

**Priority question for written answer P-003620/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

Bert-Jan Ruissen (ECR)

Subject: End-of-life fishing nets to combat Russian drones in Ukraine

Various European citizens' initiatives to export used (fishing) nets to Ukraine have been launched in an effort to protect Ukraine against Russian drone attacks. These nets offer a very effective way of covering and safeguarding such places as trenches, hospitals and roads. The export of waste – end-of-life fishing gear containing plastic in this case – may be permitted only if there are sufficient assurances in place to prevent any adverse impact on health and the environment. This requirement is laid down in the European Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR)¹ in an effort to stop waste from being shipped or exported without checks and causing environmental problems elsewhere. End-of-life fishing nets cease to be covered by the Regulation when they reach end-of-waste status (Waste Framework Directive², Article 6). There is a grey area in several Member States when it comes to the question of whether permission can be granted under the Regulation for the export of anti-drone nets, with seemingly different interpretations of end-of-waste status.

1. Is the Commission willing to engage with Member States to clarify the applicable rules and to facilitate the export of end-of-life nets to Ukraine?
2. Is the Commission willing to explore the options for financial and logistical support for the collection and transport of anti-drone nets?

Submitted: 18.9.2025

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006.

² Directive 2008/98/EC.