



**EFCA'S  
10<sup>TH</sup> YEAR  
ANNIVERSARY  
IN SPAIN**

9 OCT 2018 - VIGO

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EFCA'S 10th YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN SPAIN  
Vigo, 9 October 2018





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# 1/

# AN EVENT TO CELEBRATE 10<sup>TH</sup> YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN SPAIN

**ON 9 OCTOBER 2018, THE EUROPEAN FISHERIES  
CONTROL AGENCY (EFCA) CELEBRATED ITS 10<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY IN SPAIN (VIGO)**

The European Fisheries Control Agency moved its headquarters from Brussels to Spain (Vigo), in July 2008 in accordance with the provisions of the Article 18 of its founding regulation, thanks to the support of both the European Commission and the Spanish Authorities.

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**EFCA CELEBRATED  
THIS FIRST DECADE IN  
SPAIN IN THE CITY OF  
VIGO ON 9 OCTOBER  
2018, THE EVE OF  
ITS ADMINISTRATIVE  
BOARD MEETING,  
TO FACILITATE THE  
ATTENDANCE OF ITS  
MEMBERS.**

The programme of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration included a presentation of EFCA in its headquarters, a visit of EFCA chartered offshore patrol vessel (OPV) Lundy Sentinel moored in Vigo's port, a Seminar with short key note speeches relating to Fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance measures and cooperation in the framework of the European Coast Guard function and a reception.

European Commission and Member States representatives, EU agencies directors, EFCA Administrative and Advisory members, third countries partners and Spanish, Galician and Vigo authorities joined EFCA in different parts of this celebration.



# 2/

# SEMINAR ON FISHERIES MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE MEASURES

AND IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN  
COAST GUARD COOPERATION

- 17:15 Round table 2: The international dimension and EU Coast Guard function  
 Implementing the EU legislation against IUU fishing: a MS perspective  
 Gabriela Kong-Jusuifi, EFCA Administrative Board Member from Austria
- 17:30 - 17:45 ILO Convention and its integration in the EU Law  
 Jaime Cabeza, Professor Dr. from the University of Vigo
- 17:45 - 18:00 International cooperation on the Western Coast of  
 Commission (SRFC)  
 Maiel Sane, Permanent Secretary of the E
- 18:00 - 18:15 Cooperation between Frontex and EFCA with  
 Coast Guard functions  
 Fabrice Leggeri, FRONTEX Executive Dir
- 18:15 - 18:30 The concept of governmental ship in UNCLOS  
 Eftymios Papastravridis, Professor Dr. in
- 18:30 - 18:45 Questions and comments



- 18:45 The future of the EU fisheries control system by  
 MARE Head of Unit Fisheries Control and Insp
- 19:00 Pascal Savouret, Wrap-up by EFCA Executive

Official event on the celebration of EFCA's 10<sup>th</sup>

Cocktail reception

## EFCA's 10<sup>TH</sup> YEAR ANNIVERSARY



**Seminar on Fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance measures  
and in the framework of the European Coast Guard cooperation.**

- 14:00 Opening by Pascal Savouret, EFCA Executive Director  
 Moderated by Karen Coleman  
 EFCA as a decentralised agency by Peter Langlais, Professor Dr. from University  
 of Nantes

- 14:00 Round table 1: Specific Control and Inspections Programmes and Joint  
 Deployment Plans  
 Evolution and way forward: 2007 - 2018  
 Pedro Galache Valente, EFCA Head of Unit Coast Guard and International  
 Programmes  
 Melanie Seibert, EFCA Administrative Board Member from Germany
- 14:30 - 15:00 Different perspectives for electronic and Earth observation  
 Jacob Handrup, Senior Fisheries Officer from Denmark  
 Pascal Legal, European Union Satellite Centre Director

- 15:00 - 15:30 Questions and comments  
 Inma Valelle, Professor Dr. from the University of Vigo
- 15:30 - 15:45 Risk analysis, Compliance and Deterrence  
 Mario Lopes dos Santos, EFCA Head of Unit EU
- 15:45 - 16:15 Contribution of fisheries control to environmental  
 Cornelius Hammer, ICES President

- 16:15 - 16:30 Questions and comments
- 16:30 - 16:45 Coffee break

- 16:45 - 17:15 Coffee break



## **OPENING BY PASCAL SAVOURET, EFCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr Savouret welcomed everyone to the Seminar on Fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance measures and in the framework of the European Coast Guard cooperation for celebrating the 10th anniversary of the establishment of European Fisheries Control Agency in Vigo.

