

**Question for written answer E-007997/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Hugues Bayet (S&D)**

Subject: CSDP operations off the coast of the Gulf of Guinea and in the Mediterranean

On 29 April, the EU's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy gave a speech in Washington on EU-US cooperation on security and defence.

Referring to the success of Operation Atalanta, which has contributed to a 90 % reduction in piracy off the Horn of Africa, the High Representative stated that the EU would now be tackling piracy and other forms of crime in the Gulf of Guinea.

She also mentioned that the European External Action Service (EEAS) is currently looking at ways to combat human trafficking in the Mediterranean.

1. Is the EEAS in the process of setting up Common Security and Defence Policy operations off the coast of the Gulf of Guinea and in the Mediterranean?
2. If that is the case, what mandate and objectives would these operations have?
3. Why is the Commission considering a security response to the Mediterranean crisis when it is above all a humanitarian tragedy?