

Question for written answer E-002889/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Isabel Santos (S&D)

Subject: Increasing funds for Morocco to combat irregular immigration

The decision announced by the European Union to increase funding to Morocco over 2021-2027 to contribute to Rabat's efforts to combat irregular immigration merits careful analysis. It entails providing an extra EUR 500 million, an increase of almost 50% compared to the current agreement.

While Morocco's importance as a strategic partner of the European Union should be borne in mind, the tragic events of last June in Melilla will live long in the memory.

It is from this incident, as well as from other similar events that this border has seen in recent years, that such scepticism stems.

These funds should therefore be made conditional on the Moroccan authorities' absolute respect for the fundamental rights of those seeking refuge in Europe, and under no circumstances can they be allowed to, directly or indirectly, finance policies that enable human rights violations.

I therefore ask:

How much has been spent under this partnership to date, on which specific programmes, and how is the use of these funds being monitored?