

Vote to implement the Common Fisheries Policy.

Don't reopen it.



Ahead of the plenary vote on the Common Fisheries Policy evaluation on the 17th of September, **we urge MEPs to prioritise full implementation and enforcement** — not a legislative reform.

The Commission's evaluation itself showed that:

1 The CFP is fit for purpose

"The CFP Regulation remains a very important and relevant tool to manage a common natural resource and related economic activities in a changing world." (European Commission: CFP evaluation, April 2026)

2 Stocks are fished more sustainably since 2013

Fishing pressure has moved closer to sustainable levels, with stocks fished at sustainable (MSY) rates rising from 50% to 63% of those assessed.

3 Healthy fish populations are the foundation of a viable fishing sector

The evaluation stresses environmental and socio-economic sustainability are intrinsically linked — "when stocks are healthy, the fleet has the opportunity to make a profit which can then be translated into employment and/or wage benefits. Perceptions of incoherence are linked to uneven implementation."

4 Compliance tools exist and are ready to be used

The revised Fisheries Control Regulation delivers new instruments for monitoring, data, traceability and enforcement — the task now is delivering them.

5 Gaps are implementation failures, not the law itself

The evaluation is explicit: inefficiencies "depend on the full implementation of CFP provisions or on detailed provisions and implementation of secondary legislation."

6 Large majority of the fleet is profitable

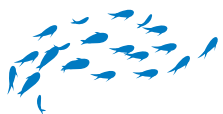
Small-scale coastal fisheries stay profitable while needing less public support. The larger, more fuel-dependent segments are growing ever more reliant on subsidies and deliver weaker economic returns.

7 Current rules allow for a green transition to decarbonise the sector

The existing EU limits on the combined size and engine power of fishing vessels leave room to modernise, improve safety and decarbonise the fleet.

8 Reopening the CFP will waste time and resources

A lengthy reform process creates uncertainty for fishers and coastal communities. It risks stalling stock recovery, making the ocean less resilient to climate change, and weakening existing protections- risking, in turn, the very foundation of a viable fisheries sector. Instead the EU should implement the tools that already exist in the current framework.



Implementing the CFP will:

- **Rebuild** fish populations through precautionary and ecosystem based fisheries management,
- **Enforce** the existing rules equally through effective monitoring and control,
- **Protect** marine ecosystems, the marine food web and **restore** marine habitats,
- **Support** low impact fishing and resilient coastal livelihoods.



We ask that the European Parliament's resolution:

Reaffirms the CFP's objectives and core architecture, in line with the evaluation's findings.

Calls for accelerated implementation, enforcement and investment of the tools already available under the existing framework.

Avoids language that opens the door to a legislative reform processes not supported by the evaluation's own conclusions.

