

**Priority question for written answer P-004324/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Stelios Kympouropoulos (PPE)

Subject: Infringement by Turkey of the rights of the Greek islands

The memorandum of understanding signed by Turkey and one of the two Libyan governments on the delimitation of their exclusive economic zones (EEZs) effectively challenges the existence of the EEZ and continental shelf around the Greek islands, thereby breaching international law and compromising European interests.

In the light of reports A8-0091/2019 and A8-0159/2018 containing an explicit reference to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, to which the EU and each of its Member States are parties:

1. Can the Commission say how it will respond? Does it have a plan of action providing for a commensurate response to the increasing acts of provocation by Turkey?
2. Will it reconsider its support for the the Libyan Government led by Fayeza Mustafa al-Sarraj, which engaged in this unlawful move?
3. Since it recognises that the European islands (Aegean Islands, Cyprus, Malta, Balearic Islands, Canary Islands, Azores, Madeira, Gotland, the Åland Islands etc.) have a continental shelf and EEZ, is it prepared to protect the sovereign rights of the Member States (territorial waters, airspace, continental shelf, EEZ) against unlawful challenges from not only Turkey but also other third countries such as Morocco regarding the EEZ of the Canary Islands and Madeira or the Russian Federation regarding the EEZ of Gotland and the Åland Islands, should the case arise?