ONLINE DIALOGUE

Fish on the plate, exploitation at sea

What can be done about human rights abuses in the global fishing industry?

Date
Wednesday, 9.December.2026

Time
12.30 - 14.00 pm

Format
Online (with simultaneous interpretation DE / EN)



Image courtesy of the Environmental Justice Foundation, 2026.

For many people, calamari and tuna are a natural part of their diet. Yet few know the conditions under which these products are caught and the price paid by the people working on the fishing vessels. Reports of forced labor, physical violence, withheld wages, and months of isolation on the high seas show that human rights violations are the rule rather than the exception in the calamari and tuna fishing industries.

In our online dialogue event, we will take a joint look behind the scenes of global fisheries. Dominic Thomson from the Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF) will report on the working conditions aboard the fishing vessels of international squid and tuna fleets, highlighting how a lack of transparency and inadequate inspections facilitate exploitation.

Together with additional panelists, we want to discuss: How can we ensure in the future that seafood products in our supermarkets are not linked to forced labor? What policy measures can the EU and member states like Germany support to ensure greater transparency and human rights protection in global fisheries? And what responsibility do retailers and supermarkets bear?

Alongside expert insights, this event—hosted by Essen mit Zukunft and the Environmental Justice Foundation—offers space for questions and an exchange on potential courses of action. We warmly invite everyone interested to listen in and join the discussion as we work together to advance pathways toward fair fisheries that respect human rights.

Participation & Registration: Hosted by Essen mit Zukunft and the Environmental Justice Foundation, the event offers space for questions and discussion. Please register in advance using the following link:

Register here for the online dialogue