

Question for written answer E-006986/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
Sara Cerdas (S&D)

Subject: Support for the renovation of the black scabbardfish fleet in the ARM

The fleet of the Autonomous Region of Madeira (ARM) consists of coastal vessels that use selective gear. According to the latest data, the average age of the ARM fleet is 46 years. At present, there are problems with the lack of European funding enabling the effective renovation of these vessels and more specifically vessels for black scabbardfish fishing. The black scabbardfish fishing fleet is characterised by small traditional vessels of approximately 13 metres. The owners of these boats do not have sufficient financial means to undertake effective modernisation of this segment of the fleet with new and appropriate vessels.

The renovation of this type of vessel would enable improved safety and performance conditions. It would also enable the modernisation of the vessels, contributing to greater environmental sustainability.

1. Is the European Commission considering the reintroduction of support for the renovation of the black scabbardfish fleet within the scope of the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework?
2. How does the Commission intend to support the renovation of these vessels, so as to safeguard the jobs of the fishermen and vessel owners and, at the same time, ensure their safety and the greater sustainability and performance of the vessels?