

**Question for written answer E-006525/2017**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Rachida Dati (PPE)**

Subject: Links between organised crime and illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing

In an article published by the French newspaper *Le Monde* on 5 October 2017, the former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo spoke out against the links between organised crime and illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing. He backed up his accusations by referring to the findings of a study on IUU fishing off the coast of West Africa carried out by Interpol in 2014, which reported that illegal fishing is often closely bound up with criminal activities, including corruption, customs fraud, drug and human trafficking.

The authorities responsible for supervising legal fishing rarely have the resources to deal with criminal activities linked to IUU fishing. Parliament first voiced concerns about this problem as long ago as in 2011.

1. Does the Commission intend to carry out an in-depth study on the links between organised crime and illegal fishing?
2. What action does it intend to take, in cooperation with other countries and bodies, to combat crime linked to IUU fishing effectively?