

**Question for written answer E-006742/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Nicola Caputo (S&D)

Subject: Use of drones to monitor emissions from ships

Ships are major sources of pollution, and those that ply Europe's seas are required to keep their exhaust gases within strict limits.

In the winter of 2016, EMSA (European Maritime Safety Agency) launched a trial using drones to monitor vessels' exhaust, up to 50 km from the coast in all Member States, carrying out monitoring and patrols for a minimum of 60 days.

Can the Commission, within the limits of its powers, give its overall assessment of the results obtained from the trials of drones to monitor CO₂ emissions from ships, with particular reference to effectiveness, budgetary impact, possible risks and incorporation into the THETIS-MRV system?

Can it also indicate whether and how, in the light of those assessments, it intends to implement this technology and to use it in parallel with other monitoring operations organised by EMSA?