

**Question for written answer E-000732/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Margrete Auken (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Lost fishing gear

In 2009, the European Parliament and the Council adopted Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009, Article 48 of which lays down the rules governing the retrieval of lost fishing gear.

The rules stipulate that if the lost gear cannot be retrieved, the master of the vessel must, within 24 hours, inform the competent authority of its flag Member State, which must then inform the competent authority of the coastal Member State.

According to reports in the Danish media, between 2015 and 2017, the Danish authorities did not register any notifications concerning lost fishing gear. This is in stark contrast with Norway, for example, where a total of 2 435 lost fishing nets were reported in 2015, 2016 and 2017. According to the Norwegian fisheries authorities, 70-80% of all lost fishing nets have been collected each year since 2010. Other types of fisheries waste also need to be taken into account. Despite the fact that Norway's fishing industry is much larger than Denmark's, it does seem remarkable that Denmark has not registered a single notification.

Is the Commission aware of the extent to which the various Member States are adhering to Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009?