



Title: AM-227-1 to S 5.2: Draft 2024 Manifesto -
**CHAPTER I: The Courage to Put Planet and People
First – Our Green and Social Deal for Europe**

Tabled by: Europe Ecologie - Les Verts

Draft text

From line 227 to 231:

~~To protect access for local communities and protect marine ecosystems, overfishing practices need to be stopped and alternative sustainable economic models for coastal communities developed. It is not just about the amount of fish we are catching but how we catch it, we will put an end to bottom trawling practices that damage everything in their wake.~~

To halt the degradation of marine ecosystems, to protect artisanal low-impact fisheries and to be more resilient to climate change, Europe needs to end overfishing and phase out harmful fisheries practices. The Common Fisheries Policy must encourage the transition towards low-impact fisheries, fair quota distribution system and sustainable seafood consumption. This transition needs to be planned in close cooperation with the fishers across Europe. Marine Protected Areas needs to be really protected and it should be illegal to use harmful fishing techniques such as bottom trawling inside them.

As the EU relies on imports for 70% of its sea food consumption, it is important to acknowledge the role it has to play to ensure sustainable fishing on the entire planet. We will fight for more ambitious rules at the global level in all relevant fora, promote the development of low-impact fisheries in third countries, and reduce our imports of seafood products coming from overfishing. Aquaculture can't be seen as a long-term solution to replace wild-caught seafood given its negative impact on the environment, on fisheries, on local communities and on animal welfare. The EU needs to set high standards for the development of aquaculture and for the import of aquaculture products.