

**Question for written answer E-003149/2019**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Kris Peeters (PPE)**

Subject: Use of the Copernicus programme for monitoring at sea

According to ISAA Report 180 (Integrated Situational Awareness and Analysis, Situation Report), 968 migrants have already died or gone missing while trying to cross the Mediterranean in 2019.

Although this is fewer than in 2018, the figure remains tragic and we need to improve the situation, including through more efficient detection of migrants at sea. In addition to deploying more staff from agencies such as Frontex, the best option in order to achieve this is to consider using the most effective and efficient technologies.

1. According to the Commission's impact studies, which are the most effective and efficient technologies for monitoring migration in the Mediterranean?
2. The satellites forming part of the Copernicus programme have the technical capacity to make extremely accurate observations. Moreover, the programme is already performing surveillance at sea and at our borders: how routinely is this happening?
3. What is the Commission's assessment of the possibility of using satellites for such monitoring missions?