

**Question for written answer E-003662/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Confidential Frontex document about migration in the Mediterranean

Several Italian agencies and newspapers recently reported on a confidential document drawn up by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) and covering the 1 January–18 May 2021 period, which states that the presence of NGO vessels continues to act as an additional ‘pull factor’ for migrants crossing from Libya to Italy.

According to these articles, migrants arriving from Libya consistently say that they checked NGO vessels were present in the Mediterranean before leaving; and if none are in the area many refuse to go.

In view of the above, can the Commission say:

1. Whether it is aware of this confidential document?
2. Whether, in the interest of transparency, if this document does indeed exist, it thinks it should be published?
3. And, finally, if the Frontex document confirms these revelations to be true, whether it believes they should be given priority consideration in the current reforms within the framework of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum?

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