

Question for written answer E-003506/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Emma Fourreau (The Left)

Subject: Israel's acts of piracy against humanitarian flotillas in the Mediterranean

The EU is actively involved in the fight against piracy, as demonstrated by Operation Atalanta in the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean, which has greatly reduced armed attacks in the region.

However, in May, June and July 2025, EU citizens sailing in international waters were arrested and kidnapped by the Israeli armed forces, in violation of international law. The ships stopped and seized by Israel, the Conscience, the Madleen and the Handala, were heading to Gaza to break the blockade illegally imposed by Israel on the enclave and to deliver humanitarian aid.

As a new humanitarian flotilla sets off once again to attempt to reach Gaza, what does the Commission intend to do in order to:

1. punish and crack down on all acts of piracy in the Mediterranean, as it has already done elsewhere, including those committed by Israel against humanitarian flotillas and the civilians on board?
2. protect European nationals sailing in international waters in the Mediterranean from piracy, including those attempting to reach Gaza by sea in order to break the illegal blockade imposed by Israel on Palestine, in accordance with international and humanitarian law?

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