Question for written answer E-002761/2024 to the Commission Rule 144 Piotr Müller (ECR)

Subject: Financial support for the Russian Federation – transport of Russian oil through the Baltic Sea

According to estimates from the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) in Helsinki, from the beginning of the aggression against Ukraine until mid-2024, Russia has transported more than EUR 220 billion worth of oil and petroleum products through the Baltic Sea. The Polish Institute of International Affairs already reported earlier this year on Russia's circumvention of sanctions. In recent months, the media have reported that Russia is using a 'shadow fleet' consisting of old tankers, some of which have been declared unseaworthy, registered in countries that have not imposed sanctions. In light of the above:

- 1. Is the Commission monitoring these activities and taking direct or indirect steps to prevent this oil from being supplied to European customers? If so, what steps?
- 2. Is the list of countries where these tankers are registered known and does the Commission know the exact volume of oil transported in this way?
- 3. Does the Commission have a contingency plan in the event of an oil spill from these ships, given that they are either insured in Russia or have no insurance at all, to guarantee the safety of the inhabitants of the Baltic countries and the Baltic waters?

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