

**Question for written answer E-013277/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Gabriel Mato (PPE)

Subject: Support for *cofradías* (associations) of fishermen

Cofradías are long-established associations of fishermen in Spain that have been of great benefit to their members over the years.

The more than 225 *cofradías*, organised in their national federation, continue to have considerable bearing on the sector, but have been hard hit in recent years by the economic crisis. Some have been forced to close down after decades of activity.

They are, however, representative of a system based on partnerships that should be maintained, both because of their significant presence on the Spanish coastline and their contribution towards one of the main objectives of the common fisheries policy, i.e. ensuring more sustainable fisheries.

What is the EU doing to support *cofradías* of fishermen?