

**Question for written answer E-004044/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Sakis Arnaoutoglou (S&D)

Subject: New marine parks and trawler ban in Greece

In its communication on the European Ocean Pact (COM(2025)281), the European Commission sets out that the management of marine protected areas must be based on scientific data and risk assessment, with the involvement of all stakeholders, and not on generalised bans.

Nevertheless, the Greek Government has announced the creation of new marine parks and a total ban on trawler fishing in all protected areas – without prior scientific evidence or a socio-economic analysis of the impact on a sector that provides around 70 000 jobs and a significant proportion of domestic fish production. What is more, Turkish trawlers fish without restriction, even in Greek waters, while Greek fishers face further limitations. The government is, for all intents and purposes, shirking its duties as regards fisheries control and defending national sovereign rights.

In view of Parliament's resolutions stressing the need for a balance between environmental protection, food security and social cohesion, can the Commission say:

1. Does it consider a total ban on trawlers without a scientific risk assessment or a socio-economic study to be in keeping with the spirit of the European Ocean Pact?
2. What measures does it intend to take to ensure that Member States do not adopt unilateral and disproportionate rules that undermine fisheries production and local communities?

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