



FRANS TIMMERMANS
First Vice-President

Brussels,

Honourable Member,

Thank you very much for your letter of 19 January 2018 concerning the Hungarian government's compliance with the obligations concerning refugees under the relocation mechanism. On behalf of President Juncker, please allow me to provide you with the following information.

As of 31 January 2018, Hungary has not received a single person through this emergency relocation scheme established in 2015 nor through resettlement in 2017.

As a result of Hungary's failure to comply with its obligations concerning the implementation of this emergency relocation scheme the Commission launched infringement proceedings against Hungary, the Czech Republic and Poland in June 2017. The Commission referred this case to the European Court of Justice on 7 December 2017.

Mr Kristof Altusz's assertion that Hungary accepted 1,300 persons refers to the number of spontaneous asylum seekers who received some form of international protection after applying for such protection in Hungary. For your information according to Eurostat data, between January and November 2017 (data for December 2017 not yet available) 3,185 persons applied for international protection in Hungary, while during the first three quarters of 2017 (data for the last quarter of 2017 not yet available) 880 persons received some form of international protection in Hungary (first instance decisions).

Concerning your question on how many persons Hungary accepted in 2017 based on the Dublin system - the data for 2017 are not yet available and the corresponding data were not made available to Eurostat by Hungary in 2015 and 2016.

Yours faithfully

Frans Timmermans

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