



The EU has expressed its commitment to being a global leader in the fight to protect biodiversity and address climate change

The **European Green Deal** aims to reach climate neutrality by 2050. Protecting resilient biodiversity within ecosystems and ensuring the sustainability of our blue economy and fisheries sector are high priorities of the EU Green Deal. These goals are also part of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.

During the **CITES CoP19**, where 60 additional shark species were added to the Appendix II listing, the EU demonstrated its ambitions in shark protection by supporting all proposals for shark listings.

During the **Cop15 Biodiversity Conference** in late 2022 the dire need to protect biodiversity in the ocean was once again emphasized. Sharks are a key species to ocean health and strong fish populations.

The **30x30 Initiative** (for Marine protection) and the **High Seas Treaty** can only succeed if shark species are given a chance to recover. Ending the fin trade helps meet these goals.

The major commitments made by the EU during the recent **Ocean Conference** in Panama showed that the EU wants to take on a leadership role in creating ocean protection and recovery.

All of these pledges require comprehensive protection of endangered species and habitats, including the often overseen species in the ocean.

The question now is how all of these promises will be turned into real action.

Over the past 13 years, the **US, UK, many Pacific Island Nations, and Canada** have enacted laws to prohibit the trade of fins, therefore ensuring that they do not participate in this harmful global industry.

The EU is long overdue to join the nations that take ocean and shark conservation seriously by putting trade regulations into action.