



Plenary sitting

B10-0482/2026

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 Houthi attacks and implications for regional security (2026/2939(RSP))

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on behalf of the PPE Group

**European Parliament resolution on the escalation of Houthi attacks and implications for regional security
(2026/2939(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Yemen and Iran,
- having regard to the European Council conclusions of 16 October 2026,
 - having regard to the statement by the UN Secretary-General of 10 October 2026 on the Houthi attack on King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh,
 - having regard to the statement by the G7 foreign ministers and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of 22 September 2026 on Bab al-Mandab and Navigational Rights and Freedoms,
 - having regard to the statement by the Spokesperson of the European External Action Service of 8 September 2026 on the latest Houthi attacks,
 - having regard to the statement by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of 23 July 2026 on Houthi threats against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and freedom of navigation in the region,
 - having regard to Council Decision (CFSP) 2024/583 of 8 February 2024 on a European Union maritime security operation to safeguard freedom of navigation in relation to the Red Sea crisis (EUNAVFOR ASPIDES)¹,
 - having regard to Rule 136(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Houthis are an Iran-sponsored proxy movement that seized the Yemeni capital Sanaa in 2014 and overthrew Yemen's internationally recognised government;
- B. whereas in July 2026, the Houthis announced a naval blockade on Saudi shipping; whereas since then, they have waged a sustained campaign against Saudi Arabia and against civilian shipping in the Red Sea and the Bab al-Mandab Strait, striking the Jazan oil refinery on 9 August 2026 and firing a ballistic missile at Riyadh on 18 September 2026, while an Iran-backed militia in Iraq struck Saudi Arabia's East-West crude oil pipeline on 10 September 2026;
- C. whereas the attacks on King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, which culminated in a catastrophic strike on 10 October 2026, have resulted in the deaths of at least 20 people, and have left more than 300 other individuals injured;
- D. whereas in September 2026 the Houthis seized the Yemeni port of Mokha and several islands near the Bab el-Mandab Strait, through which 12 % to 15 % of global maritime

¹ OJ L, 2024/583, 12.2.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2024/583/oj>.

trade passes each year, prompting the Yemeni Government to launch Operation Dawn of Yemen in October 2026;

- E. whereas on 4 October 2026 the Houthis captured Turbah, a town of key strategic importance for the government-backed forces as it links Taiz, Yemen's third-largest city, to the port of Aden, thereby jeopardising the delivery of food supplies and humanitarian aid to Taiz, with severe consequences for its civilian population;
- F. whereas the current Houthi campaign is severely disrupting the relative de-escalation that followed the 2025 ceasefire between Israel and Hamas in Gaza; whereas the attacks range from strikes on shipping infrastructure to attempted drone and missile strikes targeting Mecca and Riyadh; whereas the Houthis claim that they have shot down a Saudi F-15 fighter jet, which raises serious concerns about regional security, the protection of civilians and religious sites, and the risk of further escalation across the Middle East;
- G. whereas the Gulf states, now a direct frontline in the Iran war, have responded by diversifying their defence partnerships, including through the August 2026 Mecca Joint Defence Agreement between Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Türkiye, which was invoked for the first time in October 2026, and by seeking closer defence-industrial cooperation with Europe;
- H. whereas the Red Sea is a key strategic corridor for global communications, with an estimated 90 % of the undersea fibre-optic cables connecting Europe and Asia passing through the region, making it a critical digital chokepoint, as important to international connectivity and security as oil and trade routes;
- I. whereas Iran's ongoing disruption of the Strait of Hormuz, combined with the intensification of the Houthi attacks, threatens global energy security; whereas Saudi Arabia's East-West crude oil pipeline transports oil from the country's eastern oil fields to the Red Sea port of Yanbu, thereby bypassing the Strait of Hormuz, and whereas any disruption to maritime traffic through the Bab al-Mandab Strait could further disrupt global energy supplies and undermine the energy security of the EU and its international partners;
- J. whereas the Iranian regime continues to arm and support armed groups in the region, including the Houthis, in violation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1747 (2007), 2140 (2014) and 2216 (2015), as stated by the G7 foreign ministers and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on 22 September 2026; whereas this support threatens not only neighbouring Arab states but also the security, energy supply and trade interests of the EU and its partners;
- K. whereas the conflict has caused one of the world's worst humanitarian crises in Yemen, and whereas all parties, including the members of any coalition, are bound by international humanitarian law and international human rights law; whereas according to data from UN agencies, in 2025, 19.5 million people required humanitarian assistance and protection, as hunger and security risks remained alarmingly high, driven by displacement and the erosion of livelihoods, and approximately 17.1 million Yemenis faced acute food security and malnutrition rates, with approximately 500 000 children in need of treatment for severe acute malnutrition, and 17.8 million people

remained without access to basic healthcare services;

1. Condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the unprecedented drone and missile attacks carried out by the Houthi militia on King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh and other destabilising acts; expresses its deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of the victims of these attacks;
2. Expresses its full and unwavering solidarity with the Government and people of Saudi Arabia in the face of the continuous military campaign perpetrated by the Houthi militia;
3. Denounces the Houthis' continued military escalation in Yemen, as well as the serious escalation and threat to regional security that this represents, which also affects civilians and civilian infrastructure;
4. Demands that the Houthis immediately cease all hostilities, abandon any territorial ambitions, end all attacks against civilian shipping and acts of repression against the Yemeni population, and respect fundamental human rights and international humanitarian law; urges the Houthis to comply with international law, as reflected in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, UN Security Council Resolution 2216 (2015) on Yemen, and UN Security Council Resolutions 2722 (2024) and 2826 (2026) on freedom of navigation;
5. Expresses its solidarity with the legitimate Government of Yemen; remains firmly committed to working with the UN, regional partners and the international community towards regional de-escalation, and the development of a comprehensive, inclusive and sustainable peace, and lasting security and stability;
6. Underlines, once again, that the Iranian regime has actively sown chaos and destruction across the region for decades; stresses that Iran continues to constitute the largest and most substantial threat to the security and stability of the broader region and the most significant obstacle to peace; reiterates its firm condemnation of Iran's whole web of malign activities and interference across the region and beyond, most prominently in Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Iraq and the Palestinian Territories; urges Iran to cease all attacks immediately and to stop providing financial, military and logistical support to the Houthis, which compromises freedom of navigation, disrupts the flow of goods, and threatens maritime security and international trade in the Red Sea, in full respect of international law; calls on all parties to exercise maximum restraint to avoid escalation in the region; stresses that the Houthis remain primarily an instrument of the Iranian regime, a means of further pursuing its strategy of destabilisation and violence throughout the region;
7. Calls for enhanced cooperation between the EU and allied countries in the Gulf in the field of security and defence, notably by strengthening operational synergies between Operation ASPIDES and Operation ATALANTA, and developing partnerships in air defence, critical infrastructure protection, cybersecurity, satellite technology, electronic warfare and counter-drone systems, while promoting joint research, development and technological production initiatives, with a view to strengthening defence capabilities, reducing strategic vulnerabilities and ensuring cooperation based on mutual benefit, respect for international law and the EU's international commitments;

8. Encourages the EU to strengthen its strategic partnership with Saudi Arabia, deepen bilateral cooperation and reinforce its role as a key partner in regional security and stability; calls for the swift completion of the strategic partnership agreements (SPAs) between the EU and Gulf Cooperation Council countries, as these will provide the necessary instruments for a more robust coordination and cooperation on critical issues of mutual interest; stresses the importance of including a strong security and defence pillar within the SPAs, in order to adequately tackle the challenges Gulf Cooperation Council countries continue to face in light of Iranian aggression;
9. Underlines the need to avoid aggravating the already dire humanitarian situation, and expresses its full support for the Yemeni population, civil society organisations and human rights defenders facing the ongoing conflict, humanitarian crisis and Houthi repression; calls for the EU and its Member States to strengthen humanitarian assistance, guarantee safe and unhindered humanitarian access, protect civilians and support those documenting human rights violations;
10. Reiterates its support for a UN-led, inclusive political process in Yemen as the only lasting path to peace, and urges all relevant actors to contribute to de-escalation;
11. Calls on the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to propose the inclusion of the Houthis on the EU's list of terrorist organisations;
12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Commission, the Council, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Government and Parliament of Saudi Arabia and the office of the President of Iran.