

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002665/25
to the Commission
Krzysztof Brejza (PPE)
(1 July 2025)**

Subject: Spain's diesel imports from Morocco

I am writing with regard to alarming reports from the Spanish newspaper *El País* on 30 June 2025 ⁽¹⁾ concerning a dramatic surge in diesel imports from Morocco to Spain, reaching record levels in March and April 2025. The article, which cites industry sources and official data, suggests that a significant portion of this fuel may be Russian diesel being re-exported through Morocco to circumvent sanctions imposed by the EU on Russia following the invasion of Ukraine. It indicates that Morocco, a country that has no refining capacity of its own and continues to purchase Russian diesel, may be serving as a transit point for this practice by blending the fuel and exporting it with a falsified origin.

In the light of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Is the Commission aware of these reports?
2. What specific measures does the Commission intend to take to prevent triangulation practices and the re-export of Russian diesel through non-EU countries to Member States, including Spain?

Submitted: 1.7.2025

**Answer given by Ms Albuquerque on behalf of the European Commission
(10 September 2025)**

Following the Russian military aggression against Ukraine, the EU has acted firmly to cut its reliance on Russian energy.

To put pressure on Russia to cease its war of aggression against Ukraine, the EU has adopted 18 packages of massive and unprecedented restrictive measures ⁽¹⁾, including sanctions to ban coal and oil imports from Russia and to target the 'shadow' fleet ⁽²⁾.

Ensuring the full and effective implementation of sanctions as well as tackling their possible circumvention, including through third country jurisdictions, is a matter of priority.

The EU continues to adjust the sanctions frameworks and has adopted numerous measures to counter circumvention. Additionally, the EU has intensified outreach to countries at risk of being used as platforms for circumvention, through diplomatic outreach of the EU Sanctions Envoy and capacity-building.

In May 2025, gasoil imports from Morocco accounted for 5% of total Spanish gasoil imports, reflecting that imports from Morocco constitute only a minor share of Spain's overall gasoil imports ⁽³⁾.

Member States are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of EU sanctions. National authorities are in charge of following up on possible breaches and conducting investigations.

The Commission is in close contact with the competent authorities in the Member States and readily provides support in sanctions implementation.

The 18th package of sanctions introduces a prohibition to import into the EU refined petroleum products made from Russian crude. This obliges operators and national authorities to verify the non-Russia origin of the crude oil for imports of refined products.

¹ ¹*El País*, Juan Cruz Peña, *España dispara la compra de diésel a Marruecos a récord histórico entre sospechas de origen ruso*, Madrid, 30 June 2025, <https://elpais.com/economia/2025-06-30/espana-dispara-la-compra-de-diesel-a-marruecos-a-record-historico-entre-sospechas-de-origen-ruso.html>.

⁽¹⁾ https://finance.ec.europa.eu/eu-and-world/sanctions-restrictive-measures/sanctions-adopted-following-russias-military-aggression-against-ukraine_en.

⁽²⁾ The 'shadow' fleet is composed of vessels practicing irregular and high-risk shipping practices as set out in the International Maritime Organisation General Assembly resolution A.1192(33).

⁽³⁾ CORES (Corporación de Reservas Estratégicas de Productos Petrolíferos), 'Importaciones de productos petrolíferos por países', <https://www.cores.es/es/estadisticas> (accessed 23 July 2025).