Question for written answer E-015877/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Lidia Senra Rodríguez (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Distribution of fishing quotas among Galician seiners

In its answer to question E-001004/2015, the Commission states that it 'has no indication that the criteria used by Spain to allocate its fishing opportunities are non-compliant with the obligations established in Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 on the common fisheries policy'.

Nevertheless, we have a situation in Galicia where the organisation representing 80% of the seiner fleet (Acerga) has only 20% of the fishing quotas/fishing opportunities, owing to the way in which they have been shared out by the Spanish government. This has left more than 1 200 families on the brink of financial ruin.

- 1. Does the Commission believe that this complies with the socio-economic criterion established in Article 17 of the above Regulation?
- 2. Bearing in mind that environmental and sustainability criteria have also been set for the CFP and the self-regulation carried out by Acerga between 2002 and 2012 complies with those criteria, does the Commission not believe that, in this case, sharing out quotas on the basis of past levels of fishing activity represents a serious injustice, and the Spanish government should be asked to take self-regulation into account when deciding how to distribute quotas?
- 3. Would the Commission approve including the number of crew members as a criterion for sharing out quotas in order to promote increased employment, and would it be prepared to create a reserve quota in order to ensure viability for people engaged in fishing?

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