

**Question for written answer E-000906/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Vangelis Meimarakis (PPE)

Subject: Penalising illegal catches by Turkish fishing vessels

Turkish fishing vessels have, especially in recent times, been systematically encroaching on Greek territorial waters, challenging the national sovereignty of an EU Member State and using illegal fishing methods.

They are fishing not only in Greek territorial waters but also in shallow seas, in breach of national and European legislation.

They are, in addition, committing a deliberate act of provocation, deactivating their automatic identification systems (AIS) when fishing in Greek waters.

As well as being an encroachment on the national sovereignty of a Member State, this is in breach of the regulatory framework provisions of the EU directives on illegal fishing.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say what measures it will take to address this infringement of the sovereign rights of an EU Member State?
2. Is it planning to impose sanctions on Turkish fishery products in accordance with the European directive on illegal fishing, prohibiting the import thereof into the EU Member States?