

**Priority question for written answer P-001679/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: France-UK sea border

The areas off the coasts of northern France have seen their deadliest year in 2024. On 3 September 2024, a shipwreck left another 12 people dead.

A series of bilateral treaties in place to fortify the France-UK sea border, billions of euros spent, expensive technology and an ever-growing number of police officers have done nothing to change the situation. The border is and will continue to be a crossing point for those who cannot settle in European countries or want to find a better life on the other side of the Channel.

1. What does the Commission make of how this border – an EU external border, since Brexit – is managed?
2. Even after so many agreements – including post-Brexit agreements – Paris and London continue to react in the same way: the UK pays France more and France deploys more police resources. Yet there are still more Channel crossings than ever. What is the Commission's stance on the matter?
3. When will the Commission negotiate safe corridors so the border can be crossed legally?

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