

**Priority question for written answer P-001631/2024/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Giuseppe Lupo (S&D)

Subject: Risk of environmental pollution from the sinking of the *Bayesian* off Porticello
(Province of Palermo)

On 19 August 2023, the *Bayesian* yacht sank off the coast of Porticello, Palermo, causing the tragic death of seven people. In addition to the major loss of human life, the yacht's sinking could trigger an environmental disaster, as it contains some 18 000 litres of fuel and oil. If those pollutants were to leak, it could cause serious damage to the marine ecosystem, triggering disastrous consequences for the local economy, particularly for fishers, whose livelihoods depend on the fishing resources in the area.

The Sicilian environmental protection agency (Arpa Sicilia) and the Italian Coast Guard are currently monitoring the situation to check for the presence of polluting substances; however, given the area's environmental and socio-economic importance, timely and effective action must be taken to prevent irreversible damage.

In the light of the above:

1. What specific steps could the Commission take to monitor and prevent the risk of environmental pollution caused by the sinking of the *Bayesian*?
2. Will it introduce economic support measures for the local fisheries sector and communities if they suffer any financial consequences?

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