

**Question for written answer E-006581/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Shipwrecked in the Mediterranean

In the last few days, at least 74 migrants have died in a dinghy off the coast of Libya. OpenArms rescued 259 migrants from one vessel, although six people died, including a six-month-old baby. Meanwhile, members of the NGO continue to be persecuted in Italy.

In the framework of the New Pact on Migration, how does the Commission intend to ensure that organisations such as OpenArms are able to carry out their rescue missions without Member States' judiciaries accusing them of promoting illegal migration?

According to Regulation (EU) 2016/1624, Frontex is obliged to provide technical and operational support to Member States or non-EU Member States in salvage and rescue missions. What role does the Commission envisage for Frontex in view of the need for them to be involved in assisting people who lose their lives on Europe's coastlines?

How will the Commission respond to the tragic situation of migrants and refugees in Libya, ensure that their human rights are protected and comply with its international obligations under the principle of non-refoulement, which prohibit the return of people at risk of persecution?