Question for written answer E-003097/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Cutro shipwreck, tragedies at sea and the right of vicitms' families

Following the meeting in Brussels with family members of some of the victims of the Cutro shipwreck which occurred in late February 2023, accountability and measures to prevent such tragedies are still lacking in Italy and at European level.

At least 94 people drowned in Italian territorial waters near Steccato di Cutro, Calabria, as the vessel sank just metres from the Italian shoreline. At the time, the government had restricted the response to maritime distress calls involving migrants.

While not an isolated case, this tragedy is significant as it could have been prevented. Moreover, it highlights the lack of rights afforded to the family members of the deceased and leaves both the families and the deceased as victims of this tragedy.

Therefore, we ask:

1. Is the Commission ready to establish a clear framework for providing both psychological and legal support to the families of those who died in the Mediterranean Sea?

2. Will the Commission consider opening a humanitarian corridor to Europe for the victims' family members to enable them to be present for potential legal proceedings?

3. Will the Commission ask the Italian Government to provide concrete support for the families and ensure accountability for what happened in February 2023 as it had promised?

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