

Question for written answer E-000122/2024

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 138

Özlem Demirel (The Left)

Subject: Status and location of the EU-funded Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre in Libya

In 2017, as part of phase 1 of the SIBMMIL programme, the European Commission called on Italy to establish an EU-funded Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) in Libya. The money has been spent, but when I asked about it in 2021, neither the Council nor the Commission were able to say where this equipment is located. The Italian Ministry of the Interior has not been able to provide an explanation to journalists either. That same year, the EU launched phase 2 of the programme, and delivered an additional mobile, container-based MRCC. Various militias are now quarrelling over the equipment, meaning that it has yet to become operational.

1. Where exactly is the equipment that was delivered under phase 1 of the SIBMMIL programme for a MRCC in Tripoli, and to what extent is this MRCC operating as planned?
2. If, in the HR/VP's view, the MRCC in Tripoli is not yet operational, what shortcomings need to be resolved, and what efforts is the HR/VP making to this end?
3. Who is in charge of the container delivered in phase 2 of the SIBMMIL programme, and which Libyan units (coastal guard, navy, maritime police or other militias) are to operate them, in which location?

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