

**Priority question for written answer P-002863/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Increased migratory pressure on Evros and the Greek islands

Further attempts by Turkey to use the migration/refugee crisis as a form of leverage against Greece and the European Union have manifested themselves over the last few days in a concerted move to send migrants over the land border in Evros and into the Aegean Sea.

In particular, the Greek authorities have recorded an increase in migratory pressure at both land and sea borders, the most recent incident occurring on 17 August, when 170 migrants disembarked on the island of Kythira from two vessels arriving within hours of each other.

A few days previously in Evros, the Greek authorities had spotted and rescued 38 desperate people, including a pregnant woman and a child, who had been forcibly moved from Turkish to Greek territory.

In this way, Turkey is playing a dangerous game, seeking to advance its own geopolitical objectives and threatening to create a border issue.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission give its assessment of the above incidents?
2. Will it react immediately to prevent further escalation by Turkey and, if so, what action will it take?