

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3104/06
by Piia-Noora Kauppi (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Environmental impact of the Marine Strategy Directive proposal from Baltic Sea perspective

It has been largely agreed that the marine environment is under a number of serious threats from human activity. Therefore the Commission issued in 2005 a Marine Strategy Directive proposal (COM(2005)0505), which aims to restore good environmental status of the seas by 2021. The proposal attempts to increase sustainable use of the seas and so protect their ecosystems.

How has the fact that ecosystems in the European seas, such as those of the Mediterranean and the Baltic Sea, are very different been taken into account in the Marine Strategy Directive proposal? When setting the objectives, has it been taken into account that the Baltic Sea is especially vulnerable to, for example, total destruction by oil catastrophes? How would it be ensured that third countries play their part in supporting the Strategy?