

Question for written answer E-004929/2020

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 138

Gianna Gancia (ID)

Subject: On the need to ensure crew members stranded on vessels belonging to the Turkish shipping magnate Mansimov are allowed to disembark

Given that:

five vessels belonging to companies owned by the Turkish shipping magnate Mansimov have for months now been held in the Italian ports of Ravenna, Venice and Oristano, with almost 60 crew members on board;

another 15 vessels with just as many crew members on board are being held at anchor in Estonia and Greece, as well as other countries;

the physical and psychological health of these crew members on board is being sorely tried and without the help of port authorities and volunteers it would be impossible to guarantee minimum living standards on board;

diplomatic action by the EU would be in a wider strategic and geopolitical context;

can the Vice-President / High Representative clarify:

What plans are there to speed up disembarkation of crew members on board these vessels anchored in EU ports?

And what diplomatic actions will be taken, subsequently, to ensure that crew members on board those vessels anchored in ports outside the EU will also be allowed to disembark?