

**Question for written answer E-005481/2020  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Sylvie Guillaume (S&D)**

Subject: Disappearance of a boat in the Mediterranean

On 9 February 2020, the NGO Alarm Phone received a distress call from a boat with 91 people on board.

The NGO forwarded the call for help to the Libyan coastguard, the rescue vessel Aita Mari, and the Maltese and Italian authorities.

According to the information received, those 91 people were not rescued and an inquiry must be launched immediately to get to the bottom of this tragedy.

1. Can the Commission officially ask the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, present in the area, to obtain information on what happened?
2. Can the Commission obtain detailed information from the Italian and Maltese authorities on why they decided against conducting a rescue operation?
3. Can contacts be established with the Libyan authorities, who are likely to have information on the boat and its passengers?