

**Question for written answer E-006735/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Admission of the Philippines to GSP+

A number of international organisations and independent bodies have drawn attention to the Philippines serious lack of respect for human and labour rights. The Commission has also warned that the Philippines could be listed as a country which does not cooperate in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. Both these considerations raise questions about the possible granting of GSP+ status to the Philippines, which is one of Europe's main competitors in the tuna canning and processing sector.

1. Is the Philippines fully committed to respecting and implementing the international agreements on human and labour rights, the environment and good governance which are a prerequisite for consideration as a GSP+ state?
2. When is a decision likely to be taken on the possible consideration of the Philippines as a non-cooperating country in the fight against IUU fishing?
3. Has due consideration been given to the possible impact on the competitiveness and future viability of the EU's tuna canning and processing industry if the Philippines is awarded GSP+ status?