

**Question for written answer E-003207/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Use of acoustic cannons against migrants and asylum seekers in Greece

On 31 May 2021, Associated Press reported that Greek police are firing bursts of deafening noise from a truck over the frontier into Turkey. Greek police have announced that they plan to send out high decibel messages intended to deter migrants. These are part of an array of new physical and experimental digital barriers being installed and tested at the 200 km long Greek border with Turkey to stop people entering the EU without authorisation.

These long range acoustic devices, usually intended to disperse protesters, emit a deafening burst of up to 162 decibels, matching the volume of a jet engine, and could cause severe health problems and even deafness.

On 3 June 2021, Commission spokesperson Adalbert Jahnz expressed the Commission's concern, and said that the Commission will be seeking further information, while noting that 'measures must be proportionate and respect fundamental rights, including asylum rights and the principle of non-refoulement'.

1. Has the Commission received information regarding the intended use of such devices and assessed whether it would lead to pushbacks, thus contravening EU law and international obligations, and whether they conform to fundamental European rights, including the right to dignity?
2. Can the Commission confirm that no such equipment has been or will be financed from EU funds?

Supporter¹

¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Rosa D'Amato (Verts/ALE)