He outlined that the seminar would walk through a vast array of topics underpinned by the EFCA mandate focussing on the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy including in its international dimension and the cooperation in the framework of the European Coast Guard function. Indeed, the seminar would encompass a wealth of subjects that the speakers agreed to treat in a very limited time. He thanked the speakers for this challenge of summarising and condensing and said that the seminar was divided into two round tables preceded by a legal introduction and reflections on the European Agencies, EFCA taken as an example. Subsequently, the Commission would speak on the future of the EU fisheries control system.

Finally, he gave the floor to Ms Karen Coleman, underlining that the speakers would talk on their behalf and that this seminar would not be recorded but that some photographs would be taken for EFCA communication purposes.



## **EFCA AS A DECENTRALISED AGENCY BY PETER LANGLAIS, PROFESSOR DR. FROM UNIVERSITY OF NANTES**

In his presentation, professor Langlais explained the legal personality of the European Fisheries Control Agency as a decentralised European Union agency, according to its founding regulation, 768/2005, helping the EU institutions implement policies and as opposed to executive agencies, entrusted with certain tasks relating to the management of EU programmes.

During his intervention, professor Langlais analysed the composition of EFCA's Administrative Board as well as the voting results in accordance to its composition and its repartition amongst the different representatives. Moreover, the speaker walked through the evolution of EFCA's budget from its creation in 2007 to date, where a clear increase could be perceived especially in the operational activities.

Thanks to his presentation attendees of the 10th year anniversary could have a good grasp on how EFCA functions as a decentralised regulatory agency within the European Union family.



# ROUND TABLE 1

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**SPECIFIC CONTROL AND  
INSPECTION PROGRAMMES AND  
JOINT DEPLOYMENT PLANS**

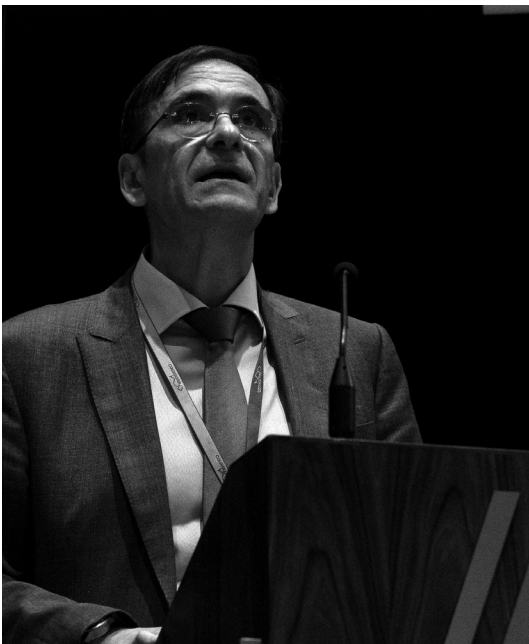
## EVOLUTION AND WAY FORWARD: 2007 - 2018

PEDRO GALACHE VALIENTE

*EFCA Head of Unit Coast and  
International Programmes*

### MR GALACHE EXPLAINED THE JOINT DEPLOYMENT PLAN CONCEPT:

THE INSTRUMENT THROUGH WHICH EFCA COORDINATES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPECIFIC CONTROL AND INSPECTION PROGRAMMES (SCIP) ALSO USED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONTROL AND INSPECTION PROGRAMMES ADOPTED BY REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ORGANISATIONS (RFMOS).



The JDPs give effect to the criteria, benchmarks, priorities and common inspection procedures determined by the SCIP and organise the use of the human and material resources with regards to periods and zones in which these have to be deployed, including the operation of teams of Union inspectors from Member States.

Mr Galache outlined that SCIP/JDPs have evolved dramatically over the last years. What was designed as a special tool for specific cases where the situation of the stocks was very poor has moved to a common and widely accepted approach to implement joint control activities and facilitate the cooperation between Member States authorities at a regional level and in line with the evolution of the CFP towards a more regionalised approach. Indeed, EFCA was created to promote and impulse this aspect of the CFP. Another important aspect is the planning of cost-effective activities through joint planning and risk analysis.

Additional elements in the current EFCA mandate and in the forthcoming new Control Regulation and new SCIP will surely influence the SCIP/JDP instrument in the coming 10 years. Some of the new areas are JDPs supporting multipurpose operations, international JDPs in the RFMO to implement the International Control Schemes, Participation of EFCA means and EFCA staff as Union inspectors and a EU Fisheries Monitoring Centre to provide a maritime picture.

**MELANIE SEIBERT**

*EFCA Administrative Board Member  
from Germany*



**MS SEIBERT INTRODUCED THE DIFFERENT CHALLENGES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONTROL OF THE COMMON FISHERIES POLICY,** IMPLEMENTED BY THE MEMBERS STATES, BUT WITH A VARIETY OF CONTROL SYSTEMS AND WITH DIFFERENT INVOLVED AUTHORITIES AND FISHERIES.

