

Provocative, Destructive and Illegal Fishing by 6 Turkish Trawlers near the Coast of Leros

In recent days, **"flocks" of Turkish fishing boats**, specifically trawlers, have been sailing at dawn from the Turkish coasts, entering and fishing illegally in Greek waters, even within 100 meters of the coasts of the eastern Aegean islands such as Samos, Agathonisi, Lipsi, Leros and Kalymnos.

Earlier today, **one of the vessels of the "Archipelagos" Marine Protection Institute**, which, in parallel with its research activities in the waters of the region, has been recording for years incidents of destructive fishing wherever they originate, **spotted 6 Turkish trawlers fishing near the coast of Leros**.

It is noteworthy that **some of the Turkish fishing boats** had changed their flag at sea and **were sailing not under the Turkish flag, but under the Greek flag**.

Immediately, as is customary, the Archipelagos researchers informed the **competent port authority**, and received in response that there was **no possibility of intervention** and that the higher authorities would simply be notified.



Some of the Turkish fishing vessels had changed their flag at sea and were sailing not under the Turkish flag, but under the Greek flag.

When cross-checking the data of the fishing vessels, **it was found that only 2 of the 6 Turkish trawlers had their electronic identification system (AIS) in**

operation. It is noteworthy that once again, **our mere presence at the site to record data and videotape** the incident was enough to **cause all 6 Turkish vessels to flee en masse.** Before they left, however, some of the vessels in question made threatening movements towards us and **a collision was narrowly avoided due to the dangerous maneuvers of one of the Turkish trawlers.** We are truly presenting a dangerous and fragile image as a country, shortly after August 15th, **declaring our inability to prevent destructive and illegal fishing, but also completely unprepared to defend our national waters.** Moreover, all this is happening at the same time and in the same areas where the country has mobilized a large fleet and modern equipment to repel boats with women, children and persecuted people.



The behavior of the Turkish fishermen proves their certain knowledge of the **long-standing negligence of the Greek State** and the resulting **weakness of the Greek port authorities** in **dealing with such incidents**, which are occurring more and more frequently.

We must emphasize that as a Marine Protection Institute, **the stance of Archipelagos is not nationalistic, but focuses on the protection of our environment and marine resources.** As people who have lived on the eastern borders of Greece for decades, both we and the local communities experience great **insecurity as to whether the state is truly able to safeguard the vital interests of our country.**

For the Institute of Marine Protection "Archipelago"

Thodoris Tsimpidis

t.tsimpidis@archipelago.gr





Leave a reply

To comment you must be [logged in](#).



Archipelagos
Institute of Marine Conservation



Links

[Terms and Conditions](#)
[Payment Methods](#)
[Returns / Cancellations Policy](#)

Our Purpose

Our actions would be impossible
without you!

SUPPORT US

Navigation



Subscribe to our newsletter

Full name



E-mail

Mission



Archipelagos - Institute of Marine Conservation © All Rights Reserved

Powered by Cactus