

**Priority question for written answer P-002502/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 144

Tineke Strik (Verts/ALE), Anna Strolenberg (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Discontinuation of the National Immigration Facility in the Netherlands

The Government of the Netherlands is discontinuing the National Immigration Facility on 1 January 2025. This reception scheme has provided for the basic needs (accommodation, food, washing) of the most vulnerable asylum seekers who have exhausted all legal remedies and cannot (yet) return to their country of origin. A number of municipalities have stated that they will continue the scheme themselves, but Rotterdam Municipality has not. Discontinuation is expected to bring about very inhumane situations with a high risk that people will die¹.

1. How does the Commission interpret the term ‘extreme material poverty’ contained in European Court of Justice (ECJ) case-law², and how does it view discontinuation of this reception scheme in the light of Article 4 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and the ECJ’s interpretation thereof³ as prohibiting extreme material poverty, i.e. when the most basic needs of persons who are wholly dependent on state support, such as washing, food and accommodation, are no longer provided for?
2. Has the Commission contacted the Netherlands to ascertain how respect for human dignity is going to be ensured without the reception scheme and if so, what was the response, and if not, is the Commission prepared to do so?
3. Is the Commission prepared to bring infringement proceedings against the Netherlands in connection with discontinuation of this scheme?

Submitted: 12.11.2024

¹ <https://nos.nl/artikel/2539267-rotterdam-stopt-met-bed-bad-broodregeling-en-voorziet-problemen>.

² See judgments of 19 March 2019, Jawo, C-163/17, paragraph 92); of 16 July 2020, Addis, C-517/17, paragraph 51; and of 12 September 2024, Changu, C-352/23, paragraph 75;

³ See judgments of 19 March 2019, Jawo, C-163/17, paragraph 92); of 16 July 2020, Addis, C-517/17, paragraph 51; and of 12 September 2024, Changu, C-352/23, paragraph 75;