

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4469/06  
by David Casa (PPE-DE)  
to the Council

Subject: Irregular immigration

The fight against irregular immigration is on the top of the Commission's agenda. As you are aware this problem is affecting negatively the southern countries of the EU. What are your views with regard to:

1. the revision of regulation 343/2003<sup>1</sup>, (Dublin II) by calling into question its very principle, namely that the Member State responsible for dealing with an asylum application is the first country that applicants reach, which puts an intolerable burden on the countries situated in the South and the east of the EU;
2. the introduction of a fair mechanism for sharing responsibilities among the Member States;
3. a Council of Ministers' meeting in Malta to discuss any possible solutions regarding this problem?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 50, 25.2.2003, p. 1.