

#Cosaintlascaireachta

OUR PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Ireland's fishing industry is in crisis while other EU and non-EU states are seeing strong growth. We face shrinking catches, a reduced fleet, job losses and have less Irish-caught fish for our seafood processing industry. The impact is devastating on coastal communities and service industries. But our Government and the EU fail to address the underlying problem: we have NEVER had a fair share of EU fishing quotas:

- Ireland has one of the largest shares of EU waters – 12% - yet we are allocated just 5.6% of EU fishing quotas.
- We're allowed to catch just 15% of the fish in our own waters – that's 1 ½ fish in every 10. Other EU countries like Spain and the Netherlands, and even non-EU states like Norway, catch the remaining 85%.
- The Netherlands has a coastline of just 450 kilometres. Ireland's is 6 times greater at over 3000 kilometres. Yet in one year alone, their permitted catch in the North East Atlantic was 40% higher than Ireland's.
- A staggering 40% of the fishing quotas given to the UK post-Brexit came from Ireland. So, we have lost 26% of our mackerel quotas, contributing to a 45% loss in pelagic exports last year. We estimate a loss of €8.2m a year in Dublin Bay Prawns by 2026.

It's time to #fight4fishing so join our campaign to highlight fishing issues in the 2024 EU elections



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN?



- Support our campaign on social media
- Ask questions of canvassers on the doorstep
- Write to local papers or phone into local radio
- Register to vote!

CHECK THE REGISTER & REMEMBER TO VOTE

Make sure you are registered to vote or register now.

Check the Register at <https://checktheregister.ie>

Applications to register or change name or address details must be received by your local authority no later than 20th May.

Ensure your voice is counted by voting on Friday, June 7th.

LIKE, SHARE & COMMENT

You can help us amplify our campaign with 3 simple actions:

1. Follow the social media channels of the IFPO, IFPEA and KFO.
2. Help raise the profile of our posts by Liking and Commenting.
3. Spread awareness further by Sharing.

Did You Know?



Ireland has **12%** of all EU waters but we are allocated just **5.6%** of EU fishing quotas.

So, we can catch only **15%** of the fish in our own waters.

That's 1 ½ fish.... in every 10.



Campaign Helpsheet and links to Social Media here:
<https://ifpo.ie/fight4fishing-in-eu-elections-campaign/>



MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD:

Talk to family and friends about the issues, help rally the troops!

Write to local papers or call local radio stations.

Ask canvassers coming to your door about how they plan to address fishing concerns.

[Here's our list of suggested questions:](#)

Questions to ask EU Election Candidates & Canvassers

Here are some sample questions with a few useful statistics for you to pick from:

1. What is your understanding of the challenges faced by the fishing and seafood sectors and the rapid decline of fishing?
2. Ireland has 12% of the EU's fishing waters but gets just 5.6% of EU fishing quotas. As an MEP, how would you advocate for changes to the CFP which would give Ireland a fairer share of quotas?
3. We're allowed to catch just 15% of the fish in our own waters. Other EU countries like Spain and the Netherlands, and even non-EU states like Norway, catch the remaining 85%. Do you think this is fair? Would you lobby to change this?
4. The Common Fisheries Policy seems to be doing more harm than good for Ireland. What key reforms of the CFP would you press for as an MEP?
5. Ireland lost 15% of our quota overnight in the EU's deal with the UK after Brexit. By far the largest share of what was transferred to Britain came from Ireland - 40% - while just 7% came from Spain, for example. Do you think the EU needs to increase our quotas to address this?
6. Are you prepared to give a voice to our fishing and seafood sector, defend our interests and work to influence future deals and policy decisions at EU and Fisheries Council level which will help us grow?
7. In particular, would you urge our Government to veto EU decisions which are unfavourable to Ireland's fishing industry?
8. What issue or issues which are affecting Coastal Communities would you like the EU to prioritise



#Fight4fishing
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Scan here for
Helpsheet:

