

**Question for written answer E-002469/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Özlem Demirel** (The Left)

Subject: Crash of a second long-range drone operated on Frontex's behalf

Frontex's drones in Malta and Greece are controlled by the German arms firm Airbus. It provides a satellite communications system for them. That system is reported to have failed in a crash off Crete. Back in 2020, a long-distance drone monitoring Greece's maritime borders on Frontex's behalf crashed onto the runway at Tympaki airport in Crete.

1. What are the Commission's preliminary or definitive findings as to the cause of the crash on 24 August 2023, and who is in charge of or involved in the investigation?
2. What damage was caused when the crash occurred and, as things stand, who bears liability (and to what extent)?
3. When is the Heron 1 flight ban in Greece to end, as matters stand at present, and by when might the Frontex drone in Greece be replaced by the manufacturer/contractor?

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