

**Question for written answer E-000543/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Pact for the future of coastal fisheries 2050

The north German coast is known for its fishing industry. Yet the number of smaller fishing vessels falling. With continued high operating costs and ever new bureaucratic requirements, shrimpers and coastal fishers will still have to fight for subsidies and consequently for their economic survival in 2024. They have hence recently called for the development of a 'Pact for the future of coastal fisheries 2050' and proposed a variety of measures to ensure that coastal fishing can be practised in harmony with the environment. Some of these proposals require the support of the EU.

1. Is the Commission planning concrete measures to reduce the bureaucratic burden on fishers and to keep offshore wind farms and areas protected under the Habitats Directive (including the Wadden Sea) open to fishing?
2. What specific measures and financial support are available at EU level to help fishers switch to sustainable fishing?
3. How much funding is available from the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund to support small and medium-sized fishing enterprises particularly in converting their fleets (e.g. new engines or cold stores) and developing regional value chains (e.g. setting up regional shrimp processing centres)?

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