

**Question for written answer P-014163/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
Dolores García-Hierro Caraballo (S&D)**

Subject: Definition of tuna trap

At its plenary sitting of 23 October 2013, the European Parliament approved the definition of tuna trap as a 'traditional extractive fishing technique based on fixed nets anchored to the bottom for several months, which consists of a group of vessels, nets, fishing wires and anchors located near the coastline to intercept migratory fisheries (tuna and tunalike species) and lead them to an enclosed area where they are extracted', in Article 3(2)(18b) of the amended proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

Does the Commission support this definition's inclusion? If so, what steps are being taken in the tripartite dialogues between the Council, the Commission and the European Parliament to ensure that this definition is included in the final text that is currently being negotiated?

Does the Commission endorse the idea put forward by the tuna trap fishing sector that it could be given funding from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund to convert tuna traps into a scientific tuna observatory, thereby improving the collection of scientific data on bluefin tuna?