

**Question for written answer E-004537/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Maria Spyraiki (PPE)

Subject: Thermaikos dockyard

The Thermaikos municipal authorities have decided to build a dockyard and marina, having received expressions of interest from investors. The area has a major maritime tradition as the base for the largest fleet of trawlers in Greece and is also the location of one of a national merchant marine officer school. The projected dockyard is expected to generate significant economic benefits, serving vessels in not only the Thermaikos region but also across the whole of Macedonia, creating hundreds of jobs.

Given the Commission's interest in the development of the European shipbuilding industry, which of major importance to Europe's economic performance, and in view of the upcoming expiry of the European LeaderSHIP 2020 initiative:

1. Can the Commission give details regarding the new shipbuilding strategy, the priority areas to be covered and the main legislative initiatives being envisaged in this connection?
2. Will measures be taken to encourage cooperation with the private sector in order to achieve the objectives of the new strategy?
3. Are programmes and funds managed directly by the Commission being planned to promote shipbuilding, together with employment and training in this sector?