

**Question for written answer E-003667/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Loucas Furlas (PPE)**

Subject: Black Sea Grain Initiative and Cypriot-flagged vessels

It is no secret that Turkey, a candidate for EU membership, is failing to apply the restrictions imposed by the European Union on the Russian Federation in response to its invasion of Ukraine.

The Black Sea Grain Initiative was adopted for humanitarian reasons last July by Ukraine, the Russian Federation and Turkey, in the presence of the UN Secretary-General, in a bid to facilitate the export from Ukraine of cereals, food and fertilisers to third countries, in particular those dependent on the World Food Programme.

However, investigations have revealed that Cypriot-flagged vessels or vessels operated by Cyprus, an EU Member State, are being prevented by Turkey from engaging in the transport of grain and other goods under the above initiative.

In view of this:

Can the Commission say what measures has it taken, or intends to take, to prevent Turkey, a candidate for EU membership, from indirectly taking advantage of a humanitarian initiative in a covert bid to extend the Turkish embargo on Cypriot flagged vessels or vessels operated by Cyprus that has been in place since 1987?

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