

Question for written answer E-000329/2022/rev.1
to the Council
Rule 138
Özlem Demirel (The Left)

Subject: Cyber exercises invoking the mutual defence clause under Article 42(7) TEU

As part of the EU CyCLES exercise, the Member States are testing their response to attacks with significant kinetic effects and casualties under the mutual defence clause of Article 42(7) TEU. For the first time, the threshold of an armed attack will be surpassed. Further regular cyber exercises with similar objectives are to follow.

1. What cyber exercises is the Council planning for 2022 and in what other cyber exercises have EU Member States expressed interest?
2. Which of these exercises have the activation of the mutual defence clause pursuant to Article 42(7) TEU as a component, and which will put the NATO mutual defence clause to the test?
3. In the Council's view, what objective factors must be present for a cyber attack to trigger the right to self-defence set out in Article 51 of the UN Charter?