

**Question for written answer E-000621/2023/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Özlem Demirel** (The Left)

Subject: Contact Group on Search and Rescue discussing guidelines for sea rescue vessels

In the action plan for the Central Mediterranean, the Commission calls for discussions to be held in the International Maritime Organization (IMO) about guidelines for sea rescue vessels. At the last meeting of the newly resurrected Contact Group on Search and Rescue on 31 January 2023, the Commission urged the Member States to put their heads together on this matter.

1. Who prepares the Contact Group on Search and Rescue meetings and how is the agenda established?
2. What criteria are used to decide which non-members (such as Frontex and the IMO) are invited to these meetings?
3. How have the Member States responded to the Commission's request for them jointly reflect on interpreting, amending or implementing the IMO guidelines for sea rescue vessels?

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