

**Question for written answer E-001097/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: The Russian shadow fleet in the Baltic Sea

Since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and the EU's decision to impose sanctions on Russia and price caps on Russian oil, a shadow fleet has appeared. It consists of a growing number of older vessels with unclear ownership and is being used to circumvent the sanctions. Recently, Sveriges Television reported that the Cyprus-registered oil tanker *Zircone* had docked off the coast of Gotland and was refuelling vessels from the Russian shadow fleet. The activities of the Russian shadow fleet in the Baltic Sea pose major economic, ecological and security political risks.

1. What steps will the Commission take to manage the economic, ecological and security policy risks linked to the presence of the shadow fleet in the Baltic Sea?
2. What measures will the Commission take, within the framework of the EU's cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to prevent and limit the activities of the shadow fleet?
3. How can the Commission act to ensure that all vessels navigating in EU waters are insured and meet high environmental standards so as to prevent accidents?

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