In this regard, she asserted EFCA is a very valuable support to the European Union and its Member State. In particular, in the implementation of the Landing Obligation, with its comprehensive risk assessment and the coordination of the Joint Deployment Plans and the work it carries out in the regional groups contributing to achieve a level playing field. Ms Seibert highlighted the main potential of EFCA from a Member State perspective, in terms of consistency, knowledge and transfer of knowledge at different levels, good overview and capability of coordination and support.

Looking ahead, EFCA's role is vital for the challenges of the new Control Regulation, in the new requirements of the SCIPs and JDPS, and in the REM group.

## DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES FOR ELECTRONIC AND EARTH OBSERVATION

JACOB HANDRUP  
*Senior Fisheries Officer  
from Denmark*



**MR HANDRUP PRESENTED THE VERY INTERESTING PROJECT ON THE USE OF REMOTE ELECTRONIC MONITORING AND CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) TECHNOLOGIES IN DENMARK BETWEEN 2015 AND 2016.**

He shared that for the trial 2015-2016, all 13 vessels were equipped with the "Blackbox" VX CCTV system. Sensor data and videos were all transferred electronically by 3G or 4G and that 15 per cent of all hauls were analysed.

In his presentation, he also highlighted the lessons learned using Remote Electronic Monitoring tools and CCTV in the catch quota trials: REM system data can be used to verify logbook recordings. By using REM systems, they could ensure reliable management of the fisheries and provide high quality data for scientific advisory work. For the landing obligation, REM systems can be used to document if discarding takes place. He concluded that the cost of REM system is cheap if compared to the use of observers on board of fishing vessels.

**PASCAL LEGAI***European Union Satellite  
Centre Director*

**SATCEN DIRECTOR PASCAL LEGAI  
SHARED SOME THOUGHTS ON THE  
IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATION  
BETWEEN EU AGENCIES.**

ESTABLISHING, MAINTAINING AND  
STRENGTHENING THIS COOPERATION IS CRITICAL  
IN ORDER TO SUCCEED IN A CHALLENGING AND  
RAPIDLY EVOLVING OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT.

The European Union Satellite Centre is a good example of how civilian and military aspects can combine in an integrated approach. SatCen supports the decision making

and actions of the EU in the field of Common Foreign and Security policy (CFSP), in particular Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), by providing products and services derived from the exploitation of relevant space assets and collateral data, including satellite imagery, aerial imagery, and related services.

Cooperation between the EU Agencies focuses on the optimisation of the existing resources and capabilities of the different institutions. How can this be useful for future cooperation between EFCA and SatCen? EFCA supports the Commission in the framework of the fight against Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing activities. IUU activities are often managed by transnational and organised crime networks, with possible links to other criminal activities. The effective coordination of fisheries control activities requires adequate monitoring and surveillance tools. According to the Council Decision establishing the SatCen, the Centre may "...cooperate with the Commission and with Union agencies, bodies or Member States, with a view to maximising synergies and complementarity with other Union activities that have a bearing on SatCen and where SatCen's activities are relevant to those Union activities, in particular in the area of space and security." Both EFCA and SatCen are currently engaged in a pilot project to investigate the benefit of GEOINT information for EFCA's operational needs, and the possibility of working closely together in the field of illegal fishing. Artificial Intelligence is used to optimise the analysis of the data, where appropriate. Results will be available very soon.

## RISK ANALYSIS, COMPLIANCE AND DETERRENCE

INMA VALEIJE

*Professor Dr. from the  
University of Vigo*



### **IN HER PRESENTATION, PROFESSOR VALEIJE ASSESSED THE SPANISH LAW IN THE FRAMEWORK OF RISK ANALYSIS, COMPLIANCE AND DETERRENCE WITH REGARDS TO ILLEGAL FISHING ACTIVITIES.**

SHE POINTED THAT THE SPANISH STATE HAS ASSUMED THE COMMUNITY OBLIGATIONS IN RESPECT TO THE COMMON FISHERIES POLICY.

The repression of illegal fisheries activities has been entrusted exclusively to administrative law penalties as foreseen in maritime fisheries law. Concerning the responsibility of the legal entities, it is entirely entrusted to administrative sanctions. The range of the economic administrative sanctions, very high in its minimum and maximums, and the gravity of the catalogue of the accessory sanctions makes them deterrent and punitive. The sanctions in penal law occupy a secondary place and are highly ineffective.

Fisheries Policy is one field that requires a profound evaluation to determine if it would be important to count with minimum rules about the definition of crimes and sanctions to guarantee the effective application of the EU legislation, as established in the Commission Communication towards a Penal Law in the EU: guaranteeing the application of UE policies in the EU through Penal Law COMM (2011) 573 FINAL OF 20.9.2011.

