

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TAKEN

FROM AVAILABLE AIS DATA-

MAURITANIA

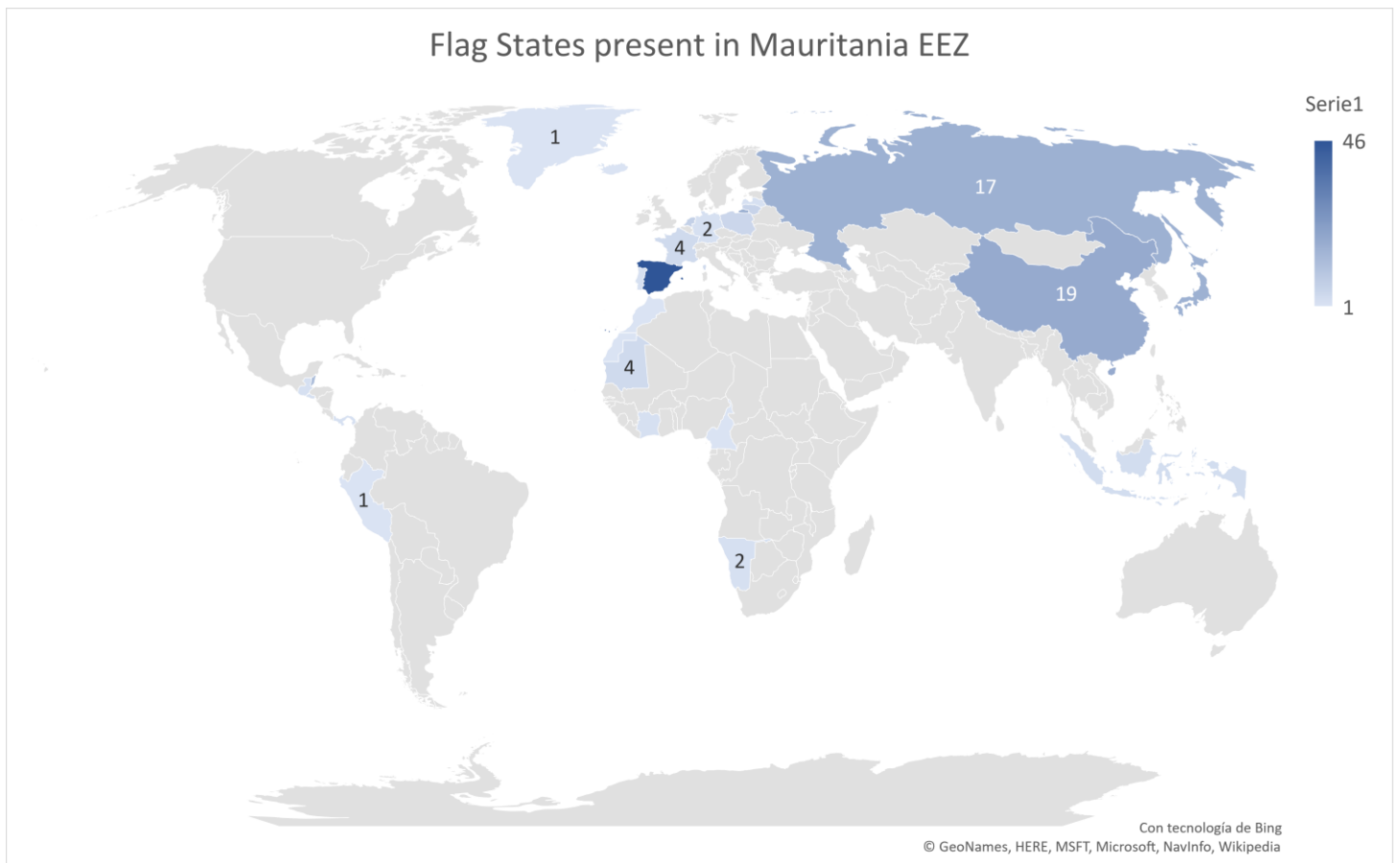
Sonia Doblado – LDAC

The AIS data provided by Global Fishing Watch (GFW), have been analysed with the aim of looking for inconsistencies between AIS and the maritime legislation in place, and any other additional information that might be useful for the Mauritania Case Study of FarFish. In some cases, news articles are provided to clarify certain points.

