

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003065/26
to the Commission
Özlem Demirel (The Left)
(21 July 2026)**

Subject: Data on Frontex multipurpose aerial surveillance in the Mediterranean

The European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) operates extensive multipurpose aerial surveillance (MAS) missions in the Central Mediterranean, detecting thousands of migrant boats annually. However, comprehensive data on these operations — sightings, alerts issued and outcomes — is not publicly available.

In the light of the above:

1. How many sightings of migrant boats have occurred annually during Frontex MAS missions in the Central Mediterranean since 2019, and how many mayday relays or maritime distress alerts were issued by Frontex surveillance aircraft in relation to these sightings?
2. How many communications (emails, calls, or written correspondence) with geolocation or vessel identification data on migrant boat sightings have been sent annually by Frontex to the Libyan Coast Guard or other Libyan authorities since 2019, and how many of these sightings resulted in interception and return to Libya?
3. How many communications (emails, mayday relays, or other alerts) containing information about migrant boat sightings have been sent annually by Frontex to search and rescue non-governmental organisations operating in the Central Mediterranean since 2019?

Submitted: 21.7.2026

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(31 August 2026)**

As the questions fall under the responsibility of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), the Commission has asked the Agency to provide a response to the questions raised by the Honourable Member. The Commission will send the Agency's reply to the Honourable Member as soon as possible.
