

**Question for written answer E-002572/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Francisco José Millán Mon (PPE), Gabriel Mato (PPE)

Subject: Legal recognition of EU fishers' associations

On 28 April, the European Parliament's Committee on Fisheries adopted its opinion on a Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system (2020/2260 (INI)).

In paragraph 62 the Committee stresses that associations such as the guilds in Spain (the 'cofradías'), should be recognised under EU law and be eligible for financial support on an equal footing with producer organisations. It calls on the Commission to take action in this regard.

In Spain, fishers' guilds are sectoral, non-profit-making bodies governed by public law, representing the economic interests of shipowners and workers in the extractive sector. They act as consultative bodies, working with the authorities responsible for maritime fisheries and fisheries management. Historically they have always called for EU legal recognition and direct access to funds such as the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF).

When will the Commission present a legislative proposal to ensure that fishers' associations such as the cofradías in Spain can obtain recognition under EU law and receive financial support on an equal footing with producer organisations?