(English version)

Question for written answer E-003931/25
to the Commission
Thomas Bajada (S&D)
(7 October 2025)

Subject: Preparation for the upcoming Compliance Committee and Annual Meeting of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean

With decision GFCM/46/2023/22 ([1]) the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) launched a process to revamp its Compliance Committee through a permanent compliance assessment mechanism. The process is set to be formalised during the GFCM's upcoming Annual Meeting in November 2025. In order to achieve sustainability in the Mediterranean, it is imperative that all contracting parties of GFCM adhere to the multilaterally agreed recommendations, thereby ensuring a level playing field in the region. Central to this, is enforcement and compliance.

1. Will the Commission raise issues of non-compliance falling under Category A?

2. Does the Commission intend to inform the Parliament of its position, in due time, ahead of the next Annual Meeting?

3. Why is Parliament not involved in the preparations for Annual Meetings in due time to ensure sound consultation on behalf of European citizens?

Submitted: 7.10.2025

Answer given by Mr Kadis on behalf of the European Commission
(17 November 2025)

The permanent compliance assessment mechanism of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) is currently in pilot phase. The GFCM Commission will decide on the transition to the permanent phase. Therefore, no contracting parties, including the EU, are enabled to raise non-compliance issues falling under Category A in 2025.

The Commission informs the European Parliament in line with the provisions of the framework Agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the Commission. As per the current practice, the Commission sent the proposed EU position for the 2025 Annual Session of the GFCM on 15 September 2025 to the European Parliament's Committee on Fisheries (PECH). It also provided an update on the ongoing preparations during the PECH Committee meeting on 16 October 2025.

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[1] [1]https://www.fao.org/gfcm/decisions/en/.