Question for written answer E-005471/2020

to the Commission

Rule 138

Tineke Strik (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Fundamental rights compliance by Frontex staff and the current absence of the Fundamental Rights Officer

1. Given the current long-term absence of the Frontex fundamental rights officer (FRO), has a deputy FRO been appointed, as laid down in Regulation 2019/1896 Article 109(6), if so, what criteria and procedure were applied in the selection process, and on what date did the deputy FRO take up office?

2. If no deputy FRO has been appointed, or for the period that no (deputy) FRO was in post, how have DG Home and Frontex ensured that the duties of the FRO were and are performed, in full compliance with Regulation 2019/1896, especially Articles 109(2)(b), (i) and (j), 109.3(a), 111, and other obligations of the EU acquis, and how has Frontex complied with the criteria of these provisions for the Evros deployment since the beginning of March 2020?

3. What effect has the absence of the FRO had on the fundamental rights training of new and current staff, given the FRO’s role in this under Regulation 2019/1896 Article 62(6), and what efforts have been made by the agency and DG Home to ensure fundamental rights training is provided to new and current Frontex staff?