

**Question for written answer E-005526/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Ricardo Cortés Lastra (S&D)

Subject: Mackerel in Cantabria

The situation of families in Cantabria who make a living from fishing for mackerel is becoming increasingly unsustainable. Spain's quota for this species is very low, some 18 000 tonnes, a negligible quota that was practically fished completely in six days this year. This quota has been reduced by 11 000 tonnes in the last year and the sector will continue to be penalised with unacceptable quota reductions for 11 years.

Does the Commission think that new studies on mackerel populations in the Bay of Biscay should be carried out in order to renegotiate the fishing quota?