

**Question for written answer E-002736/2021**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**David McAllister** (PPE)

Subject: Future of the maritime economy

The maritime economy is a key sector for the European Union. 90% of international trade involves the sea. This makes a competitive maritime economy one of the cornerstones of economic success for the Union. However, international competition is becoming increasingly asymmetrical. The maritime economy is facing a comprehensive transformation – and not only because of the impact of the pandemic.

Remaining competitive and maintaining market position requires the creation of framework conditions for fair competition. The European Union must adopt a clear position. Only if we act together and take specific measures to counter distortions of competition at international level will it be possible to protect the economy and bring it into line with future economic and environmental challenges. This means thinking not only about the shipyards; the ship owners, brokers and suppliers must also be taken into account.

1. Will the Commission advocate for the introduction of a raft of innovations to ensure that the Union becomes a pioneer in the decarbonisation of shipping, thereby benefiting the strategic framework of the European Green Deal?
2. Will the Commission introduce EU-wide, uniform arrangements for the collection of tonnage tax in order to reduce distortions of competition?
3. Will the Commission appoint a coordinator for maritime affairs to execute the maritime economy's future tasks?