

25. September 2025  
European Parliament  
Brussels

Dear,

Prime Minister of Denmark, **Mette Frederiksen**  
Prime Minister of Finland, **Petteri Orpo**  
Prime Minister of Sweden, **Ulf Kristersson**

Executive Vice-President of the European Commission, **Henna Virkkunen**  
European Commissioner, **Jessika Roswall**  
European Commissioner, **Dan Jørgensen**

### **Protection of citizens on board the Freedom Flotilla relief convoy**

Over the past few months, the Freedom Flotilla has endeavoured to deliver emergency aid to Gaza through what the United Nations describe as an illegal blockade, where the Israeli genocide on the Palestinian people has reached catastrophic levels. According to the World Health Organization, Israel's blockade has resulted in a verifiable famine, with half a million people in starvation.

Each time the Freedom Flotilla has set sail, it has been met with illegal attacks by the Israeli regime on EU and international waters. During the night of Wednesday, yet another vessel from the Freedom Flotilla was attacked, this time with percussion grenades and drones. In response, Italy's Minister of Defence ordered the Italian Navy to dispatch a state-of-the-art frigate to offer support to the crew on board. Spain has also decided to take immediate action and France has signalled the willingness to take the appropriate measures.

It is utterly unacceptable that Israeli forces are attacking EU citizens and EU flagged ships in EU or on international waters. We therefore demand that the European Commission immediately make the necessary decisions to deploy Frontex to escort the Freedom Flotilla and protect the people on board.

Among those on the ships are individuals from our countries of Sweden, Finland, and Denmark. As our countries representatives in the Commission, and as the heads of our respective countries governments, you have a responsibility for the security of our citizens.

We demand that you as commissioners take all necessary action within your mandate as members of the college of commissioners to ensure the safe passage of our EU citizens aboard the ships of the Freedom Flotilla. The Frontex Agency coordinates and supports search and rescue (SAR) operations at sea, alongside Member State authorities, using tools such as drones and aircrafts to monitor vulnerable vessels and alert coordination centres. It is well known that Frontex has the task of supporting and coordinating Member States in the surveillance of external borders, acting in accordance with fundamental rights. In particular, Article 3(2) of Regulation (EU) 2019/1896

explicitly foresees “search and rescue operations for persons in distress at sea” as part of Frontex's current mandate.

Spain, Italy, and France have given signal to take the immediate action necessary to protect EU citizens in EU and international waters. You as Prime Ministers of the governments of Sweden, Denmark, and Finland share the same responsibility to protect our citizens. We therefore demand that your governments make the necessary decisions to undertake the same responsibility that the Spanish, French and Italian governments have. The situation for the Freedom Flotilla is gravely concerning and calls for your immediate action.

Yours sincerely,

*Members of the European Parliament*

**Li Andersson**, Finland

**Per Clausen**, Denmark

**Hanna Gedin**, Sweden

**Merja Kyllönen**, Finland

**Jussi Saramo**, Finland

**Jonas Sjöstedt**, Sweden