

Calais: MEPs demand solutions for migrants, truck drivers and local people

Plenary sessions [04-10-2016 - 20:15]

The situation in and around the port town of Calais is untenable for everyone: migrants and asylum seekers living in the informal camps, truck drivers crossing to the British Isles and the local population, said MEPs in a plenary debate on Tuesday. Most urged the EU Commission, France and the UK to work together to find a long-term solution.

Many speakers pointed to the terrible conditions in the camp known as “the jungle” and showed special concern about the high number of unaccompanied minors in the area and the risks they face.

“We are aware of the situation”, Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos assured MEPs, stating that his aims are to ensure that the border functions properly, improve the management of migration flows and guarantee better living conditions for migrants and asylum seekers.

Mr Avramopoulos welcomed the French government’s plans to dismantle “the jungle” by the end of the year and encouraged the French and UK authorities to coordinate the work of their border and security forces to ease traffic flows and guarantee safety in the area.

Further information

- Watch the video recording of the debate (click on 04.10.2016): <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/ep-live/en/plenary/search-by-date>
- EbS+ (click on 04.10.2016) : <http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/ebs/schedule.cfm?sitelang=en&page=3&institution=0&date=10/04/2016>
- Migration: MEPs assess refugee camps in Calais (Press release, 14.07.2016): <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20160712STO36951/migration-meps-assess-refugee-camps-in-calais>
- Europarl TV: Inside the Nord-Pas-de-Calais refugee camps: the hardships of many women (23.02.2016): <http://www.europartv.europa.eu/en/player.aspx?pid=6a5f4843-9547-4cf1-a2f6-a5a600912050>

Political groups

- News pages of the EPP group: <http://bit.ly/1WuQLqB>
- News pages of the S&D group: <http://bit.ly/1WWG6F4>
- News pages of the ECR group: <http://bit.ly/1Y0YFrj>
- News pages of the ALDE group: <http://bit.ly/1XbSQs6>
- News pages of the GUE/NGL group: <http://bit.ly/1UrAIM9>
- News pages of the Greens/EFA group: <http://bit.ly/1TV9vxx>
- News pages of the EFDD group: <http://bit.ly/1TUnDFU>
- News pages of the ENF group: <http://bit.ly/2cxzxcR>

Press release

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