

**Question for written answer E-011375/2012
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Granting of support for the fisheries sector 2014-2020

Analysis of the distribution of the European Fisheries Fund 2007-2013 among European Union Member States shows that Lithuania's fisheries sector was only allocated 1.3% of the budgetary resources of the European Fisheries Fund. Undertakings in Lithuania's fisheries sector are unable to compete on equal terms with modernised undertakings in the other EU Member States.

1. Why was Lithuania's fisheries sector allocated such a small proportion of the European Fisheries Fund when the volume of production has kept up with neighbouring countries?
2. According to what criteria will resources from the **European Maritime and Fisheries Fund** 2014-2020 be allocated? Are there plans to assess the state of the fisheries sector in EU Member States according to the level of employment and production?
3. When establishing the level of employment, will both full and partial numbers of employed workers be accounted for, taking into account the different conversion methods applied in different countries?
4. Is the criterion for vessels used for small-scale coastal fishing to be waived because this criterion correlates to the employment level criterion and duplicates it?
5. The development of aquaculture is one of the Fund's most important strategic priorities. Why are people working in the area of fresh-water aquaculture not included in the number of workers in the fisheries sector?
6. In countries like Lithuania, it takes a minimum of three to four years to produce the main commercial fish due to the climate and temperature regime in individual water bodies. Are there plans to extend the grant period for at least four years, in order to develop ecological aquaculture?
7. When establishing the **European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020, will there also be an opportunity to reimburse the missing funds for the period 2007-2013 in order to pay for the enormous damage done to aquaculture farms by protected waterfowl?**