

**Question for written answer E-010631/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Oil and gas field exploitation in the Adriatic

Oil and gas fields are being increasingly exploited in the territory of the Adriatic Sea. It is a well-known fact that the Italian economy has been using oil and gas reserves for its needs intensively for decades. It is also well known that Italian and Croatian partners cooperate in the common use of those energy sources. According to its recent decision, the Croatian Government intends to launch intensive exploitations in the territory under the sovereignty of the Republic of Croatia. This will lead to an increase in the quantity of oil and gas wells. It is well known that the Adriatic Sea is very small and environmentally very sensitive; therefore, the risk related to a great increase in gas and oil exploitation is very high. Moreover, fishery and tourism play a practical key role in the lives of the inhabitants of the Adriatic coast.

My question to the Commission is whether it has prepared an integrated cross-border interstate plan for the protection of the Adriatic from possible environmental disasters caused by intensive explorations and exploitations of oil and gas fields in the Adriatic?