

**Question for written answer E-002767/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Galato Alexandraki (ECR)

Subject: Illegal Turkish fishing in the Aegean and the need for a European protection mechanism

The Parliament study titled ‘Cross-border cooperation in fisheries management: Best practices from the Western Waters’, which was conducted by the Committee on Fisheries (PECH) and published on 29 June 2026, highlights that the management of shared fish stocks requires formally established cross-border cooperation, scientific data, the involvement of fishers and the coordinated implementation of rules. Looking at the examples of the Iberian sardine and the Bay of Biscay anchovy, the study shows that cooperation between states can protect stocks and fishing communities. In the Aegean, however, repeated cases of illegal Turkish fishing, as well as complaints about the presence of the Turkish Coast Guard close to the Greek islands, show that the issue also concerns the protection of the EU’s external sea borders. In May 2026, Greece officially asked the EU to intervene in the light of instances of illegal fishing and violations of the law of the sea by Turkish fishers.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Will it set up a dedicated European mechanism for recording and monitoring illegal fishing in the Aegean?
2. How will it make use of the EFCA, Frontex, EMFAF and satellite surveillance to protect Greek fishers?

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