

**Question for written answer P-006702/2017  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Margrete Auken (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: 'Environmental room for manoeuvre'

The Danish Ministry of Environment and Food estimates that there is an 'environmental room for manoeuvre' ('*miljømæssigt råderum*') in the Kattegat for 800 tonnes of nitrogen and 96 tonnes of phosphorus.

However, the Danish term '*miljømæssigt råderum*'<sup>1</sup> does not appear in EU directives or regulations.

Has the Commission, in its work of preparing or implementing legislation, made use of this term?

Is the Commission aware of other international institutions which make use of this concept as a basis on which to take decisions on increasing the release of nutrients into bodies of water?

Can the Commission confirm that the aim of the Water Framework Directive is to ensure continuous improvement in the quality of bodies of water?

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<sup>1</sup> Translator's note: The Danish term 'råderum' can also be translated as 'margin', 'scope', 'latitude', or 'discretion'.