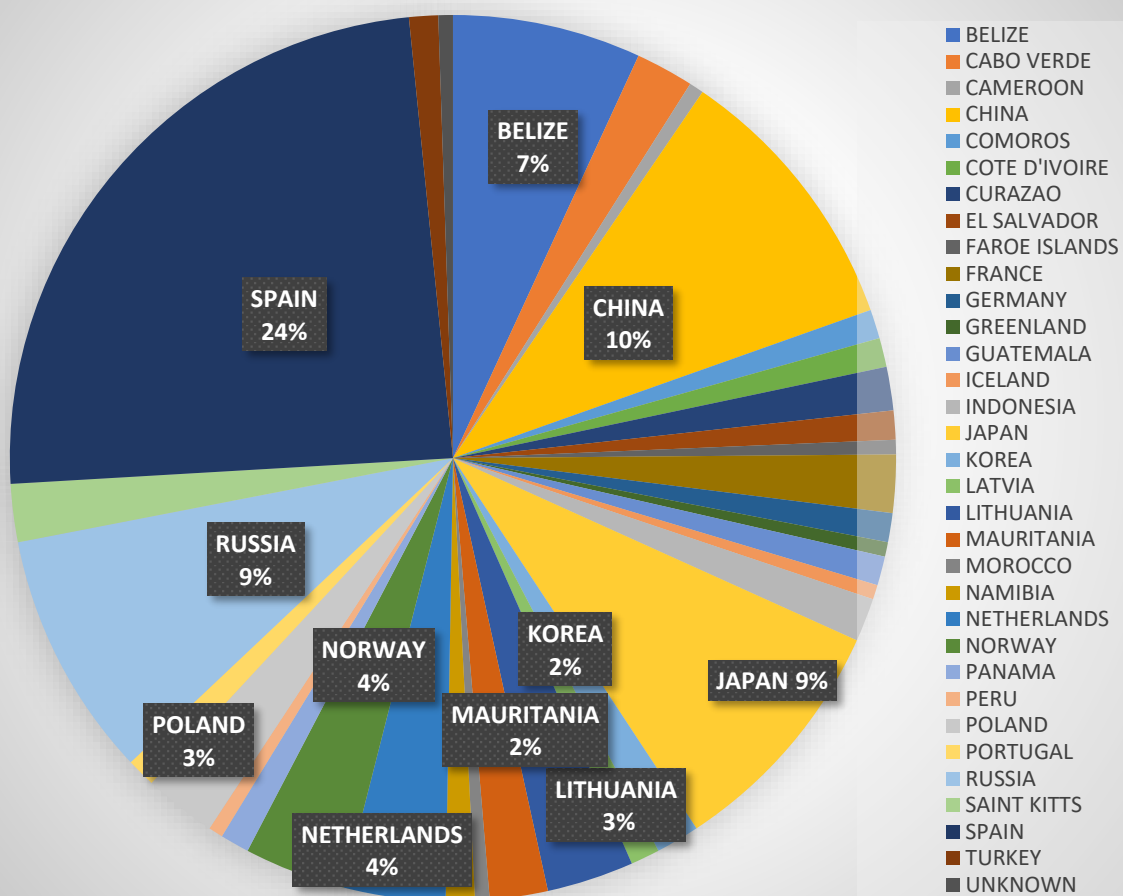
COUNTRIES FISHING IN MAURITANIA EEZ

The following image shows the countries with vessels present in the Mauritanian EEZ. The legend shows the number of vessels. Next, a chart explains the percentage of vessels per country.

