

**Question for written answer E-000274/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Ana Miranda (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Plan for a biological recovery period in Galician estuaries to compensate for bivalve mortality rates

The Galician shellfish sector is seriously concerned about the bivalve mortality rates in the Vigo estuary, particularly in the bivalve farming areas of Arcade and Redondela, and in the Arousa estuary.

Those farming areas have been affected by a variety of factors, including excessive freshwater from overflowing reservoirs, ash from fires and possibly also pollution. To give the farmed species time to regenerate, the relevant associations and the local – mostly women – shellfish gatherers are calling for a biological recovery period and for financial support from the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) to compensate for the impact on livelihoods that a recovery period would have.

1. Has the Galician Government been in contact with the Commission regarding the establishment of a regeneration plan for the species in question and to request financial compensation for the Galician shellfish sector?
2. Is the Commission planning to establish a pilot project within the framework of the Green Deal to investigate the high bivalve mortality rate in Galicia's estuaries?

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