

Question for written answer E-003900/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Sander Smit (PPE)

Subject: Effective control of invasive species: is the Commission taking its responsibility seriously?

In its answer to my written question of 30 July 2025, the Commission states that Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 permits trade only in dead specimens, whereas the question concerned cross-border trade in live specimens and the exemptions provided for in the regulation in this regard. However, the Commission rightly points out the importance of national management plans and cross-border cooperation, which is expressly encouraged in Article 19(5) and may even require the Commission to play a coordinating role. In any event, the Ocean Pact expresses the intention to actively support Member States in combating invasive species.

For this reason, I would like to follow up on my previous question as follows:

1. Is the Commission prepared to take on this coordinating role in order to set out exceptional conditions that would allow commercial fishing and cross-border trade in invasive species, including the live transport of shellfish for consumption, in numerous Member States?
2. Can the Netherlands count on concrete support from the Commission in developing joint management measures to effectively combat the spread of invasive species through commercial fishing and cross-border trade in live specimens?

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