



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Development

2011/2086(INI)

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DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on Fisheries

on fisheries restrictions and jurisdictional waters in the Mediterranean and
Black Sea – ways for conflict resolution
(2011/2086(INI))

Rapporteur: Eva Joly

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Development calls on the Committee on Fisheries, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

- A. whereas in developing countries fishing is a sector that creates wealth and jobs and provides a source of protein for the population;
 - 1. Notes that conflicts about maritime areas stem primarily from the desire to exploit marine resources which have grown limited, not to say rare, not least as a result of their overexploitation and non-sustainable use, and that, given this situation, access to resources needs to be regulated; maintains that, for a good many developing countries, marine resources are a cornerstone of their future development and their food sovereignty;
 - 2. Maintains that when the delimitation of maritime boundaries and the establishment of maritime areas are a subject of dispute, conflict resolution must proceed entirely in accordance with international law and be based on the principles of cooperation in good faith and of equality and fairness, taking into account the sustainability of marine resources and protection of the ecosystem;
 - 3. Considers that regional cooperation organisations offer the most appropriate framework within which to resolve conflicts of jurisdiction and regulate fishing activities; calls on coastal states, therefore, to favour that approach at bilateral level;
 - 4. Points to the need to provide coastal developing countries with economic and technical assistance enabling them to ascertain that the fishing activities being carried out in their jurisdictional waters are legal and sustainable;
 - 5. Calls for the adoption of a long-term strategic framework for Mediterranean and Black Sea scientific cooperation to facilitate cooperation on marine research, including the exchange of scientific information and data.