

**Question for written answer E-003912/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Christel Schaldemose (S&D) and Bendt Bendtsen (PPE)**

Subject: Shipowners facing unfair competition

European shipowners are attempting to adapt to mounting global pressure caused by low freight rates, among other things, but are facing stiff competition from shipping lines in China and other Asian countries because of various unfair practices such as, for instance, government subsidies for shipbuilding.

In the Commission's estimation, how big a problem is unfair competition involving government subsidies, for example, and what action does the Commission intend to take in this connection?

Is the Commission considering starting discussions on the issue with China and/or other countries?