

**Question for written answer E-009812/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Josep-Maria Terricabras (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Unemployment benefit for fishermen in Catalonia

The mandatory temporary cessation of fishing activities during closed seasons means that specific support needs to be provided to cover unemployment benefit for fishery workers. This is recognised in Article 33 of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014, which provides that support will be granted to fishermen who have worked at sea for at least 120 days during the last two calendar years preceding the submission of the application for support on board a Union fishing vessel concerned by the temporary cessation.

Fishery workers in Catalonia have not received this universal support, unlike fishermen in the remaining Spanish autonomous communities. Support is being granted to the shipowners affected, however.

1. Does the Commission believe that fishery workers need this support?
2. Will the Commission urge the Spanish Government and the Catalan Government to implement this support?