

**Question for written answer E-000294/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Özlem Demirel (The Left)

Subject: Obstructions to operations in the Libyan maritime rescue area

Frontex planes and drones mainly operate in the Libyan maritime rescue area. The Libyan aviation authority has prohibited the civilian rescue aircraft of the NGO Sea Watch from entering the area on a number of occasions, despite the fact that it is not empowered to do so and that such an order runs contrary to the freedom of overflight enshrined in the Chicago Convention. According to Frontex, it has not yet been affected by such restrictions from Libya.

1. In which cases and on which dates has Libya prevented manned or unmanned Frontex aircraft from entering the Libyan maritime rescue area?
2. Who sent notification of this and via which channel?
3. Does Frontex consider such orders to be in line with the Chicago Convention? How has it responded to them?

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