

Basic information	
<p><b>2013/0097(COD)</b></p> <p>COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation</p>	Procedure completed
<p>Imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone</p> <p><b>Subject</b></p> <p>3.15.01 Fish stocks, conservation of fishery resources 3.15.15 Fisheries agreements and cooperation 3.70.01 Protection of natural resources: fauna, flora, nature, wildlife, countryside; biodiversity 6.20.02 Export/import control, trade defence, trade barriers</p>	

Key players				
European Parliament	<b>Committee responsible</b>		<b>Rapporteur</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
	<b>PECH</b> Fisheries		ROMEVA I RUEDA Raül (Verts/ALE)	06/05/2013
			Shadow rapporteur FRAGA ESTÉVEZ Carmen (PPE) ARSENIS Kriton (S&D)	
	<b>Committee for opinion</b>		<b>Rapporteur for opinion</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health and Food Safety		The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	<b>Council configuration</b>		<b>Meetings</b>	<b>Date</b>
	Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)		3295	2014-02-20
European Commission	<b>Commission DG</b>		<b>Commissioner</b>	
	Maritime Affairs and Fisheries		DAMANAKI Maria	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
		COM(2013)0185	Summary

08/04/2013	Legislative proposal published		
16/04/2013	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
17/12/2013	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
20/12/2013	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	<a href="#">A7-0475/2013</a>	<a href="#">Summary</a>
05/02/2014	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	<a href="#">T7-0073/2014</a>	<a href="#">Summary</a>
05/02/2014	Results of vote in Parliament		
20/02/2014	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
26/02/2014	Final act signed		
26/02/2014	End of procedure in Parliament		
20/03/2014	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
<b>Procedure reference</b>	2013/0097(COD)
<b>Procedure type</b>	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
<b>Procedure subtype</b>	Legislation
<b>Legislative instrument</b>	Regulation
<b>Legal basis</b>	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207-p2
<b>Other legal basis</b>	Rules of Procedure EP 165
<b>Stage reached in procedure</b>	Procedure completed
<b>Committee dossier</b>	PECH/7/12381

Documentation gateway				
<b>European Parliament</b>				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		<a href="#">PE514.923</a>	17/10/2013	
Amendments tabled in committee		<a href="#">PE522.996</a>	11/11/2013	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A7-0475/2013</a>	20/12/2013	<a href="#">Summary</a>
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T7-0073/2014</a>	05/02/2014	<a href="#">Summary</a>
<b>Council of the EU</b>				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Draft final act	<a href="#">00016/2014/LEX</a>	26/02/2014		
<b>European Commission</b>				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	

Legislative proposal	<a href="#">COM(2013)0185</a> 	08/04/2013	<a href="#">Summary</a>
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	<a href="#">SP(2014)446</a>	20/05/2014	

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
National parliaments	<a href="#">IPEX</a>	
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>	

Final act
<a href="#">Regulation 2014/0249</a> <a href="#">OJ L 084 20.03.2014, p. 0004</a> <span style="float: right;"><a href="#">Summary</a></span>

## Imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone

2013/0097(COD) - 08/04/2013 - Legislative proposal

**PURPOSE:** the repeal of Council Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1036/2001.

**PROPOSED ACT:** Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

**ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT:** the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

**BACKGROUND:** the European Union has been a Contracting Party to the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (the ICCAT Convention) since 14 November 1997, following the adoption of Council Decision 86/238/EEC. The ICCAT Convention provides a **framework for regional cooperation in the conservation and management of tuna and tuna-like species** in the Atlantic Ocean and its adjacent seas through the establishment of an International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and the adoption by the latter of conservation and management measures which become binding on the contracting parties. In 1998, ICCAT adopted resolution 98-18 concerning the **unreported and unregulated catches of tuna** by large-scale longline vessels in the Convention area. That resolution established procedures for the identification of countries whose vessels had fished for tuna and tuna-like species in a manner which diminished the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures. It also specified measures to be taken, including if necessary **non-discriminatory trade restrictive measures**, in order to prevent those countries' vessels from continuing such fishing practices.

