

Question for written answer E-014406/2015
to the Council
Rule 130
Isabelle Thomas (S&D)

Subject: Justifying the reallocation of EUR 13 million from the fisheries control budget

Fisheries control is a highly political, resource-intensive process. The checks carried out are designed to enforce the rules on which the Common Fisheries Policy is based and thus guarantee a fair working environment for all fishermen.

I was thus surprised to note that on 6 October 2015 Parliament received a Commission request to reallocate EUR 13 million in EMFF funds from budget line 11 06 62 02, which deals with fisheries control. This represents a 36% funding cut for one of our top policy priorities.

When contacted, DG MARE gave as its justification for the transfer the fact that the 2015 budget contained payment appropriations for shared boat acquisition and chartering, but that no funding request for such measures had been submitted by the Member States.

1. Why, then, have the Member States not taken up the funding available for shared boat acquisition and chartering measures, even though fishing activities urgently require proper regulation?
2. Can the Council confirm that the relevant appropriations were in fact committed in 2015, that fishing activities are being properly regulated and that the requisite payment appropriations will be available for 2016?