

Public Hearing ECI “Stop Finning – Stop the trade”  
Brussels, 27 March 2023

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Dr. Nils Kluger – Spokesperson of STOP FINNING – STOP THE TRADE

Nils is a shark conservation activist at Stop Finning Deutschland and scuba diving instructor. He has been diving with sharks around the world and experienced both their beauty and meaning for marine ecosystems as well as the threats humans pose to their existence.



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Alex Cornelissen – Substitute Spokesperson of STOP FINNING – STOP THE TRADE

Alex is the CEO of Sea Shepherd Global. Through his work for Sea Shepherd he has witnessed first hand the devastating effects of shark fishing on shark populations worldwide. He has also had the privilege to dive with sharks in many remote areas.



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Dr. Sylvia Earle - Marine Biologist

Formerly Chief Scientist of NOAA, Dr. Earle is the Founder of Deep Ocean Exploration and Research, Inc. (DOER), Founder of the Sylvia Earle Alliance (S.E.A.) / Mission Blue, Chair of the Advisory Council of the Harte Research Institute, inspiration for the ocean in Google Earth, leader of the NGS Sustainable Seas Expeditions, and the subject of the 2014 Netflix film, Mission Blue. She has a B.S. degree from Florida State University, M.S. and PhD. from Duke University, 27 honorary degrees and has authored more than 200 scientific, technical and popular publications including 13 books (most recently Blue Hope in 2014), lectured in more than 90 countries, and appeared in hundreds of radio and television productions.



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Stefanie Brendl – Executive Director Shark Allies

Apart from growing up in Germany, Stef has lived in countless stunning locations around the world, most notably Guam, Bali and Hawaii. Stef clocked hundreds of hours of diving with shark of all shapes and sizes and has been working in ocean related professions for years, one of them being a shark diving operation in Hawaii called Hawaii Shark Encounters. She was a driving force behind the first shark fin trade ban in the Nation in Hawaii in 2010 and has since then dedicated her life to the conservation of sharks, working on many other fin bans and shark sanctuary campaigns.





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Bradley Soule – Fisheries Enforcement & Compliance Consultant

Bradley has spent most of his life either on or thinking about the sea. He joined the U.S. Coast Guard as a teenager and upon commissioning immediately started conducting law enforcement and search and rescue in some of the world’s largest fisheries. He subsequently served in a variety of operational and leadership roles in the Coast Guard including commanding officer of a patrol boat, deputy chief of fisheries enforcement at headquarters, and lead for fisheries enforcement off California. Brad left the Coast Guard in 2013 to become a Criminal Intelligence Officer at INTERPOL’s General Secretariat in Lyon, France where he led the organization’s nascent fisheries project. In 2015, Brad moved to the UK and joined Project Eyes on the Seas, the initiative that would become OceanMind as the first fisheries compliance and maritime surveillance expert on the team.



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Rachel Hanbury – Director Sirens MCS Ltd.

Director Sirens MCS Ltd. Fisheries and Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) and enforcement and fisheries related border control and supply chain advisor.



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## Organising Team

Christian Hempel – Vice President StopFinningEU

The passionate diver and ocean conservationist is Vice President StopFinningEUe.V. and takes care of the organisational topics of the European Citizens’ Initiative STOP FINNING – STOP THE TRADE.





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Katharina Loupal – Social Media Officer [StopFinningEU](#)

Katharina is a passionate diver and is responsible for the social media activities of the European Citizens’ Initiative STOP FINNING – STOP THE TRADE.

