

**Question for written answer E-002104/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**José Blanco López (S&D)**

Subject: Offshore wind farms in Natura network

It has recently been reported that the *Audiencia Nacional* [National High Court] has excluded the inland waters of Galicia but not its estuaries from an environmental survey of the Spanish coastline for the installation of offshore wind farms. In addition, the barometric strips between the coastline and a depth of 50 metres and between 50 and 100 metres, the traditional fishing grounds, the marine reserves for fisheries and the marine zones forming part of the Natura 2000 network have not been excluded either.

Given the special ecological interest of the marine zones included in the Natura 2000 network or protected under other EU environmental regulations, as well as the extremely high value in economic terms of, for example, the marine reserves for fisheries, does the Commission consider that the possible installation of offshore wind farms in environmentally protected areas such as those mentioned above is compatible with EU legislation?

Has it approached the Spanish Government with a view to assessing the impact of the coastline survey that will determine the zones where these wind farms may be constructed, or does it plan to do so?