

## Written question to the European Commission

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The Covid-19 pandemic is having a serious impact on fishing. In this challenging time, flexibility is required in order to support the fisheries sector and secure the food supply for our citizens. A similar flexibility was shown by the Commission in 2014 under Regulation (EU) No 1221/2014<sup>1</sup> because of the Russian boycott of European fishery products. As we approach the end of 2020, fishermen and – women are in dire need of clarity on the allocation of quota as they need to plan ahead for next year.

- For 2021, will the Commission allow a derogation from Article 4(2) of Regulation (EC) No 847/96<sup>2</sup> in order to raise the maximum percentage of TACs that can be transferred to a subsequent year to at least 25% for fish stocks that are currently at or above MSY level?

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<sup>1</sup> Council Regulation (EU) No 1221/2014 of 10 November 2014 fixing for 2015 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea and amending Regulations (EU) No 43/2014 and (EU) No 1180/2013, OJ L 330, 15.11.2014, p. 16.

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EC) No 847/96 of 6 May 1996 introducing additional conditions for year-to-year management of TACs and quotas, OJ L 115, 9.5.1996, p. 3.