

**Question for written answer E-005940/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**José Blanco López (S&D)**

Subject: Reopening negotiations on the fisheries protocol with Guinea-Bissau

As the Commission is aware, European Union fishing activity in the waters of Guinea-Bissau (West Africa) was suspended following a military coup d'état in that country on 12 April 2012.

More than two years have passed since then and, in a sign that stability has returned to Guinea-Bissau, a new democratically elected government took office there on 3 and 4 July 2014. Moreover, it is reported that third-country fleets have already resumed normal activity in Guinea-Bissau's fishing grounds.

We note, too, that DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries conducted an exploratory mission to the country from 7-11 July.

Can the Commission therefore outline the state of play with regard to the fisheries protocol with Guinea-Bissau and indicate what steps will have to be taken to enable the fleets concerned to resume fishing there? Could the Galician cephalopod fleet be included, as of now, under the terms of the protocol currently applicable? When is the EU fleet expected to resume its activity in that fishing zone?