

**Question for written answer E-003983/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Sofie Eriksson (S&D)

Subject: Recreational fisheries and the recovery of the Baltic Sea

The Commission's evaluation of the common fisheries policy (CFP) identifies shortcomings in the recognition, data collection and governance of recreational fisheries, raising questions about how the sector should be addressed within the existing policy framework.

These issues are particularly relevant to the Baltic Sea, identified as an urgent priority in the European Ocean Pact. Restoring healthy fish stocks and marine ecosystems is essential for thriving coastal communities and sustainable opportunities for both small-scale commercial fisheries and recreational fishing. Parliament has also commissioned a study on the socio-economic importance of recreational fisheries, with findings expected in 2027.

1. How does the Commission intend to address the gaps identified in its evaluation and ensure that the socio-economic contribution and environmental impacts of recreational fisheries are adequately reflected in fisheries management?
2. What concrete measures will the Commission pursue, including through the forthcoming 'Vision 2040 for fisheries and aquaculture' and the implementation of the European Ocean Pact, to restore Baltic Sea fish stocks and secure long-term opportunities for sustainable recreational and small-scale commercial fisheries?
3. How will the Commission incorporate the findings of Parliament's forthcoming study into its follow-up to the CFP evaluation and the development of future fisheries policy?

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