

FORM FOR TABLING A QUESTION FOR WRITTEN ANSWER (Rule 130)

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Priority question

AUTHOR(S): Ska Keller; Judith Sargentini; Benedek Javor

SUBJECT: (please specify) New Amendments to the Hungarian Asylum Act and the Act on State Border resulting in violation of EU law and the principle of non-refoulement

TEXT:

The amendments to the Hungarian Asylum Act and the Act on State Border entered into force on 5.07.2016 allow Hungarian authorities to automatically push back asylum seekers apprehended within 8 km of the borders with Serbia and Croatia to “transit zones” outside the border. As denounced by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the new law would result in fundamental rights' violations and breaches of international and EU law, including violation of non-refoulement, involving push-backs and summary expulsions in violation of the right to asylum and the right to an effective remedy.

1. How does the Commission intend to investigate the implications of the amended law, coupled with existing provisions limiting the right to asylum, on the fundamental rights of refugees and migrants, in particular with the principle of non-refoulement, protection in the event of expulsion, right to asylum, effective remedy and safeguards established by EU law?
2. In light of the above, does the Commission intend to launch infringement proceedings against the Hungarian Government?
3. Which steps has the Commission taken and what process has been made in the infringement procedure against Hungary launched in December 2015 concerning the Hungarian asylum law?

Signature(s):

Date: 08/07/2016