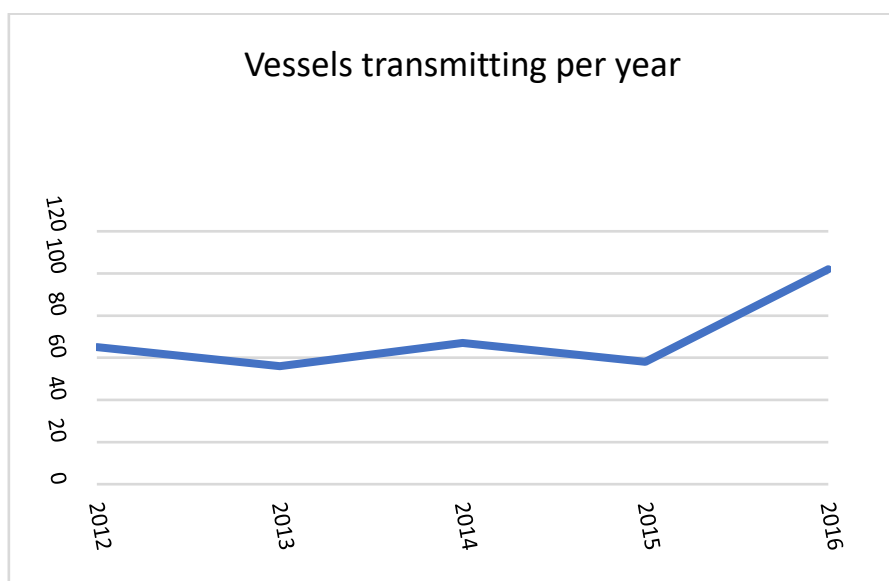
Flag States present in Mauritania EEZ



Percentage of vessels per country



FISHING VESSELS PER YEAR



The graph above shows the trend on the number of fishing vessels transmitting AIS per year, within the Mauritanian EEZ.

7 out of 17 vessels from Japan started their activities (always according to the signal transmissions) at the end of 2016. All the other Japanese vessels were fishing in the area in 2012-2013, and came back in 2016. All 3 vessels from Indonesia, and 2 out of 3 vessels from Korea started their activity in 2016 too.

The increase in number of vessels between 2015 and 2016 matches the signing of a new SFPA between Mauritania and the EU (entered into force 11/2015). But only 10 of those new vessels are from an EU MS (9 from Spain), so this alone doesn't explain the increasing numbers.

ACCORDS DE PÊCHE

- According to *whofishesfar.org*, 57 EU vessels were fishing in Mauritania under the FPA 2012-2014 agreement. 89 vessels were given authorizations. *Whofishesfar* contemplates the Mauritania FPA until 2014. Important to note that 2014 was the year the last SFPA between Senegal and the EU was implemented (2014-2019).
- Japan and Mauritania signed their first agreement in 1977 (<https://fr.le360.ma/monde/mauritanie-532-millions-de-dollars-de-dons-japonais-depuis-1977-59631>). It allows them to fish for tuna and octopus. Records found for a possible agreement signed for the period 2015-2020, but official text not found (http://www.peches.gov.mr/IMG/pdf/rapport_finalcadre_d_investissement.pdf). Records found of this agreement to be a private one between Mauritania and the Japanese Federation of Fishing Associations.
- Only 4 national vessels were found fishing via AIS, and only since 2014.
- There are no official documents to be found about a fisheries agreement between China and Mauritania. However, there are records of an agreement signed in 2010 between Mauritania and the Chinese company Poly Hondone Pelagic Fishery co. Ltd., for a duration of 25 years. <https://mondafrique.com/4251-2/>, <https://www.asso-sherpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/AVRIL-CP-Version-site-Polyhondone-Muaritanie-Annexe.pdf>. Seems that the agreement is with a private Chinese company, and not with China as a whole. There is also a chinese-mauritanian partenariat: <http://mcp-rim.com/>

- The agreement between Russia and Mauritania exists, with records of an initial agreement for small pelagics signed in 2003, renewable each 5 years. But an official document for the agreement was not found.

POTENTIAL ACTIONS

- Look for an agreement between Japan and Mauritania starting 2016.
- Chinese and Indonesian vessels have a clear pattern with months in which they are not fishing. Look for established closures in such months.
- Japan vessels operate mostly in December. Investigate possible reasons (closures, targets,...)
- Records about Ukrainian vessels have been found. Check if this is real, and investigate why they're not sending AIS signals.
- Russia-Mauritania agreement is supposed to be public. Look for official text.
- Check compatibility between ICCAT, SFPFA and other African countries agreements: are they equivalent?
- Ensure if it is mandatory for Mauritania to inform the EU about fisheries agreements with third parties.
- Compare fishing effort peaks with biology of catch species. Investigate if fleets under no agreement have different seasonal trends (i.e. do they catch during sensible periods of catch species life cycles).