

**Question for written answer E-004909/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Rosanna Conte (ID), Annalisa Tardino (ID), Massimo Casanova (ID), Valentino Grant (ID)**

**Subject:** Recasting of the ETD Directive and the global rise in fuel costs: impact on fisheries

The proposed recasting of the directive on the taxation of energy products and electricity (ETD) as part of the Green Deal and the 'Fit for 55' package aims to promote the use of clean technologies and do away with obsolete exemptions and reduced rates which encourage the use of fossil fuels.

To date, many European sectors, including the fisheries sector, have benefited from tax exemptions on fuel prices. At the same time, we are seeing a global increase in energy costs as a result of various factors, including the pandemic.

Both these factors will have very heavy repercussions on fisheries, in particular small-scale fisheries, which account for more than 80% of the EU total. This proposal risks driving many small operators out of the fishing business, prompting considerable economic losses.

The extraordinary meeting of the EU Energy Council, convened on 26 October 2021 to discuss solutions to the rising energy prices, failed to deliver a consensus.

In view of this:

1. Will the Commission carry out a study examining the impact of these developments (ETD and rising prices) on the fisheries sector?
2. Does it share concerns about the serious impact that the recasting of the ETD Directive will have on small-scale fisheries and, if so, will it make the sector exempt or, at least, postpone the directive's application?