

**Question for written answer P-002305/2019
to the Commission
Rule 138
Valter Flego (Renew)**

Subject: The problem of illegal migration and fences at the borders

Since the peak of the migration crisis in 2015, the EU has implemented measures to better control the external borders and migration flows. As a result, irregular arrivals to the EU have declined by more than 90%. Today it is clear to everyone that traffickers and their criminal organisations are the main problem and that concrete measures are needed at the source of the problem, namely in the countries of origin of migrants.

However, some countries are announcing that they will construct fences on their borders. For example, the Slovenian Government has announced that it will erect a 40 km wire fence between Croatia and Slovenia to prevent illegal migration. Building a wire fence will not solve the problem of illegal migration, because walls encourage walls and fences on one side only encourage fences on the other.

In this connection:

Given that our Union is based on a society that tears down walls and connects European peoples, what is the Commission's view on erecting barbed-wire fences to divide two Member States? Does it consider this to be an effective measure to prevent illegal migration?