

**Question for written answer E-008915/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (ALDE), António Marinho e Pinto (ALDE), Nils Torvalds (ALDE), Enrique Calvet Chambon (ALDE), Marian Harkin (ALDE), Filiz Hyusmenova (ALDE) and Nathalie Griesbeck (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - IUU fishing and labour slavery in Thailand

On 21 April 2015 the Commission issued a yellow card to Thailand in line with the regulation on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU Regulation). This decision initiates a formal procedure of dialogue with the third-country authorities with a view to them taking the necessary corrective measures within the next six months. At the most recent meeting of the Committee on Fisheries (in camera), the Commission detailed the major shortcomings of Thailand's fisheries management regime.

Thailand has been reported since 2013 for practices of modern slavery including forced labour, child labour and human trafficking (ILO report of 2013, Environmental Justice Foundation report of 2015). Most of this modern slavery has systematically been found in the Thai fishing chain industry.

Thailand is one of the main exporters of fish on the international market, especially to the EU and the US.

1. In the context of the regular dialogue with the Thai Government, what measures is the High Representative taking to improve efforts to eradicate modern slavery from seafood supply chains?
2. Is the High Representative making this issue a priority in diplomatic relations with Thailand?