

**Question for written answer E-005393/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Bahri ships transporting weapons to Saudi Arabia through Europe

Answering a written question by Spanish MP Jon Iñarritu, the Spanish Government admitted that Saudi Arabian shipping company Bahri was transporting weapons and military equipment after docking in Spanish and Italian ports last October<sup>1</sup>.

Although several NGOs have expressed concerns about this and other Bahri shipments from the United States, officials have always denied that arms had been transported<sup>2</sup> or affirmed that the final recipient could not be identified.

Another Bahri cargo vessel is expected to dock in EU Member State ports in the upcoming weeks. Given the principles underpinning the EU common position on arms exports<sup>3</sup>, in particular criteria two, three, four, and given Saudi Arabia's role in the Yemen war:

1. Does the Commission intend to take immediate action?
2. Are there any plans to revise and update the common position on arms exports to cover cases such as the aforementioned, and to also include sanctions in case of non-compliance?
3. Does the Commission consider that a regulation on arms exports based on the current common criteria for arms transfers (including transits) would be a better EU legal instrument for upholding these criteria than the common position?

**Supporter<sup>4</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.publico.es/politica/gobierno-admite-primera-vez-barco-muerte-saudi-cargo-cartuchos-cohetes-sagunto.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/press-release/2019/12/spain-ensure-saudi-arabian-ship-carries-no-arms-through-spanish-ports/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32008E0944&from=EN>

<sup>4</sup> This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Rosa D'Amato (Verts/ALE)