

The revision of the EU Fisheries Control System

Presentation by Elisabeth Druel
27 November 2018



Fisheries control: Commission urges IRELAND to establish the framework for an effective enforcement of points systems

The Commission decided today to send a letter of formal notice to Ireland over its failure to implement a point system for fisheries as required under the EU Control Regulation (Council Regulation (EC) No N° 1224/2009). A point system is required when it comes to serious infringements of the Common Fisheries Policy, committed by masters and licence holders of vessels flying the flag of Ireland. The Commission also considers that Ireland has not put into operation the current national legislation implementing the point system for licence holders, with the consequence that no points are being assigned for licence holders. Ireland has two months to reply to the arguments raised by the Commission; otherwise, the latter may decide to send a reasoned opinion.

Source: European Commission

system for fishing vessels in compliance with the regulatory framework. The ministry has not to the extent required imposed penalty points for serious infringements of the fisheries rules. The ministry has imposed penalty points in 34 cases in the period 2013-2017. In Rigsrevisionen's assessment, the ministry should have imposed penalty points in additionally 29 cases. Rigsrevisionen assesses that, in failing to do so, 24% of the examined funding has been provided to fishers who would have been excluded from receiving funding had the penalty point system been managed correctly. The inadequate and incorrect management of the penalty point system has also had the consequence that fishers have not been treated equally when penalty points have been applied. Thus, some applicants have been better positioned than others to receive support. The Min-

Source: Danish Court of Auditors

HOW THE ILLEGAL BLUEFIN TUNA MARKET MADE OVER EUR 12 MILLION A YEAR SELLING FISH IN SPAIN

16 October 2018
Press Release

Source: EUROPOL

EU critical of 'severe' weaknesses in Ireland's fisheries controls

Direct audit highlights flaws in controlling trawlers and mackerel and herring fleet

© Mon, Nov 12, 2018 10:22

Lorna Higgins



The audit was conducted last March in Killybegs, Co. Londonderry, where the largest volume of fish is landed

Source: Irish Times

The two dimensions of fisheries control

Data collection,
management and
exchange

Enforcement
(including sanctions)

The two dimensions of fisheries control - Objectives

Data collection,
management and
exchange



Fully documented
fisheries

Enforcement
(including sanctions)



Effective, deterrent,
transparent
enforcement system

What do we need to achieve fully-documented fisheries in the EU?

Small-Scale
fisheries
+
Recreational
fisheries
+
Landing Obligation
+
Electronic data
management
+
Weighing



What do we need to have an effective, deterrent, transparent enforcement system?