## MARIO LOPES DOS SANTOS

*EFCA Head of Unit EU Waters  
and North Atlantic*

### **MR LOPES DOS SANTOS FOCUSED HIS PRESENTATION ON THE NEED OF RISK ASSESSMENT AND ON THE FACTORS DETERMINING COMPLIANCE AND HOW TO MEASURE IT.**

RISK ASSESSMENT IS A KEY TOOL FOR AN EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF MONITOR, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES.

The strategic risk assessment conducted by EFCA with the collaboration of Member States experts is based on standard risk assessment methodology, and allows for the identification of priority threats, areas and fleet segments of higher risk, facilitating the most cost-effective deployment of the limited control resources. A good understanding of the fisheries, the applicable regulations and the existing or foreseen risks of non-compliance are crucial elements for an adequate outcome of the risk assessment. To this end, EFCA has developed a comprehensive set of fact-sheets summarising this type of information for the different fisheries under JDPs.

He also underlined that compliance depends on several factors such as the control strategy and effort, the existing management measures, and the sanction policy. EFCA has an agreed set of methods used to evaluate compliance. In



the context of the landing obligation, EFCA coordinates the analysis of data collected from sea inspection – the “last haul” (LH) inspections. In the LH catch composition has been collected with participation of Member State inspectors and assistance from EFCA staff in the field. LH catch composition data is verified by MS inspectors and can thus be used as reference data and compared with the catch composition declared in the logbook (not-verified) to estimate the discards rate. The methodologies used, assume that the verified data is representative of the fleet segment with the same gear, mesh size and area of fishing activity.

## CONTRIBUTION OF FISHERIES CONTROL TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

CORNELIUS HAMMER  
*ICES President*



### **MR HAMMER STARTED HIS PRESENTATION STATING THAT FISHERIES CONTROL IS ESSENTIAL IN ACHIEVING MAXIMUM SUSTAINABLE YIELD (MSY).**

HE SAID THAT AS FISHERMEN HAVE BEEN CATCHING FISH AT THEIR OWN RISK FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS, IN A WAY THEY FEEL THAT THEY OWN THE RESOURCES AND FEEL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL AS AN INTERFERENCE.

Mr Hammer listed the factors for best recovery. He then calculated in over 10 billion of euros per year the total revenues for fisheries caught in the ICES-area (i.e. what the fisherman receives on the fish market for fish). He then said that the total fishery research was worth between 80 and 100 million (i.e. less than one per cent) and the total cost of control and surveillance at most is as costly as the research, approximately. Therefore, research, control and enforcement cost are about 2% of the value of the catches on the level of fish market revenues. He then concluded that the effort in fisheries control and research is cost-efficient.



# ROUND TABLE 2

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**THE INTERNATIONAL  
DIMENSION AND EU COAST  
GUARD FUNCTION**

## IMPLEMENTING THE EU LEGISLATION AGAINST IUU FISHING: A MS PERSPECTIVE

GABRIELA KÖNIG-JUSUFI  
*EFCA Board Member from  
Austria*

### **MS KÖNIG-JUSUFI INFORMED ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EU LEGISLATION AGAINST ILEGAL UNREGULATED AND UNDECLARED (IUU) FISHING IN AUSTRIA.**

AUSTRIA IS A LANDLOCKED COUNTRY, NOT ENGAGED IN MARITIME FISHERIES, BUT A CONSUMER COUNTRY OF MARINE PRODUCTS.

Thus, IUU controls take place by the competent authority, the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety in Vienna. In the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 (until and including July) catch certificates for the imports of mainly skipjack tuna, primarily from FAO Area 71 (West Central Pacific = Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam) have been presented. Other important FAO Areas were 34 (East Central Atlantic), 51 (West Indian), 57 (East Indian) and 61 (North-West Pacific), bringing imports inter alia from Morocco, Korea, Ghana and Oman. In the years mentioned above also processing statements have been presented. Processing was mainly done in Thailand (skipjack tuna). Processing in other countries (inter alia Korea and China) concerned Alaska Pollock, Sauries and Yellowfin tuna. Inquiries to third countries brought missing or a clarification of unclear informations.



Re-exports of mainly skipjack tuna with destination Switzerland took also place. Austria praises good contacts with the European Commission (EC), EFCA and the other Member States and thanks the EC and EFCA especially for the preparations concerning the upcoming IUU-IT System "CATCH", a very important tool. Therefore, Austria looks very much forward to the use of CATCH, which is planned for the beginning of 2019.

