

**Priority question for written answer P-004822/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Timeline for study on the practice of open registers for vessels

In July 2023, under the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, a tender¹ was launched to conduct a study providing an up-to-date analysis of the practice of open vessel registers, which has far-reaching implications. These include environmental impacts, poor labour conditions, illegal fishing, tax avoidance and the circumvention of sanctions.

The Commission has provided updates to stakeholders on several occasions, including through advisory councils, indicating that the results of this study would be published by the end of 2025.

1. Could the Commission clarify the expected timeline for the publication of this study, and provide details on when stakeholders and the public will be able to access its findings?
2. Will the Commission ensure that the study's results are made widely available to inform policymaking and regulatory measures addressing the negative impacts associated with open vessel registers?

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¹ https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/new-emfaf-call-tender-study-practice-open-registers-vessels-2023-07-05_en.