

Question for written answer E-004219/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Siôn Simon (S&D)

Subject: Safety on passenger ferries

Over the last ten years, the global average number of passenger and crew reported as having gone overboard is around 21 individuals. While this may be a minuscule proportion of the number of people who embark on passenger ferries (whether for work or leisure), it is nonetheless the cause of great distress for the families and loved ones of those who are unaccounted for after a ship docks. This is the case for one of my constituents, whose brother went missing while on a passenger ferry in 2013.

Is the Commission aware of any EU-wide measures either in force or in the pipeline aimed at increasing surveillance on board passenger ferries? Furthermore, can the Commission provide data on the number of passengers travelling on such vessels who have been reported overboard within the EU's waters since 2000?