## Question for written answer E-005025/2020

## to the Commission

Rule 138
Özlem Demirel (GUE/NGL)
Subject: New Frontex pilot project for the deployment of unmanned airborne platforms
The European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) is planning another pilot project this year on maritime surveillance by aerostat. A test carried out last year in cooperation with the Greek Coast Guard showed that these platforms can be used to support the Member States in the surveillance of maritime borders. The capacity and cost-effectiveness of aerostat platforms will now be assessed and the equipment to be used will be optimised.

1. When and where will the further testing of aerostat platforms or similar devices take place? Which border authorities are currently involved?
2. What are the estimated costs of the tests, and how will they be covered pro rata by those involved?
3. What will the payload of the tested platforms be, and what equipment will be tested on them?