## ILO CONVENTION AND ITS INTEGRATION IN THE EU LAW

JAIME CABEZA

*Professor Dr. from the  
University of Vigo*



### **PROFESSOR CABEZA KICKED OFF HIS PRESENTATION EXPLAINING THE POINT OF DEPARTURE WITH THE EXCLUSION OF PROTECTION OF THE WORKERS OF THE SEA OF A NUMBER OF RULES IN THE EU.**

SINCE 2007, SOCIAL INTERLOCUTORS REASSESSED THE SITUATION WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION. MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION, 2006 (MLC, 2006) AND THE WORK IN FISHING CONVENTION, 2007 (NO. 188) WERE APPROVED AND TWO DECISIONS ARE TAKEN TO REQUEST MEMBER STATES TO RATIFY THE TWO CONVENTIONS.

The EU integrated these aspects with the transversal Directive 2015/1794 from the European Parliament and the Council of 6 October 2015 and several directives regarding health and safety at work and working time.

Mr Cabezas highlighted the importance of moving forward as the labour conditions in the fisheries sector concentrate 7,9% of active population worldwide in hard and precarious working conditions and it is unattractive for young people. He welcomed the agreement met in relation to the application of the ILO Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 on 21 May 2012 implying placing a firm bet on the ratification of 188 Convention. Through the Directive 2017/159 of 19 December 2016, the agreement of the 2007 Convention is applied.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON THE WESTERN COAST OF AFRICA AND PROGRAMME PESCAO

**MALAL SANE**

*Permanent Secretary of the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC)*



### **MR SANE, AS REPRESENTATIVE OF ONE OF THE TWO PESCAO PROJECT PARTNERS IN AFRICA, DESCRIBED THE COMPOSITION, MISSION AND CONTEXT OF THE SRFC.**

HE ALSO OUTLINED THE DIFFERENT ACTIONS THEY ARE CARRYING OUT TO FIGHT ILLEGAL, UNDECLARED AND UNREGULATED FISHING, INTER ALIA, THE REVISION OF NATIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORKS, THE STRENGTHENING OF SURVEILLANCE STRUCTURES, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A REGIONAL VMS, A SUB-REGIONAL VESSELS REGISTER, A PROGRAMME FOR INSPECTORS AND OBSERVERS AND PLANNING AN IMPLEMENTATION OF SUBREGIONAL FISHERIES SURVEILLANCE WITH THE SHARING OF ASSETS.

Mr Sane highlighted the cooperation with EFCA in the framework of the development project PESCAO, through the different exchanges via meetings and emails, the participation of EFCA in the subregional surveillance operations organized by the SRFC and, in general, the cooperation of the two structures in the implementation of Result 2 (fight against IUU fishing) of the development project PESCAO.

## COOPERATION BETWEEN FRONTEX AND EFCA WITHIN THE EUROPEAN COOPERATION ON COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS

FABRICE LEGGERI

*Frontex Executive  
Director*

### MR LEGGERI SPOKE ABOUT THE COOPERATION BETWEEN FRONTEX AND EFCA WITHIN THE EUROPEAN COOPERATION ON COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS,

WHICH AMENDED THE THREE AGENCIES FOUNDING REGULATIONS WITH A COMMON ARTICLE ON COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS AND ESTABLISHED FIVE AREAS OF COOPERATION. INDEED, THE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN FRONTEX, EMSA AND EFCA FOR SUPPORTING THE MEMBER STATES AUTHORITIES INVOLVED IN COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS MEANS AN EFFECTIVE SUPPORT FOR MEMBER STATES AT SEA.

He highlighted the different fields the cooperation covered: operations, situational awareness and monitoring through the use of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) data and in the framework of Multipurpose Aerial Surveillance (MAS), risk analysis through the Maritime Intelligence Community & Risk Analysis Network (MIC-RAN), the EFCA-Frontex cooperation capacity building through the Air Crew preparation for Joint



Operations course and the Leadership training and capacity sharing through the inter-institutional call for Fixed Wing Airplane (FASS II) and the joint procurement procedure under discussion for an inter-agency multi-purpose offshore patrol vessel.

## THE CONCEPT OF GOVERNMENTAL SHIP IN UNCLOS

EFTHYMIOS PAPASTAVRIDIS

*Professor Dr. from Oxford  
University*

### **IN HIS SPEECH, PROFESSOR PAPASTAVRIDIS GAVE A VERY INTERESTING INSIGHT OF THE CONCEPT OF GOVERNMENTAL SHIP VS NON-GOVERNMENTAL SHIP.**

HE EXPLORED ISSUES CONCERNING THE USE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL VESSELS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES AT SEA, INCLUDING FOR FISHERIES INSPECTION PURPOSES.

Such issues included, inter alia, the nationality of vessels concerned and whether international organisations may register vessels, the due authority required for law enforcement operations. He also touched upon the issue of flag State and potential EU responsibility for ostensible violations of international law.



