Question for written answer P-000483/2017 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: VP/HR - Renewed attempts by Turkey to directly call into question Greece's sovereign

rights in the Aegean

Yesterday, 29 January 2017, 21 years after the Imia crisis of 1996, in which three officers of the Greek armed forces fell, heroically defending our country, Turkey again took highly provocative action, directly calling into question Greek sovereignty.

A Turkish missile boat, carrying General Akar, the head of the Turkish armed forces, and the heads of the Turkish army, navy and air force, violated Greek territorial waters and approached the Imia islets. The Turkish warship was accompanied by two Turkish special forces assault craft with an unknown number of commandos on board, which likewise violated Greek territorial waters.

This has occurred at a time when the Turkish air force is daily violating Greek airspace and the Turkish leadership is calling into question the sovereign rights of Greece in the Aegean, culminating in provocative and dangerous statements by Erdoğan calling for a revision of the Lausanne Treaty.

In view of the above, can the High Representative of the EU say what measures she intends to take:

- 1. To condemn the above illegal Turkish challenges to Greece's sovereign rights in the Aegean?
- 2. To oblige Turkey to respect international law and the 1923 Treaty of Lausanne?

1115677.EN PE 598.190