

Question for written answer E-000113/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Presence and uniformity of environmental rules in EU fisheries agreements

Analysing the latest co-operation agreements between the European Union and third countries as regards fisheries, there seems to be a certain asymmetry in the emphasis given to different topics. Matters relating to financial compensation and targeting of the funds allocated to improve the fisheries sector are invariably covered. However, although weaknesses are reported in the majority of environmental impact assessments promoted by the Commission, topics such as

1. the requirement to have observers on board at shipowners' expense;
2. explicit reference to target fish species;
3. mention of protected marine species, including the provision of tools to safeguard these; and
4. provision of support to nature conservation programmes

are not present in a coherent, systematic manner in all the protocols.

Consequently, it must be asked why the above-mentioned points 1 - 4 are not clearly and consistently reflected in all the co-operation agreements?