

Dear Mr Studer,

Thank you for your e-mail of 12 August in which you present the fair-fish association's campaign to reduce fish consumption. I would agree with your idea that selling fish at a higher price is attractive. I am, however, a firm believer of the benefits of regular fish consumption as fish – fish which meets all of the extensive food safety requirements – has shown great benefits for health. Therefore, I cannot agree with the objective of reducing fish consumption to one or two meals per month.

Among the priorities which I have set for my term in office are more sustainable fishing and aquaculture together with greater social cohesion for the communities of fishing and aquaculture dependent areas. With proper conservation and optimum market planning, fishing less to gain more can become a reality, but a consumer campaign to reduce fish consumption is not the way to go to achieve this.

The growth of sustainable aquaculture can also be part of the solution here. It is my clear aim to give the necessary political impetus to the sustainable development of aquaculture here in the EU in the context of the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Yours, sincerely



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