

**Question for written answer E-005970/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Lorenzo Fontana (NI)

Subject: VP/HR - Turkey: shots fired against vessel carrying migrants

The Turkish coastguard agency has posted a video of the interception on 12 March 2015 of a cargo vessel bound for Italy, with more than 300 refugees on board, in the Çanakkale Straits in the Dardanelles. According to information on the turkishnavy.net site, the vessel, the Dogan Kartal, was approached by a number of coastguard vessels and ordered to stop. The captain of the vessel took evasive action in an attempt to get away. The Turkish coastguards then opened fire on the vessel.

The Turkish coastguard service has fired on vessels carrying irregular migrants on several occasions in the past, causing a number of deaths, such as in 2005, when one person was killed and two wounded in an incident off the coast of Ismir.

This despicable and cowardly act flies in the face of the principles and values underpinning the European Union.

1. Would the High Representative not agree that the question of Turkey's accession to the EU should be reviewed in the light of this incident?
2. Would she not agree that, if the EU fails to take decisive action in this matter, it will give the impression that it is not particularly concerned by such behaviour?
3. Does she intend to intervene in the accession negotiations?