

**Question for written answer E-003849/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Elena Donazzan (ECR)

Subject: Clarifications on statements about the flotilla by Commission spokesperson

On 2 October 2025, during the daily press briefing, a European Commission spokesperson expressed respect for the humanitarian commitment of all those on board the flotilla to Gaza, stating that such activism is a ‘core pillar of our values’, while also condemning ‘any attacks’ against the vessel¹.

However, it appears that the flotilla deliberately violated international maritime law by crossing Israeli territorial waters, refused proposals to transmit the humanitarian aid through official channels and knowingly sought provocation against a sovereign state.

This raises serious questions about the legitimacy and political expediency of the spokesperson’s statements, which could amount to institutional support for an international provocation by a non-institutional actor without official European Union recognition.

In view of the above:

1. On what basis did the spokesperson express herself in these terms? Was there a College mandate?
2. Was the Commission aware of the violations of maritime law and of the refusal to have the humanitarian aid transited through official routes?
3. What steps does the Commission intend to take to prevent statements by its representatives from being interpreted as supporting non-institutional initiatives of a provocative nature?

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¹ https://www.ansa.it/europa/notizie/rubriche/altrenews/2025/10/02/ue-no-ad-attacchi-flotilla-vogliono-aiutare-li-sosteniamo_ed8667b3-9a8b-459a-8819-e1e1cf90467f.html