

**Priority question for written answer P-001297/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Søren Gade (Renew)

Subject: Fisheries agreement with Norway

I have been informed that Norway has declared that agreements on the total allowable catches (TACs) for common fisheries stocks and for access to Skagerrak will not be signed until it has reached an agreement with the UK on access.

While this is damaging to EU fishers, Norwegian fishers are benefiting. Catches that are prohibited for EU fishers in seasonal fisheries will be caught by Norwegian fishers, who can expect higher prices and export these catches to the EU. In short, Norway has no incentives to reach an agreement.

Danish fishers are being held hostage in a stalemate between two nations – neither of whom are members of EU.

I would therefore like to ask the Commission whether it is planning on helping these fishers until an agreement is signed, and what steps it will take if an agreement cannot be reached?

Lastly, I would suggest that the Commission look into setting up a mechanism to ensure an import ban on Norwegian fisheries products until agreements have been reached on EU access to Norwegian waters. This would be far-reaching, but so too are the methods used by the Norwegian authorities, and I believe that we have to prevent this situation from recurring in the future.