

**Question for written answer E-001448/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Ville Niinistö (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Shark trade discrepancies

A 2021 publication by the International Fund for Animal Welfare about the EU's role in the global shark trade revealed alarming discrepancies between reported trade volumes in shark fins and meat. Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan reported that they had sourced far higher import quantities from the EU than EU Member States reported in exports to those hubs and globally.

1. Will the Commission investigate these discrepancies, and how will it improve registration in order to guarantee that trade is reported and monitored accurately?
2. Will the Commission promptly report all seizures related to sharks and/or shark products to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Standing Committee, and will it implement CITES Decision 19.222 as regards actively collaborating on combating illegal trafficking in shark products by developing mechanisms for coordination between source, transit, and destination countries?
3. Would the Commission support a Review of Significant Trade in the CITES Animals Committee for certain shark species listed in CITES Appendix II?

Submitted: 3.5.2023