## THE FUTURE OF THE EU FISHERIES CONTROL SYSTEM

**FRANCESCA ARENA**

*European Commission DG MARE Head  
of Unit Fisheries Control and Inspection*



### **FRANCESCA ARENA OUTLINED THE PURPOSES OF THE EU FISHERIES CONTROL SYSTEM:**

TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT, CREATE A CULTURE OF COMPLIANCE, ENSURE A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD AND PREVENT AND COMBAT IUU FISHING CONTRIBUTING TO ENSURING SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES.

Ms Arena explained the current system, reformed after the 2007 European Court of Auditors report and encompassing EFCA Founding regulation, IUU regulation, the fisheries control regulation and the sustainable management of external fleet regulation. After 2016-2017 evaluations, the European Commission made a proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending the EU fisheries control system COM (2018) 368 and in particular the control regulation (EC No 1224/2009), EFCA regulation (768/2005) and IUU regulation (1005/2008).

She explained that the proposal aimed at clarification, simplification and digitisation and included enforcement rules; availability, quality and sharing of data; bridging the gap with the CFP through the control of the landing obligation, the monitoring of engine power and national control programmes; increased synergies with other policies like Environment and Food Law and alignment with the Lisbon Treaty. Regarding the amendment of EFCA regulation, she pointed at aligning it to the CFP, extending the geographical scope of Agency's inspection powers no longer limited to international waters, updating measures for protection of personal data, and extending the possibilities for revenues to allow delegation agreements and ad-hoc grants.

**PASCAL SAVOURET**

*EFCA Executive Director*

EFCA Executive Director thanked the speakers for sharing their approach and vision of the vast array of subjects, and having inspired the attendees. He then wrapped up briefly commenting on each of the subjects.

**3/**

**OFFICIAL EVENT  
ON THE  
CELEBRATION  
OF EFCA'S 10<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY  
IN VIGO**





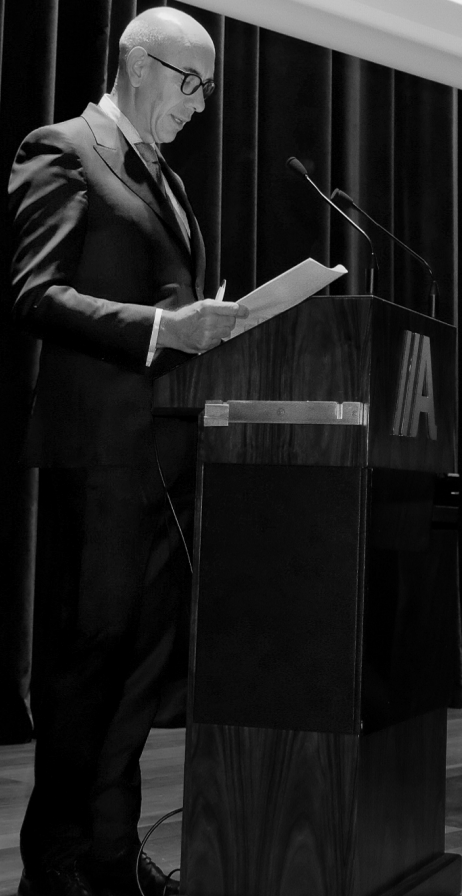
**THE OFFICIAL EVENT CONSISTED IN SHORT SPEECHES FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES (MARE), JOAO AGUIAR MACHADO, AND FROM THE SPANISH, GALICIAN AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES:**

the Secretary General of fisheries of Spain, Alicia Villauriz, the Conselleira do Mar da Xunta de Galicia, Rosa Quintana, the Presidenta de la Diputación de Pontevedra, Carmela Silva and the Mayor of Vigo, Abel Caballero.

The different authorities coincided in highlighting the important role of the European Fisheries Control Agency and the success of its model in its support to create a culture of compliance and fight illegal fishing and as a definitive contribution to sustainable fisheries.



EFCA'S 10th YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN SPAIN  
Vigo, 9 October 2018



## WORDS OF EFCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PASCAL SAVOURET  
*Executive Director*



**This decade meant years of effort and strong commitments, besides a high level of confidence of the staff of the agency. Working with them is a privilege and an honour.**

**Today around 83 staff members and seconded national experts of the Member States work and live with their families in Vigo.”**

**I AM HAPPY TO WELCOME YOU HERE FOR CELEBRATING THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EUROPEAN FISHERIES CONTROL AGENCY IN VIGO, WHICH IS A DECISIVE MILESTONE OF ITS SHORT HISTORY.**

AS YOU KNOW THE COUNCIL-REGULATION NUMBER 768 OF 2005 FOUNDED THE EUROPEAN FISHERIES CONTROL AGENCY AND PROVIDED ITS LOCATION IN VIGO. ACCORDING TO THE SAME FOUNDING REGULATION, THE AGENCY STARTED ITS ACTIVITIES IN 2006 AND SUBSEQUENTLY, MOVED ITS HEADQUARTERS FROM BRUSSELS TO VIGO ON JULY 1ST 2008.

