

**Priority question for written answer P-001576/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Urgent need to fight the organised crime of smugglers

On 12 April 2025, a Greek patrol vessel was informed that irregular migrants were being disembarked from a Turkish fishing boat near Agios Fokas, in the south of the island of Lesbos. Upon approaching the boat, the patrol vessel was shot at by one of the four smugglers on board. We are once again witnessing the aggression of the trafficking networks in the Aegean Sea. New EU actions are based on data from the EU Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment (EU-SOCTA). It is therefore all the more evident that there is an urgent need, as reflected in the new European Internal Security Strategy, to strengthen the resources at the EU's disposal to guard European borders and combat organised crime.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does it intend to further strengthen the relevant European agencies, especially Frontex and Europol, in the fight against organised crime of traffickers?
2. Does it intend to increase funding for protection and deterrence instruments at the external borders in the revision of the current MFF and the new (post-2027) MFF?

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