

**Question for written answer E-006474/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Quota deductions due to overfishing

On 11 August 2014, the Commission published the quota deductions applicable to those Member States which had declared having exceeded their 2013 fishing quotas. These deductions are down by 22% compared with last year, which has given the Commission cause to note that 'we did a better job in 2013 than in previous years'.

In the case of Spain, the fishing sector's commitment to staying within its quotas and to efficient and sustainable fisheries management has led to a reduction in overfishing, as shown by the fact that the country's quota deductions for 2014 have been reduced by more than the EU average.

In light of this and the limited fishing opportunities and current difficulties faced by the fishing sector, could the Commission consider smaller quota deductions or measures to alleviate these, given the situation faced by the sector and the impact which a reduction in fishing opportunities may have on employment and the viability of fishing activity in regions particularly dependent on fishing, such as Galicia?