



COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2019/2236
of 16 December 2019

fixing for 2020 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Mediterranean and Black Seas

TITLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Subject matter

This Regulation fixes for 2020 the fishing opportunities applicable in the Mediterranean and Black Seas for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks.

Article 2

Scope

1. This Regulation applies to Union fishing vessels exploiting the following fish stocks:

- (a) European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) in the Mediterranean Sea, as defined in Article 4(b);
- (b) blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*), deep-water rose shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*), giant red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*), European hake (*Merluccius merluccius*), Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) and red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*) in the western Mediterranean Sea, as defined in Article 4(c);
- (c) anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*) and sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in the Adriatic Sea, as defined in Article 4(d);
- (d) European hake (*Merluccius merluccius*), Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*), common sole (*Solea solea*), deep-water rose shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*) and red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*) in the Adriatic Sea, as defined in Article 4(d);
- (e) sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) and turbot (*Psetta maxima*) in the Black Sea, as defined in Article 4(e).

2. This Regulation also applies to recreational fisheries where they are expressly referred to in the relevant provisions.

Article 3

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the definitions laid down to in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 apply. In addition, the following definitions apply:

- (a) ‘international waters’ means waters falling outside the sovereignty or jurisdiction of any State;
- (b) ‘recreational fisheries’ means non-commercial fishing activities exploiting marine living aquatic resources for recreation, tourism or sport;

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- (c) ‘total allowable catch’ (TAC) means:
- (i) in fisheries subject to the exemption of the landing obligation referred to in Article 15(4) to (7) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, the quantity of fish that can be landed from each stock each year;
 - (ii) in all other fisheries, the quantity of fish that can be caught from each stock over the period of a year;
- (d) ‘quota’ means a proportion of the TAC allocated to the Union or a Member State;
- (e) ‘Union autonomous quota’ means a catch limit autonomously allocated to Union fishing vessels in the absence of an agreed TAC;
- (f) ‘analytical quota’ means a Union autonomous quota for which an analytical assessment is available;
- (g) ‘analytical assessment’ means a quantitative evaluation of trends in a given stock, based on data about the stock’s biology and exploitation which scientific review has indicated to be of sufficient quality to provide scientific advice on options for future catches.

*Article 4***Fishing zones**

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following zone definitions apply:

- (a) ‘GFCM geographical subareas’ means the areas as defined in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1343/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾;
- (b) ‘Mediterranean Sea’ means the waters in GFCM geographical subareas 1 to 27, as defined in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1343/2011;
- (c) ‘western Mediterranean Sea’ means the waters in GFCM geographical subareas 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, as defined in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1343/2011;
- (d) ‘Adriatic Sea’ means the waters in GFCM geographical subareas 17 and 18, as defined in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1343/2011;
- (e) ‘Black Sea’ means the waters in GFCM geographical subarea 29, as defined in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1343/2011.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 1343/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on certain provisions for fishing in the GFCM (General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean) Agreement area and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006 concerning management measures for the sustainable exploitation of fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea (OJ L 347, 30.12.2011, p. 44).



TITLE II

FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

CHAPTER I

*Mediterranean Sea**Article 5***European eel**

1. All activities by Union fishing vessels and other Union fishing activities catching European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*), namely targeted, incidental and recreational fisheries, shall be subject to the provisions of this Article.
2. This Article applies to the Mediterranean Sea and to brackish waters such as estuaries, coastal lagoons and transitional waters.
3. It shall be prohibited for Union fishing vessels to fish for European eel in Union and international waters of the Mediterranean Sea for a consecutive three-month period to be determined by each Member State. The fishing closure period shall be consistent with the conservation objectives set out in Regulation (EC) No 1100/2007, with national management plans in place and with the temporal migration patterns of European eel in the Member States concerned. Member States shall communicate the determined period to the Commission no later than one month prior to the entry into force of the closure and in any case no later than 31 January 2020.

CHAPTER II

*Western Mediterranean Sea**Article 6***Demersal stocks**

1. The maximum allowable fishing effort for 2020 for demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean Sea is set out in Annex I to this Regulation.
2. Member States shall manage the maximum allowable fishing effort in accordance with Article 9 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1022.

*Article 7***Data transmission**

Member States shall record and transmit the fishing effort data to the Commission in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1022.

When submitting effort data to the Commission in accordance with this Article, Member States shall use the fishing effort group codes set out in Annex I to this Regulation.

