

**Question for written answer E-001724/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Emissions from shipping and the sulphur content of ships' fuels

The daily newspaper Trouw ('Uitstoot Zeescheepvaart deugt niet', 18 February 2015, p. 3) quotes the Dutch Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate as saying that more than 10% of seagoing ships infringe the European standards applicable to sulphur in fuels (Directive 1999/32/EC) (in Dutch waters). In the case of eight out of 20 ships which failed to comply with the standards, the situation was so serious that the ship had to be detained in port.

- Does the Commission have any statistics, in the context of Directive 1999/32/EC, on the practices with regard to inspections and enforcement of sulphur standards in the various EU Member States and the organisation and frequency of inspections by Member States in ports and territorial waters?
- Does the Commission have an overview of the numbers of infringements and serious infringements per Member State?
- What fines have Member States introduced for infringements, and do these fines comply with the requirements of the Directive (namely that they should be effective, proportionate and dissuasive and should deprive the offending party of the economic benefits derived from the infringement)?