

**Question for written answer E-001932/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: China's high seas fleet and resources for combating illegal fishing around the world

There are a great many fishing vessels flying the Chinese flag in international waters, and China is a major exporter of fisheries products. The international community is becoming increasingly suspicious as to the legality of some of these vessels' operations. The EU moreover takes a 'zero tolerance' policy to illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, with a view to eliminating illegally caught seafood from the EU's supply chains. The European Parliament's Committee on Fisheries has put its full weight behind this target. Cooperation with third countries and shoring up fisheries control operations are key elements in achieving this goal. However, precious few human resources are allocated to implementing the EU's zero-tolerance policy to IUU fishing worldwide, and are even threatened by significant budget cutbacks, according to the High Seas/Distant Fleet Advisory Council.

How will the Commission ensure sufficient and increased resources are allocated to the EU's policy of combating IUU fishing in the forthcoming round of EU budget talks?