

**Question for written answer E-002070/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Belgium's asylum seeker reception crisis and failure to comply with court decisions

Numerous reports¹ indicate that since October 2021, Belgium has failed to comply with the Reception Conditions Directive (Directive 2013/33/EU), which provides that asylum seekers have the right to housing. In June 2023, 2 100 asylum seekers² had no accommodation, seriously affecting their health and well-being. Forecasts indicate that this number may increase and will soon include minors and vulnerable adults. In January 2023, the Commission opened infringement proceedings against Belgium for not transposing the Reception Conditions Directive correctly. In February 2023, a Dutch court suspended a Dublin transfer to Belgium because of the reception crisis. In March 2023, four UN Special Rapporteurs wrote to the Belgian Government about the situation. By May 2023, Belgian courts had handed down 6 761 decisions condemning Belgium's failure to provide shelter to asylum seekers, while the European Court of Human Rights had ordered 1 656 interim measures in this regard.

1. In the light of the above, what formal action does the Commission intend to take to ensure that Belgium fulfils its obligations under the Reception Conditions Directive? Will infringement proceedings be opened as regards Belgium's implementation of the directive?
2. Does the Commission believe that non-compliance with court decisions is consistent with Belgium's rule of law obligations, and does it intend to address this in its annual rule of law report?

Supporter³

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¹ <https://www.msf-azg.be/fr/rapport-crise-migratoire>.

² Figures as at 6 June 2023.

³ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Rosa D'Amato (Verts/ALE)