

Question for written answer E-003052/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Proposal for the new EU budget 2028-2034 – request for urgent fisheries and aquaculture refinancing

The EU budget proposal for 2028 to 2034 provides for a drastic cut in fisheries and aquaculture resources, decreasing them from EUR 6.1 billion to a little more than 2 billion, i.e. a drop of 67 % – an absurd decision which heavily penalises a sector already strained by the sacrifices imposed by the EU, which have reduced fleets and jobs.

What is more, in countries such as Italy, over the last 40 years, dependence on the supply of fish from third countries has increased from 30 % to 85 %, fostering unfair competition from non-EU countries, which have no rules on the exploitation of marine resources.

Fisheries and aquaculture are strategic resources for food sovereignty and the Mediterranean diet, and it is unacceptable that they are now marginalised. Merging them into a single fund and including them in the Ocean Pact may dilute even extremely important specific support, such as that for the renewal of the EU fleet, which appears to be increasingly outdated, given the worrying increase in accidents at sea.

In the light of the above:

1. Will the Commission swiftly restore the fisheries and aquaculture funds that were cut in the budget forecast for 2028 to 2034?
2. Does it intend to reinstate specific measures for the renewal of Member States' fleets, as provided for in the previous European fund (EMFAF) currently in force?

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