## Priority question for written answer P-001150/2023 to the Commission

**Rule 138** 

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Subject: Application of Directive 2006/123/EC to state-owned maritime concessions for the

exercise of aquaculture and fishing activities

State-owned maritime concessions for the exercise of aquaculture and fishing activities are used for primary production activities in the agricultural sector.

Since they were not referred to in Law No 145/2018, which provided for an extension for concessions of state-owned property for recreational tourist use, the Italian State's Advocate-General clarified that, although they were concessions of a different nature, it was also correct to apply a fortnightly extension to them¹.

Law No 118/2022, which established the tendering procedure for state-owned maritime concessions for recreational tourist use, expressly excluded state-owned concessions for primary productive use from its scope of application.

Since 2018, a number of local authorities and regions have extended those concessions. As a result, concessionaires have made significant investments, as aquaculture is a dynamic and high value-added business activity for many Italian regions, such as Liguria and Tuscany. However, some local authorities are referring to Directive 2006/123/EC (the Services Directive) to justify the tendering of those expiring concessions, undermining the investments made by the holders.

In view of the above, can the Commission confirm, as already stated in its answer to written question E-004388/2013, that state-owned concessions for aquaculture activities do not fall within the scope of the Services Directive?

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 367730 28/06/2019-P-aoorm AL:28701/2019