Question for written answer E-001385/2024
to the Commission
Rule 144
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)

Subject: Boosting the Greek defence industry

Military spending in Greece and Cyprus is always high because of the threat from Türkiye.

By way of example, in 2022, military spending in Greece totalled EUR 8.054 billion, in 2023 the figure stood at EUR 6.224 and in 2024 the amount allocated to defence is EUR 7.126, which accounts for around 3 % of the country's GDP.

The national and economic weight of the defence industry in Greece needs to increase because it plays a central role in the technological transformation of the economy and the transition towards the new high-tech industrial context.

Given that defence spending accounts for a significant portion of the budget, the challenge is to use this spending to aid the transition from a low-tech economy to a mid-/high-tech economy, connected with global value chains.

In particular, since Greece has a duty to maintain a strong presence in the eastern Mediterranean and a strong maritime presence in general, it is worth pointing out that, according to Thucydides, maritime strategy must be linked to domestic industrial and military production.

Since the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East began, there has been a tendency among EU Member States to increase their military spending.

In view of this:

1. Does the Commission have detailed information on what annual proportion of the defence budget in each Member State was spent on domestic production and what proportion was spent on imported military equipment?

2. What untapped European programmes can Greece tap into to increase domestic production of defence equipment?

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