

**Question for written answer E-002698/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Pierre Karleskind (Renew)

Subject: Implementation and implications of the Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean

The EU, together with a number of countries around the world, has signed an agreement to prevent unregulated high seas fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean (Council Decision (EU) 2019/407 of 4 March 2019) for a period of 16 years. The agreement also plans to establish a joint programme of scientific research to better understand the ecosystems in the Central Arctic Ocean and to determine whether there are any fish stocks that could be harvested sustainably.

1. How can the Commission ensure that the agreement to prevent unregulated high seas fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean is properly implemented?
2. How is the Commission contributing to the joint programme of scientific research and monitoring?
3. What progress has been made with regard to the creation of a regional fisheries management organisation in the Arctic and the establishment of marine protected areas?