

**Question for written answer E-002883/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Özlem Demirel (The Left)

Subject: The Seahorse project on monitoring migration from North Africa

In 2013, the EU launched the Seahorse project with a budget of EUR 5.5 million. Its main objective was to improve the capacity of relevant authorities in third countries in order to monitor irregular migration by sea and to combat migrant smuggling. As part of the project, training was given to 141 staff members from the Libyan Coast Guard. The Italian Coast Guard supported the Libyan Coast Guard with EUR 1.8 million from the Internal Security Fund. The project was also intended to benefit Tunisian authorities.

1. When was the Seahorse project launched and when was it concluded – even provisionally – or continued in another form?
2. Which authorities from which countries were or are involved at which stage of the Seahorse project, and what individual measures have been implemented for their benefit?
3. How did the Commission assess whether the exchange of information between the countries participating in the network complied with the Eurosur Regulation, as set out in Article 20(2) (Regulation (EU) No 1052/2013), and what were its findings?

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