

**Question for written answer E-001528/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Catherine Stihler (S&D)

Subject: Effect of EU-Morocco trade agreements on Western Sahara

The Court of Justice of the European Union has repeatedly ruled that the EU-Morocco Liberalisation Agreement, Association Agreement and, recently, Fisheries Partnership Agreement cannot be applied to Western Sahara.

Meanwhile, the Commission and the European External Action Service are in talks with Morocco to set up a trade arrangement for Western Sahara and to renew the Fisheries Partnership Agreement under which the bulk of EU vessels currently fish in Western Sahara.

How are negotiations with Morocco for agreements that will affect Western Sahara in line with the Court's view?

If the EU cannot conclude agreements with Morocco on behalf of Western Sahara, why are the Commission and the EEAS in talks with Morocco?

Can the Commission explain how negotiations with Morocco over Western Sahara comply with the legal principle of self-determination?