

**Question for written answer E-004056/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Juan Fernando López Aguilar (S&D)**

**Subject:** Impact of the restrictive measures against Russia on food supplies shipped to Africa via strategic ports

Russia's unjustifiable aggression against Ukraine is exacerbating a global food crisis, with security of supply being one of the main challenges. In accordance with Council Regulation (EU) 2022/576 concerning restrictive measures, no vessels registered under the flag of Russia may enter ports in EU territory. The vessels concerned are not only unsafe and in increasingly poor condition, but it is also impossible for them to undergo repairs and take on supplies in EU ports. There are concerns that if this inevitable disruption continues as regards the fish and other food that these vessels supplied, it could have an adverse impact on Africa's food crisis by blocking access to the proteins that pelagic fisheries provide.

In the light of this situation:

1. What steps is the Commission planning to take to ensure that sanctions against Russian-flagged vessels do not exacerbate the food crisis in Africa?
2. What corrective and mitigating measures does the Commission intend to take to address the challenges posed by these restrictive measures at ports, such as Las Palmas, which are strategic when it comes to food supply for Africa?

Submitted: 13.12.2022