▼B*CHAPTER III**Adriatic Sea**Article 8***Small pelagic stocks**

1. Catches of sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) and anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*) by Union fishing vessels in the Adriatic Sea shall not exceed the levels set out in Annex II to this Regulation.
2. Union fishing vessels targeting sardine and anchovy in the Adriatic Sea shall not exceed 180 fishing days per year. Within that total of 180 fishing days, a maximum of 144 fishing days targeting sardine and a maximum of 144 fishing days targeting anchovy shall apply.

*Article 9***Demersal stocks**

1. The maximum allowable fishing effort for 2020 for demersal stocks in the Adriatic Sea is set out in Annex II.
2. Member States shall manage the maximum allowable effort in accordance with Articles 26 to 35 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.

*Article 10***Data transmission**

When pursuant to Articles 33 and 34 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 Member States submit to the Commission data relating to landings of quantities of stocks caught and fishing effort data, they shall use the stock codes and the effort group codes set out in Annex II to this Regulation.

*CHAPTER IV**Black Sea**Article 11***Allocation of fishing opportunities for sprat**

The Union autonomous quota for sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*), the allocation of such quota among Member States and the conditions functionally linked thereto, where appropriate, are set out in Annex III to this Regulation.

*Article 12***Allocation of fishing opportunities for turbot**

The TAC for turbot (*Psetta maxima*) applicable in Union waters in the Black Sea for Union fishing vessels and the allocation of such TAC among Member States and the conditions functionally linked thereto, where appropriate, are set out in Annex III to this Regulation.



Article 13

Management of fishing effort for turbot

Union fishing vessels authorised to fish for turbot in Union waters in the Black Sea, irrespective of the vessels' length overall, shall not exceed 180 fishing days per year.

Article 14

Closure period for turbot

It shall be prohibited for Union fishing vessels to carry out any fishing activity, including transshipment, retaining on board, landing and first sale of turbot in Union waters in the Black Sea from 15 April to 15 June.

Article 15

Special provisions on allocations of fishing opportunities in the Black Sea

1. The allocation of fishing opportunities among Member States as set out in Articles 11 and 12 of this Regulation shall be without prejudice to:

- (a) exchanges made pursuant to Article 16(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013;
- (b) deductions and reallocations made pursuant to Article 37 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009; and
- (c) deductions made pursuant to Articles 105 and 107 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.

2. Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply where a Member State uses the year-to-year flexibility provided for in Article 15(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

Article 16

Data transmission

When pursuant to Articles 33 and 34 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 Member States submit to the Commission data relating to landings of quantities of stocks of sprat and turbot caught in Union waters in the Black Sea, they shall use the stock codes set out in Annex III to this Regulation.

TITLE III

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 17

Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2020.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

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ANNEX I

FISHING EFFORT FOR UNION FISHING VESSELS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MANAGEMENT OF DEMERSAL STOCKS IN THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN SEA

The tables in this Annex set out the maximum allowable fishing effort (in fishing days) by stock groups, as defined in Article 1 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1022, and overall length of vessels for all types of trawls ⁽¹⁾ fishing for demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean Sea.

All maximum allowable fishing efforts set out in this Annex shall be subject to the rules set out in Regulation (EU) 2019/1022 and Articles 26 to 35 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.

The references to fishing zones are references to GFCM geographical subareas (GSAs).

For the purposes of this Annex, the following comparative table of Latin names and common names of fish stocks is provided:

Scientific name	Alpha-3 code	Common name
<i>Aristaeomorpha foliacea</i>	ARS	Giant red shrimp
<i>Aristeus antennatus</i>	ARA	Blue and red shrimp
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	HKE	European hake
<i>Mullus barbatus</i>	MUT	Red mullet
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	NEP	Norway lobster
<i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i>	DPS	Deep-water rose shrimp

Maximum allowable fishing effort in fishing days

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(a) Alboran Sea, Balearic Islands, Northern Spain and Gulf of Lion (GSAs 1-2-5-6-7)

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Red mullet in GSAs 1, 5, 6 and 7; Hake in GSAs 1-5-6-7; Deep-water rose shrimp in GSAs 1, 5 and 6; Norway lobster in GSAs 5 and 6.	< 12 m	2 260	0	0	EFF1/MED1_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	24 284	0	0	EFF1/MED1_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	45 563	5 144	0	EFF1/MED1_TR3
	≥ 24 m	16 047	6 258	0	EFF1/MED1_TR4
Blue and red shrimp in GSAs 1, 5, 6 and 7.	< 12 m	0	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	1 139	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	11 535	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR3
	≥ 24 m	9 260	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR4

⁽¹⁾ TBB, OTB, PTB, TBN, TBS, TB, OTM, PTM, TMS, TM, OTT, OT, PT, TX, OTP, TSP.

