

Question for written answer E-002472/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
Renata Briano (S&D)

Subject: Fisheries agreement and right to employment on EU vessels - second question

Further to question P-000353/2018 and the Commission's reply, and in the light of the judgment handed down by the Court of Justice on 27 February 2018, specifically paragraphs 39, 62, 63 and 64¹ thereof, and of paragraph 92² of the Court judgment of 21 December 2016, the territorial scope of any agreement concluded with Morocco cannot be widened to encompass the territory and waters of Western Sahara, the reason being the separate and distinct status accorded to Western Sahara by virtue of the principle of self-determination.

Given the above rulings, has the Commission therefore ceased to implement the fisheries agreement in Western Sahara and the adjacent waters, including the sectoral support for fish industries based in Western Sahara?

Within what legal framework can Western Sahara benefit under the fisheries agreement when that agreement cannot be applied on its territory?

Regarding the forthcoming negotiations, how will the Commission ensure that the Sahrawi people can enjoy the rights set out in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and in particular access to employment, if it has no background information on the fishermen put forward by Morocco and employed by EU shipowners?

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN-ES/TXT/?uri=CELEX:62016CJ0266&from=NL>

² <http://curia.europa.eu/juris/liste.jsf?language=en&jur=C,T,F&num=C-104/16&td=ALL>