

**Question for written answer E-000351/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Pylos shipwreck following publication of classified Frontex document

A leaked report (ref. 12595/2023)¹ drawn up by Frontex's Fundamental Rights Office places blame on the Greek authorities. Specifically, the report states that:

- the Greek authorities failed to initiate a search and rescue operation as they should have done after receiving the Frontex alert;
- attempts by the Greek coastguard to tow the Adriana put the 700 or so passengers on board the vessel at even greater risk;
- the Greek coastguard vessel PPLS 920 recorded the Adriana lurching in a dangerous manner;
- attaching ropes to the boat posed significant risks;
- contrary to the claims made by the Greek authorities, the Adriana had been sailing without a working engine for quite some hours;
- the resources deployed by the Greek authorities were insufficient;
- the immediate focus of the Greek authorities prior to the shipwreck was not on carrying out a search and rescue;
- the Greek authorities delayed starting a search and rescue operation and only initiated one when the Adriana capsized, by which time it was too late to rescue all passengers;
- the Greek authorities did not make use of the resources offered to them by Frontex.

In view of this, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does the conduct of the Greek authorities, as outlined above, comply with the legal obligation² to rescue persons in peril and with EU rules on search and rescue?
2. Knowing all of the above, was it not Frontex's duty to intervene in the context of its mandate?

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¹ https://www.avgi.gr/koinonia/475810_bomba-me-diarroi-aporritoy-eggrafy-tis-frontex-den-itan-stohos-i-diasosi

² Under the United Nations Geneva Convention of 1951, in particular Article 33 thereof, the Protocol of 1967 relating to the Status of Refugees, the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982 (UNCLOS), the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea of 1974 (SOLAS) and the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue (SAR) of 1979.