Question for written answer E-001701/2021

to the Council

Rule 138

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Subject: Operation IRINI and migrants attempting to cross the Mediterranean sea from Libya

On 15 January 2021, Operation EUNAVFOR MED IRINI and Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, signed a working arrangement whereby the two entities will, inter alia, exchange information about criminal activities. This exchange will take place in particular through direct contacts, the use of dedicated systems such as the Joint Operations Reporting Application, provision of the EUROSUR Fusion Services and via participation in coordination mechanisms, such as the Crime Information Cell.

1. Are there cases in which information collected either by IRINI or Frontex about boats transporting migrants and personal information about migrants on board these boats is directly or indirectly given to the Libyan coastguards or other third-party actors, and, if so, to whom (including EU Member States)?

2. Since 21 July 2020, how many distress calls have IRINI vessels received and how many have they responded to?

3. In cases in which IRINI assets spotted potential distress situations in the Libyan Search and Rescue Zone, to which Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres (MRCCs) did IRINI send notice of these situations, and was adequate search and rescue carried out by these MRCCs?