

**Question for written answer E-015154/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Francesc Gambús (PPE)

Subject: Acidification of the Mediterranean

On 26 November 2015, a report by scientists from the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) was published, proving that waters in the Mediterranean are tending to show a decrease in pH (acidification) due to the high vulnerability of this semi-enclosed sea to increased CO₂ uptake. Among the consequences of this acidification are, inter alia, the reduction of plankton in addition to various effects on bivalves. Given that the *Mare Internum* is a great source of wealth for many EU Member States, can the Commission answer the following questions:

Does it think that the goals set in the negotiating mandate for COP 21 to halt the process of acidification of the Mediterranean Sea are sufficient?

What impact does the Commission think that acidification might have, both on Mediterranean fisheries and on the production of bivalves, such as mussels?

Will the Commission carry out an impact assessment on the effects such acidification might have on the marine ecosystem?