



## Violations of the EU fishing fleet relating to shark fins

During the public hearing the representative of Europeche stated to the parliament that no European vessel had been sanctioned for any violations relating to shark fins.

A swift internet search reveals this not to be true in European waters as well as internationally.

EU vessels have been found several times having loose fins on board which is an infringement of the EU Regulation 605/2013 that prohibits the cutting of fins at sea.



NATIONAL MARITIME AUTHORITY

### Maritime Police seize more than 35 tons of fish in Sesimbra

29 DEC 2022 17:20

In December 2022 Sesimbra, a Spanish vessel, was detained for trying to land 1 ton of loose fins in Peniche, Portugal.



Fish Information & Services

In partnership with SeafoodMediaGroup



### Spanish fishing vessel is arrested for illegal fishing of a protected shark species.



PORTUGAL

Friday, January 06, 2023, 10:00 (GMT + 9)

On December 22nd 2022 Playa del Ril, another Spanish vessel was detained in Peniche for having more than 12 tons of short fin mako on board, allegedly from the South Atlantic, but without the required CITES documentation.

The same vessel had already been denounced for having landed shark fins separated from the shark bodies in the port of Montevideo, Uruguay in 2017.



## Illegal 'shark finning' under the European flag

By Ama Lorenz and Kolawole Talabi | EURACTIV Germany | translated by Alexandra Brzozowski

📅 Dec 19, 2017 (updated: 📅 Jan 8, 2018)

EU legislation prohibits so-called 'shark finning', the separation of shark fins with subsequent disposal of the animal in the sea. Nevertheless, ships sailing under the European flag in African waters violate these laws – and have little to fear from the EU.

Spanish fishing vessel, *Virxen da Blanca*, was fined €2,500 along with forfeiture of €165,000 of catch and gear following a guilty plea before the courts on May 23. The species on-board comprised mainly of blue shark along with a small quantity of mako shark.

*Virxen da Blanca* was detained ...approximately 150nm off the Irish south coast.

Dr Steele reiterated the Authority's commitment to preventing illegal fishing:

"We have zero tolerance for vessels removing fins from sharks in our waters".

## The Maritime Executive

INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL FOR LEADERS

PUBLISHED SEP 5, 2018

The captain of a Spanish-flagged fishing vessel has been charged with shark finning after Irish Naval Service personnel boarded his vessel and found more than **one tonne of fins on board**. In court, prosecutors contended that the vessel was found carrying 2,800 pounds of shark fins



## Massive Spanish Shark Finning Operation Uncovered in São Tomé and Príncipe

TUE, OCT 17, 2017 09:00 CET

On the 5th of September, the Spanish long-line fishing vessel *Baz* was boarded in waters belonging to the Central African island state of São Tomé and Príncipe ...

Although the long-liner was licensed to fish for 'tuna and similar species' inspections revealed that their fish holds were mostly filled with sharks, predominately blue sharks ... but also shortfin mako sharks. Many of the shark fins had already been detached from their bodies, a suspected violation of the European Union Finning Ban (1185/2003) and its amendment (605/2013), which requires any captured sharks to be delivered with their Fins Naturally Attached (FNA).

PUBLISHED AUG 9, 2016

On August 6, the Spanish long-line fishing vessel *Aleamar Primero* was boarded in waters belonging to the Central African island state of São Tomé, and authorities found the vessel's holds filled with dead sharks.

The long liner was licensed to fish for "tuna and similar species."

Many of the shark's fins had already been detached from their bodies...