

**Priority question for written answer P-000088/2021/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi (PPE)**

**Subject:** Acts of provocation by Turkey in the waters around the islets of Imia

In a fresh act of provocation perpetrated on Wednesday 6 January, a Turkish patrol boat attempting to repel Greek fishing vessels from the waters around the islets of Imia engaged in a series of dangerous manoeuvres, causing it to collide with two Greek coastguard vessels, which sustained serious damage as a result.

Every day, Greek fishermen going about their business off the rocky islets of Imia and elsewhere find themselves being illegally obstructed by Turkish coastguard vessels, sustaining damage to their nets and equipment as a result and being threatened with weapons on many occasions.

This and other acts of provocation by Turkey in the area are yet another deliberate breach of international law and the Law of the Sea, causing destabilisation in the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean, ramping up tension and undermining good neighbourly relations.

Given Turkey's recent challenges to the status quo in the Aegean, seeking to test international relations and destabilise this vulnerable area in every way possible, can the Commission say

what view it takes of Turkish policy, bearing in mind EU warnings to Ankara issued last December that heavy sanctions would be imposed with an eye to the European Summit in March?