Question for written answer E-003793/2022 to the Commission Rule 138 Costas Mavrides (S&D)

Subject: Actions of 'Aegean Boat Report' NGO and funding of this organisation

According to recent press reports in Greece, there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the 'Aegean Boat Report' NGO, which is based in Norway, is in fact being funded by Turkey to assist with the illegal trafficking of migrants to the European Union. At the same time, Turkey is failing to fulfil its side of the agreement and honour its commitment to prevent migrants embarking on illegal and dangerous voyages in order to preserve human lives. In fact, it is doing nothing to control migratory flows to Europe. This and other relevant information has been transmitted by the Greek authorities to the members of the Commission (including the Commissioner for Home Affairs). The recent discovery of 92 naked and traumatised migrants in Evros was further evidence of Turkish efforts to capitalise on their situation.

Similarly, the 'Aegean Boat Report' NGO is encouraging the activities of traffickers operating along the Turkish coast, while at the same time pointing the finger of blame at Greece in the various social media for its response to the resulting migration crisis.

In view of this:

- 1. Can the Commission say what information it has regarding the actions of this NGO and whether it has received any EU funding?
- 2. Have any investigations been carried out or projected? Should steps be taken to examine the finances of the organisation in question?

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