

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4032/00  
by Manuel Pérez Álvarez (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Workers' rights on flag of convenience vessels

The necessary prerequisite of a proper job is that the work place meet proper health and safety standards, independently of whether it is fixed or mobile, and that the employment be stable, within the range of hiring possibilities provided for under whatever legal system applies.

Stability of employment is not achievable when there is uncertainty, as is the case with flags of convenience, under which legal security is scanty or non-existent, and there is a very real possibility of workers' social rights being flouted or ignored.

Does the Commissioner intend to tackle the question of specific rules and regulations for the working conditions of EU workers serving on board flag of convenience vessels calling at Community ports?