

**Question for written answer E-004407/2016/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Effective and sustainable management of deep-water trawling

Deep-water fishing damages extremely fragile ecosystems, and is characterised by very low sustainability, over-exploitation, large quantities of discarded fish, habitat destruction, insufficient monitoring, and a lack of scientific data needed for sustainable management. On a number of occasions, the UN General Assembly has urged the Member States and the regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) to take urgent measures to manage deep-water fishing sustainably and to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems. The EU is a fishing power which should take the lead in the transition to sustainable fishing.

In the ongoing inter-institutional negotiations on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (2012/0179 (COD)),

Will the Commission ensure that the EU's legal framework complies with all obligations deriving from UN resolutions and the 1995 UN Convention on straddling fish stocks?

Will it support restrictions on the use of harmful and unselective practices such as trawling?

Will the Commission take the lead on effective and sustainable deep-sea fisheries by ensuring that effective control measures are adopted and that the new legal framework is implemented effectively for all EU vessels with deep-sea fishing permits, in view of the new UN Resolution on sustainable fisheries?