

**Question for written answer E-003929/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Kathleen Funchion (The Left)

Subject: Mackerel catches

Advice published by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea recommends limiting mackerel catches to no more than 174 357 tonnes in 2026, which, in real terms, would mean a 70 % quota cut. Such a reduction in Ireland's mackerel quota would represent yet another devastating blow to Ireland's coastal and fishing communities, which have already suffered heavily from previous quota reductions.

In the light of the above:

1. Does the Commission recognise that one of the primary reasons for this recommendation is overfishing by certain third countries, such as Norway, the Faroes, Iceland and Russia?
2. Will the Commission ensure that Ireland's coastal and fishing communities are protected from the negative impact of such drastic cuts, given that they have adhered to the scientific advice and the rules of the common fisheries policy?
3. Will the Commission commit to direct engagement with stakeholders in Ireland's coastal and fishing communities, with a view to working towards safeguarding them from the negative impacts of this advice, and to working with them in delivering certainty and a sustainable future?

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