

**Question for written answer E-004614/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Francisco José Millán Mon (PPE)

Subject: VAT rates on seafood products in the Member States

In the context of the Farm to Fork Strategy, both the Commission and Parliament advocate boosting consumption of EU fishery and aquaculture products, as they are both an important source of protein with a low carbon footprint and a key component of a healthy diet.

In its recent opinion (tabled as part of 2020/2260(INI)), Parliament's Committee on Fisheries welcomes that the Commission's proposal for a directive on VAT rates provides for the use of indirect taxation to encourage consumption of sustainable and healthy food products, and calls on Member States to make use of reduced VAT rates.

Currently, VAT rates on seafood products in the Member States vary from 0% in Ireland and Malta, 5% in Cyprus and Hungary to 22% in Slovenia.

1. What is the Commission's view on this variation in national legislation on the indirect taxation of seafood products?
2. Given the benefits of seafood consumption both for the planet and for our health, would it not be in everyone's best interests for VAT rates on seafood products to be as low as possible in every Member State?