

**Question for written answer E-001163/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

José Ramón Bauzá Díaz (Renew)

Subject: Measures to safeguard Spanish sovereignty and territorial integrity vis-à-vis Morocco

Despite its status as a 'strategic partner' of the European Union, Morocco has repeatedly expressed its territorial ambitions regarding the Spanish and European cities of Ceuta and Melilla, as well as the Canary Islands' waters, without any historical fact or basis in international law to support it. To this end, Morocco has for years deployed all kinds of hybrid coercive strategies against Spain, ranging from migration blackmail to the economic strangling of Ceuta and Melilla or the extension of its exclusive economic zone to Spanish waters.

Following the recent shift in position by the Spanish Government on the Moroccan autonomy plan for Western Sahara, there has been no statement or gesture by Morocco demonstrating a shift in its position and providing Spain with credible and lasting guarantees of respect for its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Given that the European Union has as one of its objectives the defence of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of its Member States, the Commission is asked to reply to the following:

What measures does the Commission envisage in the event that Morocco dare to question Spain's territorial integrity in Ceuta, Melilla or the waters of the Canary Islands?