

**Question for written answer E-003073/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Özlem Demirel** (The Left)

Subject: Drone swarm trials in the Mediterranean and the Baltic

The EU project OCEAN 2020, financed to the tune of EUR 35 million from the European Defence Fund, has been set up to test more than 20 types of drone (air, water, underwater) to provide a situational awareness capability at sea. Drones and unmanned submarines are integrated in swarms into fleets. Drone swarm trials will take place in the Mediterranean and the Baltic. As part of the OCEAN 2020 project, a prototype European Union Maritime Operations Command Centre (EU MOC) for drone swarms is being developed, which is likely to be based in Brussels.

1. When and where will the trials take place in real-world conditions in the Baltic and the Mediterranean, and which of the more than 20 types of drone will be tested?
2. What other such events are planned?
3. What new details can the Commission provide on the prototype of a European Union Maritime Command Centre, and where in Brussels will this OCEAN 2020 facility be located?