

**Question for written answer E-001101/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Izaskun Bilbao Barandica** (Renew)

Subject: Traceability and import and export of Chinese seafood products

A study conducted by a team from the University of Florida, led by Tone Frank Asche and published in the journal *Science*, has raised suspicion that the majority of China's fish imports are not being used to supply its domestic market. Quite the opposite. According to this scientific study, 74.9% of all shellfish is processed and re-exported. The same applies to most of the cod and pollack imported from Alaska and much of the cuttlefish and squid purchased in other parts of the world. Improved storage technologies have enabled a business to prosper that is more competitive than traditional shellfish processing, which is reliant on local enterprises, with the result that small coastal communities around the world are being affected. The study concludes that this practice makes traceability, and consequently the tackling of IUU fishing, more difficult.

1. Is the Commission aware of the aforementioned study?
2. What steps can it take at Community level to combat these practices?