

Question for written answer E-003217/2025

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 144

Yannis Maniatis (S&D)

Subject: Illegal and provocative actions of Türkiye in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Aegean

According to Turkish Defence Ministry sources quoted in the Turkish and international press, on Wednesday 6 August the Turkish navy intercepted the vessel Fugro Gauss, sailing under the flag of Gibraltar, which was engaged in laying an optic-fibre cable which forms part of the East to Med Corridor (EMC) and is to connect Saudi Arabia with Europe. The work was being carried out under a Larnaca NAVTEX (237/25). At the same time, Turkish Defence Ministry sources reiterated their intention to obstruct the Greece-Cyprus electrical interconnection project (Great Sea Interconnector), which is listed as a project of common European interest and strengthens European energy security in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

1. Does the Vice-President / High Representative intend to propose sanctions against Türkiye for the above acts of piracy in international waters, which obstruct the work of the vessel Fugro Gauss?
2. What specific measures will she take to safeguard the implementation of the Great Sea Interconnector, work on which has been frozen following Türkiye's illegal, provocative actions within the declared Greek Exclusive Economic Zone off the island of Kasos last summer?
3. Is this behaviour by Türkiye consistent with criteria 4 and 5 of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of the Council regarding exports of arms and its participation in common armament programmes?

Submitted: 8.8.2025