



2023/2615

20.11.2023

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2023/2615**

**of 15 November 2023**

**establishing a fisheries closure for hake in GFCM geographical subareas 8, 9, 10 and 11 for demersal longliners flying the flag of Italy and having an overall length equal or superior to 18 meters and inferior to 24 meters**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Union control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 36(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Regulation (EU) 2023/195 <sup>(2)</sup> lays down fishing opportunities for 2023.
- (2) According to the information received by the Commission, the maximum allowable fishing effort related to hake in the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) geographical subareas 8, 9, 10 and 11 and applicable to demersal longliners flying the flag of or registered in Italy having an overall length equal or superior to 18 meters and inferior to 24 meters, is deemed to have been reached for 2023.
- (3) It is therefore necessary to prohibit certain fishing activities for that stock group,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

**Effort exhaustion**

The maximum allowable fishing effort allocated to Italy for the stock group of hake in GFCM geographical subareas 8, 9, 10 and 11 for 2023 referred to in the Annex shall be deemed to be reached from the date set out in that Annex.

*Article 2*

**Prohibitions**

Fishing activities for the stock referred to in Article 1 by demersal longliners flying the flag of or registered in Italy and having an overall length equal or superior to 18 meters and inferior to 24 meters shall be prohibited from the date set out in the Annex. In particular it shall be prohibited to retain on board, relocate, tranship or land fish from that stock caught by those vessels after that date.

*Article 3*

**Entry into force**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2023/195 of 30 January 2023 fixing for 2023 the fishing opportunities for certain stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Mediterranean and Black Seas and amending Regulation (EU) 2022/110 as regards the fishing opportunities for 2022 applicable in the Mediterranean and the Black Seas (OJ L 28, 31.1.2023, p. 220).

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 15 November 2023.

*For the Commission,  
On behalf of the President,  
Virginijus SINKEVIČIUS  
Member of the Commission*

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## ANNEX

|                           |                                                             |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| No                        | 16/TQ195                                                    |
| Member State              | Italy                                                       |
| Fishing effort group code | EFF1/MED2_LL3                                               |
| Stock group               | Hake ( <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> ) in GSAs 8,9,10 and 11 |
| Vessels concerned         | Demersal longliners $\geq 18$ m and $< 24$ m                |
| Closing date              | 27 October 2023                                             |