



Plenary sitting

B10-0476/2026

19.10.2026

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

pursuant to Rule 136(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the escalation of Russian strikes in the EU, particularly on Black Sea shipping, threatening human life, regional stability and food security (2026/2933(RSP))

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on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**European Parliament resolution on the escalation of Russian strikes in the EU,
particularly on Black Sea shipping, threatening human life, regional stability and food
security
(2026/2933(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Russia and on Ukraine, in particular since the escalation of Russia's war against Ukraine in February 2022,
 - having regard to the Charter of the United Nations,
 - having regard to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,
 - having regard to the Strategic Compass for Security and Defence, adopted by the Council on 21 March 2022,
 - having regard to Rule 136(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas in recent weeks, the Black Sea has become another front of escalation in Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, as merchant vessels carrying grain and civilian cargo have come under a wave of drone attacks;
- B. whereas on 6 October 2026, two merchant vessels were attacked by sea and aerial drones in Bulgaria's exclusive economic zone, resulting in one of the vessels sinking and its crew being missing; whereas on 13 October 2026, two merchant ships were struck by drones off Bulgaria's coast and one of them sank, causing 11 sailors to be missing; whereas a week earlier, two other commercial ships were struck by drones in Bulgaria's exclusive economic zone; whereas on 5 October 2026, a drone strike hit and sank a Turkish cargo ship carrying grain from a Ukrainian port, killing two sailors;
- C. whereas on 14 and 15 October 2026, two chemical tankers were struck by drones in or near Romanian territorial waters, causing fires and leaving several sailors missing; whereas repeated incursions by aerial targets, including drones, into Romanian airspace over the Black Sea have prompted emergency alerts and the deployment of Romanian and allied fighter aircraft;
- D. whereas under international humanitarian law and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, merchant vessels and their crews are considered civilian objects and cannot be lawful targets;
- E. whereas in 2022, under the auspices of the UN, the Russian Federation agreed to facilitate the unimpeded export of food, sunflower oil and fertilisers from Ukrainian Black Sea ports; whereas Russia also agreed to this in 2022 in the Black Sea Grain Initiative, which called for the safe export of fertilisers, grain and other foodstuffs from Ukrainian ports in the Black Sea, but which expired in 2023 as Russia refused to agree to an extension;

- F. whereas the Black Sea shipping lanes are crucial for global food security; whereas disruptions to trade in grain transported across the Black Sea have the potential to leave millions of people in developing and least developed countries facing a food crisis;
- G. whereas Bulgaria summoned the Russian ambassador over the 13 October 2026 attack; whereas Russia has not commented on the matter;
1. Strongly condemns the recent drone attacks against civilian and merchant vessels off the Bulgarian and Romanian Black Sea coasts, as well as the repeated violations of Romanian airspace; stresses that such attacks are in violation of international humanitarian law, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Charter of the United Nations and Bulgaria's and Romania's territorial integrity; stresses the urgent need for a coordinated EU and NATO response;
 2. Calls for a full investigation into the recent strikes across the Black Sea and for those responsible to be held accountable; insists on an immediate halt to hostilities in the Black Sea and for Russia to uphold its commitments under international humanitarian law and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;
 3. Calls on the Member States, in close coordination with NATO, to support Bulgaria and Romania in the early detection and tracking of hostile drones threatening Black Sea shipping, through enhanced intelligence sharing, NATO's surveillance and early-warning capabilities, the EU's Copernicus programme, the European Union Satellite Centre, NATO's Alliance Persistent Surveillance from Space and secure satellite communications provided by the European Union Governmental Satellite Communications programme;
 4. Is alarmed that hybrid attacks and hostile actions throughout Europe that fall short of full-scale armed aggression have intensified to an unprecedented scale, highlights the fact that these clear provocations are designed to destabilise, divide and undermine the EU, its Member States and NATO, highlights the importance of solidarity among Member States, especially those whose geographical position leaves them directly exposed to imminent threats and challenges;
 5. Calls on the EU Member States to support the establishment of an emergency security protocol as outlined by Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in her State of the Union address on 16 September 2026, a mechanism designed to respond to hybrid attacks and hostile actions, including drone strikes, that fall short of full-scale armed aggression; urges the Commission to follow up on its public announcements by presenting, without delay, concrete proposals for a European space shield and a European drone shield;
 6. Expresses concern over the Bulgarian Government's ambiguous response to the Russian threat; calls on Prime Minister Rumen Radev to match demands for allied solidarity with concrete action; deplores Bulgaria's delayed participation in NATO's Air Defence Capabilities Against Lower-level Air Threats initiative (NATO's anti-drone initiative) and urges the Bulgarian Government not to delay further but to formally confirm its participation by 30 October 2026;
 7. Stresses that preparedness for hybrid and grey zone attacks must become part of the

EU's strategic culture, with permanent exercises, joint threat assessments and pre-planned, coordinated responses among Member States, particularly in regions bordering hostile powers;

8. Underlines the importance of Black Sea shipping lanes to global food security and condemns any attempt to use food insecurity as a weapon or tool of coercion; deplores the deaths and the cases of missing crew members as a direct result of these attacks; calls on the Commission and the Member States to engage partner countries in establishing a united response to the threat posed by Russia in the Black Sea to both global food security and the personal safety of international shipping crews;
9. Reiterates its unwavering solidarity with the people of Ukraine and its support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, within its internationally recognised borders; demands that Russia and its proxy forces cease all military action, withdraw all military forces from the entire internationally recognised territory of Ukraine, end the forced deportations of Ukrainian civilians and release all detained Ukrainians;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the parliaments of the Member States and the Russian authorities.