

**Question for written answer E-002933/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Eric Andrieu (S&D)

Subject: Electric fishing in Europe

Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 provides that no more than 5 % of the beam trawler fleet per Member State may use the electric pulse trawl during the transitional period from 14 August 2019 to 30 June 2021. However, the Netherlands has reportedly retained forty-two derogations instead of the fifteen to which it is legally entitled by this Regulation.

Is the Commission aware of this situation and what practical steps will it take to oblige the Netherlands to apply the European Regulation on electric fishing, a practice responsible for laying waste to Europe's seabed ?

In view of the repeated infringements committed by the Member State in question, it is high time for the Commission, as guardian of the Treaties, to enforce EU rules in this area.