

Question for written answer E-002887/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
Pascal Arimont (PPE)

Subject: Halting imports from Chinese fishing companies on suspicion of forced labour

The US customs and border authority has imposed an import ban on the Dalian Ocean Fishing Co., Ltd on the basis of information pointing to the use of forced labour in its fishing operations. The authority states that in the course of its investigations it found that all eleven indicators of forced labour identified by the International Labour Organization's Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, including physical violence, withholding of wages and abusive working and living conditions, were being met. The ban is intended to help protect vulnerable workers and at the same time to improve the conditions of competition for companies processing fish and seafood in the US.

1. Does the above-named company also supply products to the European Union, and is the Commission examining the accusations with a view to taking similar action?
2. Will the Commission adopt an ambitious supply chain law, in line with the demands of the European Parliament, to ensure that import bans can be imposed systematically throughout the EU on products manufactured or obtained in circumstances which involve human rights abuses?