

**Question for written answer E-007311/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Alain Cadec (PPE)

Subject: Contradictions between the maximum sustainable yield and the landing obligation in common fisheries policy

The landing requirement introduced in Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 has led to a limiting species 'choke effect' in mixed fisheries.

In the explanatory statement to its proposal for a multiannual fishing plan for the North Sea, the Commission explains that 'vessels might have to stop fishing early in the year once their quota for the most limiting stock is exhausted'. It goes on to state that the basic regulation 'could lead to under-utilisation of quota' and 'might have negative economic and social consequences for the fishing industry in the coming years'.

The Commission also states that a single multiannual plan for mixed fisheries in the North Sea would be far more effective than management based solely on Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013. That option would, according to the Commission, have a more positive environmental impact and more favourable social and economic impacts.

This would lead one to believe that Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 does not provide an effective solution to the problems surrounding the management of mixed fisheries. On the contrary, it would appear to be the root of additional problems.

Does the Commission not feel the two pillars of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 – management of stocks above maximum sustainable yield levels on the one hand, and the landing obligation on the other – to be incompatible?