Question for written answer E-006251/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)

Subject: Oil spill in the Canary Isles and mismanagement of the accident

Last Wednesday the Russian fishing boat Oleg Naydenov, which had previously suffered a fire on board while in the port of Las Palmas, sank 24 km from Maspalomas, Gran Canaria. This has caused an oil spillage that is already affecting marine fauna such as the loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), which is a protected species at risk of extinction.

Various experts have criticised how this accident was handled. It has seriously endangered a Site of Community Importance, namely the Dunes of Maspalomas, since alternative action, avoiding mismanagement of the spill, was not taken.

The ship had also been denounced on several occasions for illegal fishing.

I should therefore like to ask the Commission:

- 1. Does the Commission intend to open an investigation into how this accident, which has put a Site of Community Importance at risk, was managed?
- 2. Why was the fishing boat Oleg Naydenov not on the EU's list of vessels that have engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, despite having been denounced to the Commission on several occasions for illegal fishing?
- 3. In the case of the aforementioned vessel, and with respect to implementation of the instruments under the Community Alert System, what coordination has there been between the Commission and the Spanish authorities in terms of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008?

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