

**Question for written answer E-000194/2016/rev.1
to the Council**
Rule 130
Edward Czesak (ECR)

Subject: Current status of EUNAVFOR Med Sophia

Putting a stop to human trafficking on the Mediterranean Sea is vital if we are to end the human tragedies that we have observed in recent months. It would also have a significant and positive influence on stabilising the region and improving its security. These aims are being served by Operation Sophia, which has been active for more than half a year. The most recent information on the status of the operation (the transition to the second phase) was submitted in October 2015. The following questions arise after consulting the relevant documentation and available data:

1. When is the transition to the third phase of the operation (the destruction of traffickers' vessels) anticipated?
2. Do data exist affirming the effectiveness of the current operation? If so, could please provide them?
3. Are there plans to step up activities under Operation Sophia or to launch another operation with similar aims? If so, when will the appropriate documentation be prepared?