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(b) Corsica Island, Ligurian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea and Sardinia Island (GSAs 8-9-10-11)

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Red mullet in GSAs 9, 10 and 11; Hake in GSAs 9-10-11; Deep-water rose shrimp in GSAs 9-10-11; Norway lobster in GSAs 9 and 10.	< 12 m	0	208	3 081	EFF1/MED2_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	0	833	46 350	EFF1/MED2_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	0	208	31 170	EFF1/MED2_TR3
	≥ 24 m	0	208	4 160	EFF1/MED2_TR4
Giant red shrimp in GSAs 9, 10 and 11.	< 12 m	0	0	510	EFF2/MED2_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	0	0	3 760	EFF2/MED2_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	0	0	3 028	EFF2/MED2_TR3
	≥ 24 m	0	0	405	EFF2/MED2_TR4



ANNEX II

FISHING OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNION FISHING VESSELS IN THE ADRIATIC SEA

The tables in this Annex set out the fishing opportunities by stock or vessels effort groups and the conditions functionally linked thereto, where appropriate.

All fishing opportunities set out in this Annex shall be subject to the rules set out in Articles 26 to 35 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.

The references to fishing zones are references to GFCM geographical subareas (GSAs).

For the purposes of this Annex, the following comparative table of Latin names and common names is provided:

Scientific name	Alpha-3 code	Common name
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	ANE	Anchovy
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	HKE	European hake
<i>Mullus barbatus</i>	MUT	Red mullet
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	NEP	Norway lobster
<i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i>	DPS	Deep-water rose shrimp
<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	PIL	Sardine
<i>Solea solea</i>	SOL	Common sole

1. Small pelagic stocks — GSAs 17 and 18

The table in this section sets out the maximum level of catches expressed in tonnes live weight.

Species:	Small pelagic species (Anchovy and Sardine) <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i> and <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Zone:	Union and International waters of GFCM-GSAs 17 and 18 (SP1/GF1718)
Union	101 711 ⁽¹⁾ ⁽²⁾	Maximum level of catches	Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply
TAC	Not relevant	Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply	

⁽¹⁾ Concerning Slovenia, the quantities are based on the level of catches exerted in 2014, up to an amount which should not exceed 300 tonnes.

⁽²⁾ Limited to Croatia, Italy and Slovenia.

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2. Demersal stocks — GSAs 17 and 18

The table in this section sets out the maximum allowable fishing effort (in fishing days) by types of trawls fishing for demersal stocks in GSAs 17 and 18 (Adriatic Sea).

Gear type	Stocks	Member State	Fishing effort (fishing days) Year 2020	Fishing effort group code
Trawls (OTB)	European hake, deep-water rose shrimp, Norway lobster, red mullet	Italy, GSAs 17-18	108 349	EFF/MED3_OTB
		Croatia, GSAs 17-18	39 257	EFF/MED3_OTB
		Slovenia, GSA 17	(*)	EFF/MED3_OTB
Beam trawls (TBB)	Common sole	Italy, GSA 17	8 663	EFF/MED3_TBB

(*) Fishing vessels flying the flag of Slovenia operating with OTB gear in GSA 17 shall not exceed the effort limit of 3 000 fishing days per year.



ANNEX III

FISHING OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNION FISHING VESSELS IN THE
BLACK SEA

The tables in this Annex set out TACs and quotas expressed in tonnes of live weight by stock and the conditions functionally linked thereto, where appropriate.

All fishing opportunities set out in this Annex shall be subject to the rules set out in Articles 26 to 35 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.

The references to fishing zones are references to GFCM geographical subareas (GSAs).

For the purposes of this Annex, the following comparative table of Latin names and common names is provided:

Scientific name	Alpha-3 code	Common name
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	SPR	Sprat
<i>Psetta maxima</i>	TUR	Turbot

Species:	Sprat <i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Zone:	Union waters in the Black Sea — GSA 29 (SPR/F3742C)
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Bulgaria	8 032,50	Analytical quota
Romania	3 442,50	Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.
Union	11 475	Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.
TAC	Not relevant/Not agreed	

Species	Turbot <i>Psetta maxima</i>	Zone:	Union waters in the Black Sea — GSA 29 (TUR/F3742C)
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Bulgaria	75	Analytical TAC
Romania	75	Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.
Union	150 (*)	Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.
TAC	857	

(*) No fishing activity, including transshipment, retaining on board, landing and first sale shall be permitted from 15 April to 15 June 2020.