Creating and developing a new European Agency is not an easy task. The outstanding cooperation of the Commission, represented today by Mr Joao Aguiar Machado-DG Mare that I take the opportunity to thank, Spain, the hosting Member State and the motivation of the staff under the leadership of their first Executive Director, Mr Harm Koster, wrote the first chapter of the successful story of the then Community Fisheries Control Agency.

This decade meant years of effort and strong commitments, besides a high level of confidence of the staff of the agency. Working with them is a privilege and an honour. Today around 83 staff members and seconded national experts of the Member States work and live with their families in Vigo. In 2018, we have never been so close to gender balance. EFCA has taken roots in the country and city that host it. Vigo is now famous among fisheries control officials of the Member States from all over Europe and third countries. EFCA also takes part in city initiatives that reach out to citizens such as sponsoring a street art mural or organising workshops on ocean sustainability for children at Vigo Sea Fest.

The Administrative Board, which combines MS and Commission representatives under the lead of the Chairs (to mention here the former chair including the late Jorgen Holmquist) beyond his role of governance and monitoring, was open-minded and always followed a pragmatic approach of the agency priorities vis-à-vis its limited resources without losing the ultimate objectives of improved compliance, level playing field and efficiency. Through the good input of the Advisory Board and cooperation with Advisory Councils, the EFCA appeared as an honest broker that you can trust, and open to dialogue with industry and NGOs.

## I. A DECADE IN VIGO

*2008 - 2018*

EFCA coordinates the joint control plans of the Member States and assists them and the European Commission in the implementation of the control regime of the Common Fisheries Policy. The main legal and operational instrument available and EFCA's core task is the Joint Deployment Plan (or JDP) which aims at implementing the Specific Control and Inspection Programme (SCIP) decided by the European Commission. EFCA is currently cooperating with the Member States in the implementation of five Joint Deployment Plans and coordinates 20,000 around inspections last year and so far more than 100,000 since 2007.

The EFCA (then CFCA) coordinated its first JDP campaign in July 2007. It was the North - North Sea JDP. Since then the agency has been deepening and extending the JDP concept according to the Commission decisions on the species falling under the Specific control and inspection programmes, which proves that Member States and the Commission have found in EFCA a long term and reliable broker in fisheries control. The year 2008, beyond the relocation in Vigo, was outstanding with the commencement of EFCA activities in the Mediterranean Sea, in NAFO area and in the Baltic Sea. The activity extended to NEAFC area in 2009 and then to the European Western Waters in 2011. An operational plan applied to the European waters of the Black Sea from 2015; Currently EFCA implements

JDPs in all these areas on a year-round basis and covering an increasing number of fisheries.

The Mediterranean JDP was an important step further and success story of the European Union for addressing the situation of the fisheries of Bluefin Tuna. Moreover, an initial pilot project in 2017 set a precedent in demonstrating that cooperation was possible among the Mediterranean third countries actors and paved the way for the establishment of an international control scheme concretising the political commitments of the MedFish4ever ministerial declaration. A second pilot project has been carried out now in the Black Sea.

### a) Support to the Member States

Besides the JDP, one of the most significant achievement of the decade in support of the MS was the implementation of the new features of the Common Fisheries Policy adopted by the co-legislators in 2013. The Common Fisheries Policy regulation number 1380 of 2013 of 11 December 2013, in what concerns EFCA, departed from the past through three new features: the landing obligation, the regionalisation



and a clear mention of the EFCA role in the international dimension. The agency coined and presented to the MS and the Commission the PACT concept based on the article 15 of the EFCA founding regulation. PACT means Partnership, Accountability, Cooperation and Transparency. This concept aimed at reinforcing the Regional Control Expert Groups and demonstrated its relevance for assisting the Member States in the implementation of the landing obligation for species not falling under JDP. Developing risk management processes, compliance monitoring, harmonised inspection procedures, assisting the dialogue with the industry, exploring the feasibility of Remote Electronic Monitoring, and bridging with the operations such as the specific actions carried out at the JDP level have been the building block of EFCA support of the Member States and the Commission in the implementation of the landing obligation.

