

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002647/26
to the Commission
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)
(25 June 2026)**

Subject: Special fishing arrangements for Iceland in the event of EU accession

Iceland is set to hold a referendum on 29 August 2026 on the resumption of negotiations for its accession to the European Union.

The fisheries sector is of vital strategic and economic importance to Iceland, and the country has historically insisted on maintaining full sovereign control over its EEZ and fisheries resources.

In accordance with Article 49 TEU, any European State seeking to accede to the Union must accept and fully implement the Union *acquis*. In this context, Chapter 13 ('Fisheries') of the accession negotiations requires, in principle, full alignment with the common fisheries policy, unless specific transitional arrangements are agreed during the accession negotiations.

Can the Commission confirm that the full implementation of the common fisheries policy is a condition of Iceland's accession to the European Union and that, at present, no permanent exemptions, special arrangements or opt-outs are envisaged with regard to the implementation of that policy?

Submitted: 25.6.2026

**Answer given by Mr Kadis on behalf of the European Commission
(21 August 2026)**

On 29 August 2026, the citizens of Iceland will decide, by referendum, whether their country should resume accession negotiations with the European Union.

There are currently no discussions with Iceland on fisheries in the context of their possible accession to the EU. A treaty of accession may provide for certain derogations from EU rules applicable to a new Member State. However, pending the outcome of the referendum and any decision to resume accession negotiations, it is premature to comment on any related aspects that might be agreed upon in the context of Iceland's possible accession to the EU.
