

**Question for written answer E-001792/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Erik Marquardt (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Involvement of the Libyan Coast Guard in human trafficking and smuggling

The latest report¹ of the UN Human Rights Council's Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya states that there is evidence that units and members of the so-called Libyan Coast Guard cooperate with smugglers and are involved in human trafficking themselves, particularly in the western Libyan region of Zawiya. Evidence has come to light that the Libyan Coast Guard unit in this area colludes with the al-Nasr detention centre in Zawiya. The unit's commander, Abd al-Rahman al-Milad, better known as 'Bija', has been on the UN Security Council sanctions list since June 2018² for involvement in human trafficking.

- 1) How long has the Commission known about this and what kind of information does it have about this collusion in the Zawiya region?
- 2) What measures will the Commission take in response to the evidence that has been uncovered – will this lead to an end to cooperation with the so-called Libyan Coast Guard, or an end to funding support for that organisation?
- 3) What steps can we expect the Commission to take with regard to Italy in the light of this report, given the country's cooperation with Libya and the so-called Libyan Coast Guard?

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¹ https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/sessions-regular/session50/A_HRC_52_83_AdvanceEditedVersion-EN.docx.

² <https://scsanctions.un.org/whpwuen-all.html>.