

**Question for written answer E-002334/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: German shrimpers ready to forego dolly ropes

The German North Sea Shrimp Fisheries Producer Organisations have decided to voluntarily refrain from using dolly ropes. Torn fibres from nets equipped with dolly ropes contribute to plastic pollution in the marine environment and are then widely washed up along the sea shore. When found in shrimpers' catch, more work is required to sort it. The producer organisations want to jointly promote a Europe-wide ban on dolly ropes.

1. To what extent does the Commission support the efforts of North Sea shrimp fisheries to stop the use of dolly ropes?
2. Does the Commission agree that such voluntary and proportionate measures are more conducive to the objectives of marine and environmental protection than a simple ban on bottom-contacting shrimp fisheries?
3. What is the Commission doing to reduce the deleterious impact of marine litter on fisheries?

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