

**Question for written answer E-003432/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Discrimination in the supply of bluefin tuna to European farming facilities

Thanks to the decisions taken by ICCAT, bluefin tuna has evolved from being seriously overexploited to being a model of sustainability. This achievement is in part due to the efforts of the European fisheries sector, which has adapted to the management measures spearheaded by the Commission.

In addition to specific measures targeting extractive activity (TACs, closed seasons, minimum sizes, etc.), as an additional measure, ICCAT also restricts the development of the non-extractive processing industry, which engages in fattening. Thus, paragraph 23 of its Recommendation 21-08 states that 'each CPC shall limit its tuna farming capacity to the total farming capacity of the farms that were registered in the ICCAT list or authorized and declared to ICCAT in 2018'. However, in mimicking this provision, Regulation (EU) 2022/109 extends this limitation to CPCs at Member State level, without any possibility for European vessels to bring their catches to European farms in another Member State.

In the light of the above:

What measures does the Commission intend to take, in compliance with ICCAT Recommendation 21-08, to prevent the discrimination suffered by European vessels and to allow their catches to be brought into European bluefin tuna farms?