

**Question for written answer E-002523/2023
to the Commission
Rule 138
Clara Aguilera (S&D)**

Subject: Closure of the Black Sea corridor

Since February 2022, the global market for raw materials has been dependent on developments in the Black Sea region following the war in Ukraine, which is one of the world's largest grain exporters and a traditional supplier of the Spanish animal feed industry. It supplies 45 million tonnes of grain to the global market but, during the first half of last year, its exports were severely disrupted as a result of the war.

Putin has chosen to use force and we do not yet know if it will be short-lived. This is the setting in which the United Nations and other international partners are now working. In any event, the markets respond to all threats to the global supply of raw materials, and they have been dealing with an unpredictable situation for two years.

The corridor has been an efficient tool in ensuring a steady flow of raw materials, which has benefited the Maghreb and other African countries, but also the European Union and even China.

In view of the above:

1. What measures does the Commission intend to take, in cooperation with other institutions, to keep this corridor open?

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