

**Question for written answer E-000190/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Obligation to pay contributions to the French ENIM applied to seafarers from other Member States

The French authorities require that from 15 January 2016 seafarers on vessels belonging to shipowners from another Member State but flying the French flag pay contributions to the *Établissement National des Invalides de la Marine* (ENIM).

Under EU rules, however, a worker who works on a vessel flying the flag of one Member State but receives benefits from another country which is also his place of residence should effectively pay contributions in the latter - Article 1, indent 1, of Regulation (EC) No. 883/2004.

This is a measure that affects more than 500 seafarers from my region, Galicia, who work on vessels that, while belonging to Spanish shipowners, fly the French flag.

Is the Commission aware of this situation and does it intend to take action? If so, what action?

Has the Commission been alerted to this situation by the Spanish and/or Galician authorities?

Can the Commission confirm that this is a violation of a European Regulation and that French legislation does not therefore apply in this instance?