

FORM FOR TABLING A QUESTION FOR  
WRITTEN ANSWER (Rule 130)**Select only one addressee:**

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Priority question

AUTHOR(S): Jean Lambert

SUBJECT: Legal clarity for NGOs and volunteers providing humanitarian assistance  
(please specify)

## TEXT:

Particularly over the past year, NGOs and volunteers have been providing crucial assistance to asylum seekers and refugees to fill a void in a coordinated humanitarian response from Member State Governments and the EU

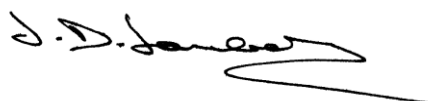
In its recent communication "Progress Report on the Implementation of the hotspots in Greece" issued on the 15 December 2015 the Commission states that

"Coordination needs to be further improved by making systematic and effective use of the coordination mechanisms that have been put in place. Appointed coordinators for the islands should be empowered....to coordinate all relevant governmental and non-governmental players involved in the hotspot locations."

The Greek Government has responded by setting up a committee to register, classify and co-ordinate the NGOs operating on Lesbos.

Could the Commission clarify the intensions behind its push for the increased coordination of NGOs and volunteers working on the ground as concerns have been raised about the appropriateness of the information required?

Given that current EU law does not provide legal certainty for NGOs and volunteers providing humanitarian assistance to those seeking protection in the EU, will the Commission clarify the legal situation in its upcoming review of Directive 2002/90/EC defining the facilitation of unauthorised entry, transit and residence?



Date: 25.2.16