

**Question for written answer E-003297/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Özlem Demirel** (The Left)

Subject: Multipurpose aerial surveillance at Frontex

Through its multipurpose aerial surveillance (MAS) service launched on 8 June 2017, Frontex intends to support EU Member States and agencies through improved situational awareness and responsiveness in the EU and the pre-frontier area. Since 2019, Frontex has expanded MAS to become a 24/7 service. All surveillance footage is relayed in real-time to either Frontex's European Monitoring Team in Warsaw or coordination centres in Vigo, Lisbon and Rome.

1. What is the relationship between MAS and the Frontex Aerial Surveillance Services (FASS), and to what extent will the former also make use of the drones in the Mediterranean procured under tender Frontex/OP/888/2019/JL/CG?
2. With (or to) which internal and external stakeholders has Frontex exchanged (or provided) information in the context of MAS flights, and how does Frontex cooperate with the European Maritime Safety Agency, the European Fisheries Control Agency, and the European Union Naval Force — Mediterranean Operation Sophia?
3. How many migrant vessels in distress did Frontex's aerial surveillance systems (MAS and FASS) identify in 2020 in the Central Mediterranean and the Aegean Sea, and how many of these cases were reported to the Libyan and Turkish authorities?