

**Priority question for written answer P-001007/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Providing the rescEU mechanism with more hospital ships like the Italian vessel 'Vulcano'

The Strategic Compass for Security and Defence emphasises the need to increase and optimise common expenditure on military missions and operations with a view to enhancing solidarity between Member States and encouraging their further involvement in such operations.

As a guarantor of regional and global security, the EU must be in a position to project its influence in a more strategic manner by relying on its shared capabilities and responsibilities.

We should also consider that the geopolitical climate, marked as it is by rising conflict and authoritarianism, means that the EU must be able to provide humanitarian aid in a quantity and on a scale unprecedented in the history of international relations.

In the maritime and naval sector, the Vulcano hospital ship is proof that Italy has fewer gaps in its capacity and strategy than other Member States, and that the Italian shipbuilding and naval industry is capable of being less dependent, technologically and industrially, on third parties.

Does the Commission therefore intend to provide the rescEU mechanism with more hospital ships like the Italian vessel 'Vulcano'?

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