

Question for written answer P-004547/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Illegal fishing by Turkish vessels in Greek territorial waters and infringement by them of EU provisions regarding the Common Fisheries Policy

At the European Parliament plenary sittings of 11/12/2017, 15/1/2018 and 30/5/2018 in Strasbourg, I repeatedly drew attention to acts of piracy involving illegal entry into Greek territorial waters and illegal fishing by Turkish vessels that were escorted by the Turkish coastguard, thereby infringing EU provisions regarding the Common Fisheries Policy and the protection of marine resources.

A few days ago, 36 Greek fishermen registered an informal complaint with the Greek Government regarding what amounts to an undeclared war arising from illegal encroachment on Greek waters by Turkish fishing and armed escort vessels.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say why it has failed to take any action to date, despite the fact that I addressed Parliament on the above three occasions, promptly drawing attention the illegal activity of Turkish fishing and coastguard vessels?
2. What measures will it take in cooperation with the Greek authorities in order to ensure that Greek fishermen are able to engage in the legal exercise of fishing activities under the EU Common Fisheries Policy (applicable to the territorial waters of Member States, which naturally include Greek territorial waters) and halt the illegal activities of Turkish fishing vessels operating under the protection of the Turkish coastguard?