

**Question for written answer E-000524/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Italian decree-law on urgent provisions for the management of migratory flows

On 3 January 2023, Decree-Law 1/2023 on urgent provisions for the management of migratory flows entered into force in Italy. It requires civilian rescue ships to immediately proceed to a designated port, often a distant port, after each rescue, which delays search-and-rescue operations. This delay is compounded by the fact that ships usually carry out multiple rescues over the course of several days. The non-governmental organisation (NGO) Doctors Without Borders estimates that, if its ships had been obliged to leave after their first rescue operation in 2022, the number of people it saved would have been reduced from 3 050 to just 1 030.

Moreover, the decree-law requires NGOs to implement initiatives aimed at informing rescued people of the possibility of claiming international protection and to share all the data that they collect with the relevant authorities.

1. Does the Commission believe that Decree-Law 1/2023 is in line with European and global maritime and human rights law, in particular the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue?
2. Would it be in favour of NGOs collecting data aboard private vessels and initiating asylum procedures or does it believe, rather, that this should remain the duty of states?

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