

[en](#)

News | 30.01.2013

Sustainable fishing is possible

10 demands in the EU Common Fisheries Policy reform

Green MEPs hosted a press breakfast this morning to highlight their 10 demands for the EU Common Fisheries Policy reform.



Marine resources are in crisis. European fish stocks are at critical levels and a dysfunctional EU Common Fisheries Policy is making matters worse. Fishermen and coastal communities are at risk due to perverse rules and incentives that favour those most responsible for this crisis. But there is an alternative. Instead of consumers having to check fish against lists of sustainable stocks, ALL European fish could be sustainable by 2020. That is why the Greens say Save the Fish, Save the Fishermen.

Marine resources are a public good, not a private resource. The right to exploit those resources, therefore, should be allocated according to criteria that ensure that fishing contributes as far as possible to the public interest. Greens propose that the allocation of the right to fish should be based upon criteria rather than

market forces – specifically, on the environmental and social aspects of the fishing. Fishermen should be required to demonstrate that their fishing operations do not damage the marine environment and make significant contributions to coastal fishing communities. This view of who should have the right to fish colours Green demands.

These include:

1. END OVERFISHING BY 2015
2. ESTABLISH LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLANS
3. MAKE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION A PREREQUISITE
4. END DISCARDING – STOP THE DUMPING OF FISH
5. DE-CENTRALISE DECISION MAKING
6. USE PUBLIC MONEY FOR THE TRANSITION OF THE FISHING FLEET
7. GIVE PRIORITY ACCESS TO LOW-IMPACT FISHING VESSELS
8. STOP THE PRIVATISATION OF THE SEA
9. MAKE EVERYONE FOLLOW THE RULES
10. FISH RESPONSIBLY IN THE REST OF THE WORLD

Read more about our 10 demands and download the leaflet in the following languages:

- [English](#)
- [Deutsch](#)
- [Français](#)
- [Español](#)
- [Català](#)
- [Svenska](#)
- [ελληνικά](#)

Recommended

Opinion



[Toxic Beauty: How the EU's new cosmetics rules could p...](#)

07.04.2026

Press release

Bert Christiaens

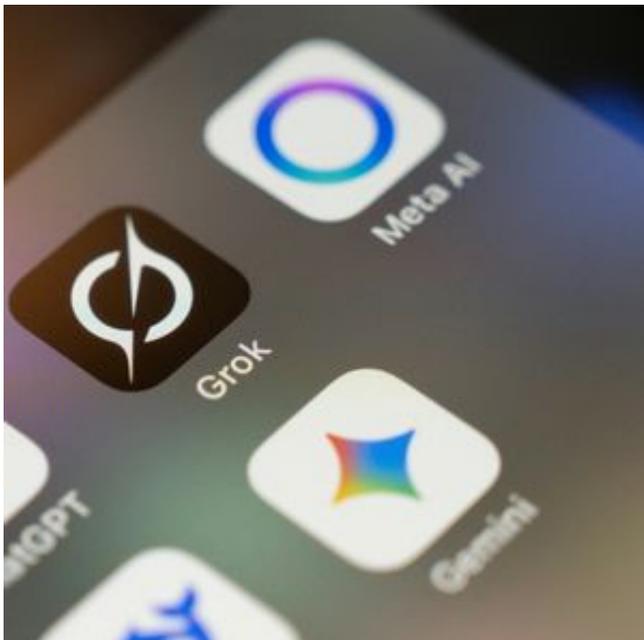


[CMO/Veggie burger trilogy outcome: Quote from MEP Ann...](#)

05.03.2026

Press release

salvador-rios-tkkOCi1Wgx0-unsplash



[DSA: European Commission opens investigation against G...](#)

26.01.2026

Press release

© Patrick Laverdant



[EU-Mercosur](#)

09.01.2026

Responsible MEPs



Rebecca Harms

Member

Contact person



Nelly Baltide

Advisor on Development

Please share

[E-Mail](#)