

**Question for written answer P-009625/2013  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Dolores García-Hierro Caraballo (S&D)**

Subject: Fishing dispute with GibraltarAs the Commission is aware, at the end of July 2013 the Gibraltarian authorities illegally dumped around 70 large hook-studded concrete blocks in the Bay of Algeciras, with a view to creating an artificial reef.

This action has made it impossible for fishing boats to operate in the waters of the Bay of Algeciras, causing economic losses for the fishermen involved and a knock on effect on employment and the already faltering local economy.

Does the unilateral decision by the Government of the colony of Gibraltar to indiscriminately throw concrete blocks into the marine environment, possibly affecting seabed conservation and the rights of fishermen to carry out their activities in the area, constitute a crime?

Does the Commission intend to financially compensate the fishermen who are now unable to fish because of this situation and whose rights have been violated?