The agency VMS application started parsing data in 2008, followed by other EFCA applications: ERS, JADE, RRA, Fishnet and the EIR system. During 2012 and 2013, the EFCA and EMSA developed MARSURV, known today as Integrated Maritime Service or IMS. These systems required a strong and

efficient IT department, which has significantly improved from 2012 onwards. EFCA developed tangible tools such as the production of manuals (core curriculum volume) and training programmes that have been crucial for the harmonisation of fisheries control measures, the fight against IUU fishing, the creation of a level playing field and an increased transparency among the Member States. The agency released the first volume of the Core curriculum in 2013 and subsequent volumes each year until 2017.

EFCA has also developed an e-learning platform that is accessible to all Member States services to facilitate the common formation of the Union inspectors. Meanwhile the corporate processes and management of EFCA resources human and financial steadily improved, constantly endorsed, and quickly implemented the recommendation of the European Court of Auditors, the Internal Audit Service and of the European Parliament as stated in its discharge decisions. The move to a full-fledged e-administration has been another success story of EFCA. The adaptation of the building to staff needs through furniture and workplace improvements strongly contributed to the wellbeing of all of us.



## **b) Support of the Union in the international dimension**

EFCA supports the Union as regards the International control aspects managed by the Regional Fisheries Organisations, not only through the implementation of Control activities through JDPs, but also assisting the EU Delegation in meetings of organisations such as NAFO, NEAFC, ICCAT and GFCM. The Commission delegated some tasks to the agency in 2009 allowing an increased support to the Union in the international dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy and the fight against Illegal, Unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

The capacity building efforts deployed by EFCA in third countries linked to the Union by Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements convinced the Commission to involve EFCA in the more ambitious programme PESCAO in 2017. The challenges faced by the Union on its maritime border led the Commission to recognise that there was an evident array of interactions between the respective mandates of Frontex and EMSA and the EFCA for assisting the National Authorities delivering Coast Guard functions through a common amendment of 2016 to the founding regulations. The three agencies signed a tripartite working arrangement in 2017, which provides the foundations of their intense cooperation.

The EFCA chartered and deployed an offshore fisheries patrol vessel in the international waters and waters under jurisdiction of some Member States in 2008-2009, then 2011-2012 and now since 2017. This vessel has been an important asset in contributing to the Union obligations in international waters and a unique platform in bringing inspectors from different MS together under a joint inspection effort.

## **II. STARTING A NEW DECADE**

I am convinced that the next decade will be even more intensive and successful thus providing a great opportunity for the Agency to demonstrate its European added-value and “additionality” to the Member States and the Commission. Coordination and cooperation in fisheries control will remain the rule and not the exception in the European Union. Moreover, the development of a full-fledged European Coast Guard function in cooperation

with Frontex and EMSA and an enhanced role of EFCA in the international dimension would significantly contribute to the safety and the security of the European citizens and to the visibility of the policies of the European Union. May I insist here on the key position in EFCA JDPs of the coordinators and their much-desired empowerment as Union Inspectors in the EU waters and the need for a European Union Fisheries Monitoring Centre that EFCA volunteers to develop and operate? The sharing of inspection assets, as OPV, made available to the Member States by the European Fisheries Control Agency for the implementation of the control regime of the Common Fisheries Policy may constitute an instrumental approach for making the Common Fisheries Policy even more integrated and efficient including in its international dimension. Achieving through our efforts, a robust sustainability of the fisheries resources will drive our vision and values.

Quisiera aprovechar esta oportunidad para agradecer el Gobierno de España representado hoy por Doña Alicia Villauriz Iglesias Secretaria General de Pesca su apoyo eficaz e indefectible que se concretó durante los primeros meses de la llegada de la Agencia en Vigo y que se mantiene ahora con el memorándum de entendimiento y la sede de la Agencia.

Creo que todos estamos bien integrados en esta hermosa ciudad de Vigo, tan destacable por su energía, su creatividad empresarial e intelectual, su apertura al mar y al mundo. Quisiera dar las gracias al alcalde de Vigo Don Abel Caballero Álvarez y al Concello por facilitar la integración de la agencia en la ciudad olívica. También estamos bien integrados en esta tierra de Galicia. Agradezco el Presidente de la Xunta de Galicia Don Alberto Núñez Feijó el apoyo que proporcionó a la plantilla de la agencia para facilitar la integración de sus hijos en el sistema de enseñanza gallega y también Doña Rosa Quintana Carballo Conselleira do Mar que le representa hoy por su trato atento y su eficaz disposición.

Tal e como di o poeta Manuel María “Galicia docemente está ollando ao mar”, esta vocación de mirar con coidado e respecto o mar compartímolos na Axencia. É por iso que Galicia foi e é un lugar que soubo entender o labor do noso organismo, e estamos agradecidos polo seu respecto.

**Graciñas, Muchas gracias, Thank you**



*After the official event, an informal reception took place with all the authorities, guests and EFCA staff.*

**COCKTAIL RECEPTION**

