal with the challenges posed by present-day people smuggling.

How many cases involving fraud, duplicate check-ins and identity swaps were reported at Istanbul Ataturk Airport in 2015, 2016 and 2017?

Since when has the Commission been aware of these shortcomings?

What measures has the Commission taken to put an end to the illegal entry into the EU via this airport?