

**Question for written answer E-006276/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Francisco José Millán Mon (PPE)**

**Subject:** Norway lobster recovery plan in the Cantabrian Sea

Galicia is the EU's main fishing region. On 16 October 2020, the Galician Parliament's fisheries and shellfish committee adopted a proposal<sup>1</sup> urging the Spanish Government to provide the Commission with a recovery plan for the Norway lobster in the Bay of Biscay and Iberian waters (ICES subarea 8).

The Norway lobster recovery plan would take the following matters into consideration:

Establishing annual total allowable catches which make it possible for fishing grounds to be opened and operational in sustainable conditions.

Adopting fishery management measures, such as setting a maximum limit for fishing capacity and effort as well as time-area closures.

Establishing a procedure to improve the collection of scientific data on the status of Norway lobster stocks.

1. Has the Commission received any proposals from the Spanish Government on the Norway lobster recovery plan?
2. Is the Commission intending to adopt any of the measures proposed by the Parliament of Galicia?
3. What is the Commission's justification for its proposal<sup>2</sup> to keep the Norway lobster fishery in ICES division 8c closed and cut total allowable catches in the Atlantic and the North Sea by 11% for 2021?

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.es.parlamentodegalicia.es/Actualidade/3142/acordos-da-comision-8.-pesca-e-marisqueo-celebrada-o-16-de-outubro-de-2020/> (<http://www.es.parlamentodegalicia.es/Actualidade/3142/acordos-da-comision-8.-pesca-e-marisqueo-celebrada-o-16-de-outubro-de-2020/>)

<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_20\\_1979](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1979)  
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