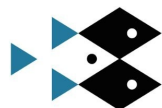




Pétition, campagne, mobilisation



Eaten fish soon forgotten



14 January 2021

**CALL TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT:  
VOTE FOR TRANSPARENCY IN THE UPCOMING PECH REPORT**

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

With this letter, Access Info Europe, the EU Fisheries Control Coalition, and 62 other European and global organisations request you to **support amendments to the EU's Fisheries Control Regulation**, so that there is transparency on the enforcement of fishing rules, country by country, and that consumers can be sure the fish on their plates is legal and sustainable.

In the crucial **vote to take place in the PECH Committee** on 26 January **and then in plenary**, it is essential that you support amendments which will deliver the transparency needed to fight illegal fishing and potential corruption. These include ensuring that the EU Member States and the European Commission can publish aggregated data on the implementation of the fisheries control rules.

Unless this information is made publicly available by Member States and the EU, other Member States, civil society, individuals with grounds of legitimate interest and MEPs are all in the dark about whether the control and sanctions regime is being enforced.

The **ENVI Committee has already supported these amendments**, which are essential to ensure that EU fisheries rules adhere to EU transparency principles – as established by the jurisprudence of the Court of Justice of the European Union – and to ensure that fishing is fully sustainable in line with the European Green Deal.

The key amendments which we are urging you to support are:

- *Article 93a - National control programmes*  
(PECH tabled AMs 1002, 1004, 1005, 1007, 1008. ENVI opinion adopted AMs 106, 107 and 108.)  
Require that Member States publish on an annual basis the national control programmes and their evaluation, with aggregated information on the number of fishing trips inspected, the number of illegal activities detected, and the number of environmental crimes penalised.
- *Article 101 – Public information on European Commission audits*  
(PECH tabled AMs 1022. ENVI opinion adopted AM 109.)

Require the European Commission to publish information on the implementing activities of public – not private – entities from the audits of Member State control systems, including upon access to documents requests submitted by EU citizens under Regulation 1049/2001 as well as under the Aarhus Convention.

- Article 113 – *Member State veto*

(PECH tabled AMs 1053 and 1054. ENVI opinion adopted AM 121 and 122.)

Require the removal of the right of Member States to veto the transmission of environmental data in paragraph 2 and 3 without having to give any reasons for their refusal.

- Article 118 – *Bi-annual public reporting*

(PECH tabled AMs 1066, 1067, 1068, 1069, and 1070. ENVI opinion adopted AMs 126, 127 and 128.)

Require the submission of reports on the implementation of the Control Regulation carried out by Member States every two years – not five – establishing the same frequency as under the IUU regulation; require a summary of these submissions to be publicly available on the website of the European Commission.

We ask you, as a Member of the European Parliament, to support this proposal and thereby **to fight illegal fishing and to guarantee accountable and sustainable fishing in the EU.**

Sincerely,

*Helen Darbishire, Access Info Europe*

*Nick Goetschalckx, ClientEarth*

*Georg Werner, Environmental Justice Foundation*

*Vanya Vulperhorst, Oceana*

*Rebecca Hubbard, Our Fish*

*Gonçalo Carvalho, Sciaena*

*Andrea Ripol, Seas at Risk*

*Sara Söderström, The Fisheries Secretariat*

*Katrin Vilhelm Poulsen, WWF*

*Marta Marrero, The Nature Conservancy*

*Ilaria Fevola, Article 19*

*Stefanos Loukopoulos, Vouliwatch*

*András Lukács, Clean Air Action Group*

*JD Farrugia, Fish for tomorrow*

*Vicky Cann, Corporate Europe Observatory*

*Concepción Catalán, Innovación y Derechos Humanos*

*Juan Carlos Atienza, SEO/BirdLife*

*Eduardo de Miguel, Fundación Global Nature*

*Stavroula Kremmydiotou, European Bureau for Conservation and Development (EBCD)*

*Javier Pérez, Political Watch*

*Astrid Vella, Flimkien ghal Ambjent Ahjar Malta*

*Beatrice Gorez, Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements (CFFA-CAPE)*

*Maria Ángeles López Lax, Asociación ACIMA*

*José Antonio Ballesteros Garrido, Abogado del Consumidor*

*Raúl García, WWF España*

*Simona Ernu, Romanian Academic Society*

*Martin Stoll, Öffentlichkeitsgesetz.ch (Swiss Foia)*

*Sara Fröcklin, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)*

*Gavin Sheridan, Right To Know*

*Hermann Klosius, Informationsgruppe Lateinamerika (IGLA)*

*Eva van der Merwe, International Lawyers Project*

*Elena Calistru, Funky Citizens*

*Alexandre Brutelle, Environmental Investigative Forum (EIF)*

*Edward Fahy, Eaten Fish Soon Forgotten*

*Krzysztof Izdebski, ePaństwo Foundation*

*Baki Youssoufou, We Sign It (France en Europe)*

*João Costa, Academia Cidadã*

*Gergana Jouleva, Access to Information Programme*

*Giorgia Monti, Greenpeace Italia*

*Marco Cappato, EUMANS*

*Sabine Rosset, BLOOM*

*Federico Anghel , The Good Lobby Italia*

*Jonathan Nielsen, Global Aktion*

*Maria Rapini, Marevivo*

*Sandy Luk, Marine Conservation Society*

*Andrea Menapace, Diritto Di Sapere*

*Mattias Axell, The Digital Freedom and Rights Association (DFRI)*

*Chris Williams, New Economics Foundation (NEF)*

*Katarzyna Batko-Tohu , Citizens Network Watchdog Poland*

*Ulrich Eichelmann, Riverwatch*

*Susana Coroado, ALTER-EU*

*Domitilla Senni, MedReAct*

*Celia Ojeda Mart nez, Greenpeace Espa a*

*Philippe Garcia, D fense des Milieux Aquatiques*

*Eneko Aierbe Sarasola, Ecologistas en Acci n*

*Arnaud Schwartz, France Nature Environnement (FNE)*

*Joana Andrade, Portuguese Society for the Study of Birds (SPEA)*

*Rosario L paz P rez, Asociaci n Espa ola de Acreditaci n de la Transparencia (ACREDITRA)*

*Luis Gulp rez, Asociaci n Andaluza para la Defensa de los Animales (ASANDA)*

*Mar a Su rez, Asociaci n Pro Derechos Humanos de Espa a (APDHE)*

*Brian O'Riordan, Low Impact Fishers of Europe (LIFE)*

*Antidia Citores, Surfrider Foundation Europe*

*Lydia Chaparro, Fundaci  ENT*

*Johann Waller, Naturschutzgesellschaft Schutzstation Wattenmeer e.V.*

*Billo Heinzpeter Studer, Fair-fish International Association*

*Paolo Bray, World Sustainability Organization - Friend of the Sea program*

*Antonio García Allut, Fundación Lonxanet*

*Nicholas Aiossa, Transparency International EU*

*Maarten Bavinck, International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)*

*Murielle Oriol, Association SOS Grand Bleu*

*Katja Hockun, Deutsche Umwelthilfe (DUH)*

*Jesse Renema, Open State Foundation*