Question for written answer E-003296/2025
to the Council
Rule 144
Özlem Demirel (The Left)

Subject: Libyan attack on the 'Ocean Viking'

On 24 August 2025, the crew of a Libyan coast guard vessel attacked the rescue ship Ocean Viking in international waters subjecting it to a 20-minute barrage of fire. There were 87 people on board who had been rescued from distress at sea. Following instructions from the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) in Rome, the crew had been searching for another emergency. The Corrubia class Libyan patrol boat (thought to be the 'Houn' with the identifier 'PB 664') was handed over to Libya by Italy in 2018 or 2023 under the EU programme 'Support to Integrated border and migration management in Libya' (SIBMMIL).

1. What EU funds have been used to finance the patrol boat that can be seen in photos, to whom in Libya was it handed over, and which militia is operating it?

2. What support measures have been carried out since 2023 for maintenance or repair, as well as for training measures, on the patrol boats donated by the EU within the framework of SIBMMIL, and what resources were used for this purpose, and in what amount?

3. Who in Libya is investigating the unprecedented brutal attack, how is this being supported by the Council, and what are the consequences for the use of EU funds for the so-called Libyan Coast Guard, apart from the call for the incident to be investigated and for those responsible to be prosecuted?

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