



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Committee on Fisheries

2014/2214(INI)

04.5.2015

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Fisheries

for the Committee on Regional Development

on an EU strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian region
(2014/2214(INI))

Rapporteur: Norica Nicolai

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

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

- A. whereas, as the Commission rightly evaluates, there are large socio-economic differences between the countries involved in this strategy, especially between EU Member States and non-Member-States;
- B. whereas applying and respecting the CFP rules and objectives should be one of the most important evaluation targets for all the countries involved in this strategy; whereas, additionally, the quantitative target of at or below the 'Maximum Sustainable Yield' should be part of any evaluation concerning the marine environment and fisheries in the region;
- C. whereas in Italy there are 804 159 anglers with an economic turnover of EUR 241 247 700 (reported in 2012), and the region in question is estimated to have around 1.2 million registered anglers;
- D. whereas the Commission, in both the strategy and the action plan, admits to not having a complete evaluation of the *status quo* in the region and the countries, owing to the lack of data;
 - 1. Calls on the Commission, as an independent facilitator in this strategy, and as the financier, to do its best to make sure the socio-economic differences between the countries are reduced and not increased;
 - 2. Calls, given that an increase in maritime activity could affect the health of the fish stocks in the region and that many species are already struggling, for a thorough evaluation and analysis of the evolution of the stocks to be carried out constantly and shared among all the countries; asks for the precautionary principle to be applied whenever needed;
 - 3. Calls on the Commission to encourage the development of recreational fisheries in the region as sustainable and profitable tourism;
 - 4. Calls on the Commission to address with utmost urgency the fact of not having exact data and a complete, detailed view of the *status quo*, the lack of which would make the evaluations unclear and unreliable; calls on the Commission, in view of the fact that the fisheries data, the fish stocks evaluation and all the other related analysis are incomplete, to address this before starting to fund other developments;
 - 5. Calls on the Commission to present a report to Parliament and the Council every year, starting with the implementation year and ending with the final evaluation after the 2020 target; this report should be based on reports and analyses carried out by the coordinators, in conjunction with the evaluations collected by the Commission from other stakeholders.