

Question for written answer E-000158/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Sakis Arnaoutoglou (S&D)

Subject: Support for traditional fishing with boat seines in Greece

Boat seines are a traditional means of fishing in Greece, with deep roots in the cultural heritage. Despite its importance, fishers who use this method are in a state of uncertainty due to the Greek Government's failure to implement the approved 2021-2024 Management Plan. That has led to economic insecurity, as around 100 vessels remain inactive, while the government has been limited to inadequate scrappage schemes.

The decision of the Council of State (2133/2022) underlines the need to regulate the activity of permit holders, but the Greek Government has not taken the required actions. At the same time, scientific data shows that the use of boat seines can be continued without environmental impact.

In view of the importance of viable fisheries and the maintenance of traditional practices:

1. Is the Commission aware that the Management Plan has not been implemented, and how does it intend to ensure that it is?
2. What European instruments, such as the EMFF, can support fishers who use boat seines?
3. How can the Commission ensure that relevant decisions by the courts are abided by, and how can it protect fishers from the consequences of political inaction?

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