

**Question for written answer E-010666/2012
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Rolandas Paksas (EFD)

Subject: European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

Fishing is important for many regions of the European Union. The new EU Maritime and Fisheries Fund policy, which is proposed to be established in the period 2014-2020, will create the right conditions to achieve the ambitious goals of the reform of the common fisheries policy.

1. Given this significance of this future fund, I ask the Commission to specify the assistance distribution principles and methodology that are envisaged with a view to ensuring criteria that are as objective as possible and transparency in the provision of assistance.
2. Is it possible for a joint programme of activities for all EU regions to be applied to all countries (i.e. not to separate convergence and non-convergence regions and, on this basis, harmonise assistance for all), and would this have negative consequences for countries like Lithuania, which are still lagging behind old EU Member States and therefore need greater aid?
3. Are the possibilities of increasing aid intensity for aquaculture and the processing of own production by 25 % being considered for regions like Lithuania? It should be noted that aid intensity for remote regions is being increased by as much as 35 %.
4. What measures, to achieve economically viable, competitive and green aquaculture, are planned to promote the structuring of social dialogue in the fisheries and aquaculture sector?
5. What support is to be allocated to producer organisations and associations of producer organisations working in partnership with scientists and fishermen?
6. What measures will be aimed at ensuring that European consumers are better provided with fish raised in European fish farms?