

**Priority question for written answer P-000542/2020
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs
and Security Policy**

Rule 138

Massimiliano Salini (PPE)

Subject: Presence of the Turkish ship Yavuz to the south of Cyprus

On 18 January 2020, Yavuz, a Turkish drilling vessel for oil exploration, left the port of Mersina to explore the waters south of Cyprus, in an area in which two European oil groups have been granted exploration rights.

In view of the clearly illegal activities of the Turkish ship, which is now based, and has been operating for ten days, in an area in which a member government of the European Union has granted exploration rights, can the High Representative say:

whether he is aware of this situation;

what measures he intends to take in response to Turkish dynamism in order to defend energy supply and security in the Mediterranean?