Close gaps

+

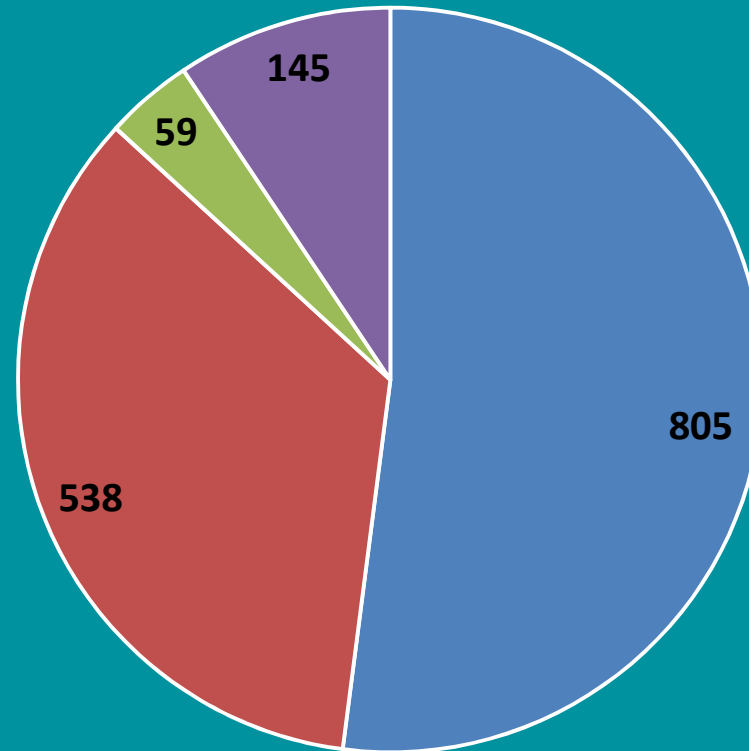
Harmonise sanctions system

+

Increase transparency

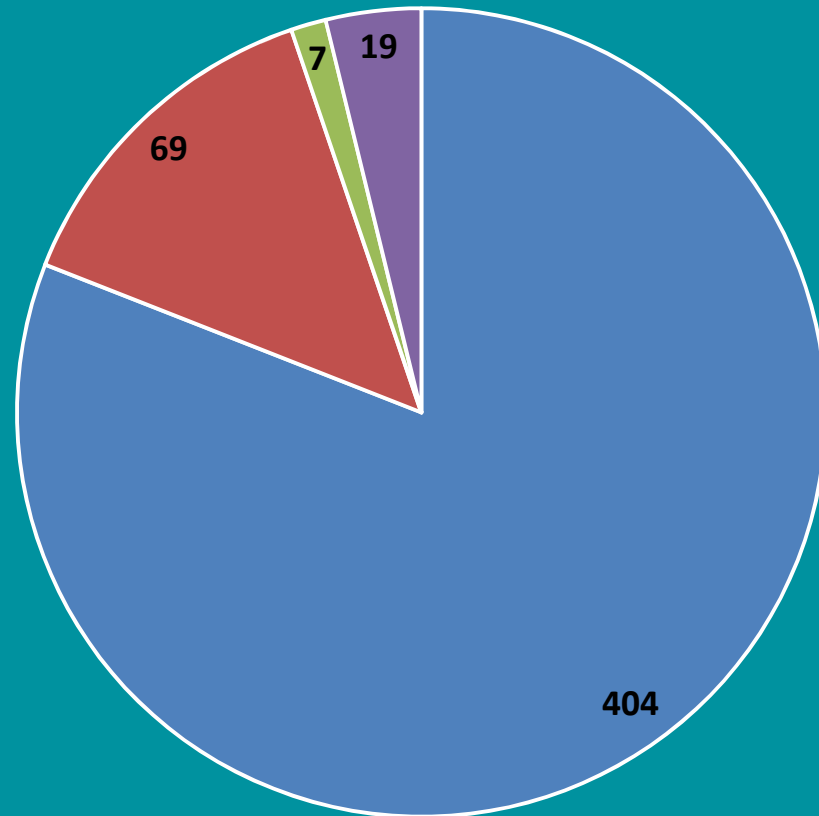


Total number of serious infringements detected in 2014 : 1547



■ Spain ■ Italy ■ Poland ■ Rest of EU

Total number of cases where penalty points were awarded in 2014: 499



Italy Spain Denmark Rest of the EU





Joint NGO priorities on the revision of the EU Fisheries Control System

October 2018

We call on decision makers to **support** the Commission's proposal to:

- Introduce Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) requirements to improve the control of fishing activities at sea, in particular the control of the landing obligation (LO), and require full documentation of all catches and discards (Articles 1 (11) and 2(23) of the proposal);
- Introduce measures that would allow for a better implementation of the enforcement provisions of the Control Regulation (Articles 1 (15), 2 (measures II and IV));
- Mandate the use of tracking devices and electronic reporting of catches and fishing operations for small scale fishing vessels (Articles 1 (5), 2 (11) and 2 (12));
- Improve the control of recreational fisheries by introducing licensing and reporting systems (Article 1 (4c));
- Strengthen current traceability provisions to ensure effective tracking of seafood along the supply chain (Articles 1 (12), 2 (4G), 2 (5d) and 2 (5G));
- Improve the control of fishing capacity, notably by mandating the continuous monitoring of engine power for certain categories of vessels (Articles 1 (15) to 1 (17));
- Enlarge the scope of the current provisions on the control of fishing restricted areas to cover all vessels and areas in the high seas and in third countries' waters (Article 1 (4c));
- Replace the paper-based catch certificate scheme with an electronic scheme under the European Union's Regulation to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (EU IUU Regulation) (Article 4 (6)).

We call on decision-makers to **amend** the Commission's proposal to:

- Mandate the use of RCV on board all vessels identified by the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) as being of medium, high and very high risk of non-compliance with the LO;
- Introduce measures that would allow the effective control of technical measures, in particular measures set out to minimise the impact of fishing activities on the marine environment;
- Complete the list of serious infringements of the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP);
- Improve data access and sharing, including the data on catches, landings, vessel positions and enforcement actions; and establish an EU Fisheries Control Data Centre;
- Introduce transparency requirements by making information on the implementation of the Control Regulation, such as infringements and sanctions, publicly available;
- Provide a clear definition of traceability and include key missing data elements in the EU IUU Regulation catch certificate (International Maritime Organization (IMO) number, catching method and link between catch area and catch codes);
- Ensure that the revised mandate of EFCA fully incorporates the international dimension of the CFP into its work and that it receives the adequate resources to fulfil its missions.



Thank you

Elisabeth Druel

edruel@clientearth.org

www.clientearth.org

@ClientEarth

