

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3269/08
by Rosa Miguélez Ramos (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Community measures in support of the fisheries sector

Since autumn 2007, the constant rise in diesel prices has been responsible for a serious crisis in specific sectors of the European fishing fleet. The impact of the economic problems has been particularly severe for trawler-type boats and boats catching deep-sea species, both of which consume more fuel.

Given the need for additional economic measures, in view of the impossibility of using already scheduled national and Community funds to tackle this fresh crisis, and the need to avoid any kind of discrimination between the fishermen of the various Member States, it is imperative that the Commission take action which will have a uniform effect throughout the Community fishing industry.

Has the Commission considered the need to support the establishment of a specific fund under the R&D policy for collective projects (ship-owners and researchers), designed to improve the industry's energy efficiency and to identify alternative energy sources?