Following the adoption of resolution 98-18, ICCAT identified Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone as countries whose vessels fish Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) in a manner which diminishes the effectiveness of its conservation and management measures, substantiating its findings with data concerning catches, trade and the activities of vessels. As a consequence, ICCAT recommended that Contracting Parties take appropriate measures, consistent with provisions of the 1998 Resolution, to the effect that **the import of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products in any form from the above mentioned countries be prohibited**. As a consequence, imports to the Union of Atlantic bigeye tuna originating from these countries were prohibited by Regulation (EC) No 827/2004. In 2004, ICCAT acknowledged the efforts made by Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea and Sierra Leone to address its concerns and adopted recommendations for the lifting of trade-restrictive measures against those three countries. As a consequence, Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 was amended by Regulation (EC) No 919/2005, so that it continued prohibiting such imports only from Bolivia and Georgia.

At its 22nd regular annual meeting, ICCAT acknowledged the efforts made and actions taken by Bolivia and Georgia and adopted recommendation 11-19 lifting the import prohibitions on Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products which had been imposed on those two countries. Regulation (EC) No 827/2004, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 919/2005 should therefore be repealed.

**IMPACT ASSESSMENT:** no impact assessment was undertaken.

**LEGAL BASIS:** Article 207(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

CONTENT: the lifting of the import prohibitions on Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products that were imposed on Bolivia and Georgia has been adopted by ICCAT, international body to which the European Union is a Contracting Party. In order to uphold its international commitments, the European Union should enact such decision into Union law and therefore repeal Regulation (EC) No 827/2004.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATION: there are no implications for the European Union's budget.

## Imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone

2013/0097(COD) - 20/12/2013 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Fisheries adopted the report by Raül ROMEVA i RUEDA (Greens/EFA, ES) on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Regulation (EC) N°827/2004 prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone and repealing Regulation (EC) N°1036/2001.

The committee recommended that the Parliament's position adopted in first reading following the ordinary legislative procedure should amend the Commission proposal. The proposed key amendment sought to clarify that following the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) 14th Special Meeting in 2004, Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 has been amended by Regulation (EC) No 919/2005, so that it continues prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products only from Bolivia and Georgia, whereas imports from Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea and Sierra Leone should be permitted again.

## Imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone

2013/0097(COD) - 05/02/2014 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 597 votes to 5, with 11 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1036/2001.

Parliament adopted its position at first reading following the ordinary legislative procedure. The amendments adopted in plenary are the result of an agreement reached between the European Parliament and the Council.

It is stated in a recital that at its 14th special meeting in 2004 the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), Council Regulation (EC) No 919/2005 amended Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 to lift the prohibition on imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products from Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea and Sierra Leone into the Union. Following that amendment, Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 only prohibits such imports from Bolivia and Georgia.

At its 22nd regular annual meeting in 2011, ICCAT acknowledged the actions taken by Bolivia and Georgia and adopted recommendation 11-19 lifting the prohibition on imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products that continued to apply to those two countries.

Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 should therefore be repealed.

## Imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone

2013/0097(COD) - 26/02/2014 - Final act

PURPOSE: lifting restrictions on tuna imports from Bolivia and Georgia.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Regulation (EU) No 249/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1036/2001.

CONTENT: the Regulation **repeals Regulation (EC) No 827/2004** which prohibits imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone into the Union.

In 1998, the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) adopted a resolution that identified Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone as countries whose vessels fish Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) in a manner that diminishes the effectiveness of its conservation and management measures. That resolution led to the adoption of Council Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna from these countries.

In 2005, the Council amended Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 to lift the prohibition on imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products **from Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea and Sierra Leone** into the Union after ICCAT acknowledged the efforts made by these three countries to address its concerns.

In 2011, ICCAT also acknowledged the efforts made and actions taken by **Bolivia and Georgia** and adopted a recommendation lifting the import prohibitions on Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products which had been imposed on those two countries.

Accordingly, Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 is repealed.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 27/03/2014.