

**Priority question for written answer P-004862/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Sebastian Kruis (PfE)

Subject: Securing EU–South America maritime trade in the light of rising tensions around Venezuela

Tensions in the Caribbean region and around Venezuela have increased sharply in recent weeks. The United States has begun building up a substantial military presence near Venezuelan territory, while the Trump administration has declared Venezuelan airspace closed. Analysts warn that a direct confrontation can no longer be ruled out, and that such a conflict could escalate rapidly, potentially affecting neighbouring countries, including Colombia. A military escalation would pose a serious risk to maritime stability. While trade routes remain open at present, a war or further escalation could critically disrupt the main sea lanes connecting South American exporters with European ports, with far-reaching consequences for EU trade and supply chains.

1. Will the Commission prepare an impact assessment of the potential effects that a military conflict in or around Venezuela could have on trade flows from South America to the EU as soon as possible ?
2. What mitigating measures is the Commission currently taking or preparing to take in order to safeguard trade routes and supply chains that may be affected by further escalation in the Caribbean region?
3. Is the Commission willing to engage with the Dutch authorities to examine whether Dutch naval assets stationed in the Caribbean could, where appropriate, contribute to securing maritime trade routes between South America and the European Union in the event of further escalation?

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