

**Priority question for written answer P-002650/2024**  
**to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**  
Rule 144  
**Karin Karlsbro (Renew)**

Subject: Protection of critical undersea infrastructure

In recent years several initiatives have been taken at EU level to enhance cooperation and strengthen the protection of critical infrastructure. The recent suspected sabotage of undersea cables in the Baltic Sea once again underlines the importance of intensified efforts by both the EU and NATO to deepen the cooperation between their member states to improve the protection of critical infrastructure. Meanwhile, the presence of shadow fleets and other vessels that could be involved in hybrid warfare poses a growing threat to European security in the Baltic Sea.

1. What steps does the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy intend to take to further deepen and coordinate cooperation on the protection of critical undersea infrastructure in the EU?
2. What steps does the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy intend to take to improve supervision over vessels operating in the Baltic Sea that could pose a security and environmental threat to EU Member States?

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