

Outcome of the negotiations with the applicant countries: Fishing rights (1972)

Caption: Norway signs the Treaty of Accession to the European Economic Community (EEC) on 22 January 1972, in Brussels. The Treaty contains a special protocol on fishing rights.

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The Enlarged Community

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[...]

Fisheries

Fishing rights

25. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2 of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2141 /70 dated 20 October 1970 on the establishment of a common structural policy for the fishing industry, the Member States of the Community will be authorized until 31 December 1982 to restrict fishing in waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction, situated within a limit of six nautical miles calculated from the base lines of the coastal Member State, to vessels traditionally fishing in those waters from ports in that geographical coastal area.

Member States availing themselves of this derogation must not adopt provisions dealing with conditions for fishing in these waters which are less restrictive than those applied in practice at the time of accession.

To enable a satisfactory overall balance of fishing operations to be established within the Community during the above period, it was agreed that the Member States need not make full use of the opportunities presented by the derogation in certain areas of the maritime waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction.

Member States are to inform the Commission of the measures they adopt for this purpose; on a report from the Commission the Council will then examine the situation and, where necessary, issue recommendations to the Member States accordingly.

The six-mile limit is to be extended to twelve miles for the following areas:

United Kingdom: the Shetlands and Orkneys; the north and east of Scotland; from Cape Wrath to Berwick; the north-east of England, from the river Coquet to Flamborough Head; the south-west from Lyme Regis to Hartland Point (including twelve miles around Lundy Island); County Down.

Ireland: the north and west coasts, from Lough Foyle to Cork Harbour in the south-west; the east coast, from Carlingford Lough to Carnsore Point, for crustaceans and molluscs (shellfish).

Denmark: the Faroe Islands; Greenland; the west coast, from Thyborn to Blaavandshuk.

Norway: the coast between the Norwegian-Soviet frontier and Egersund.

France: the coasts of the *Départements* of Manche, Ille-et-Vilaine, Côtes-du-Nord, Finistère and Morbihan.

These provisions will not affect any special fishing rights enjoyed at 31 January 1971 by individual Member States of the Community in regard to one or more other Member States.

From the sixth year after accession at latest, the Council, acting on proposals from the Commission, will determine conditions for fishing with a view to ensuring protection of the fishing grounds and conservation of the biological resources of the sea.

Before 31 December 1982, the Commission is to present a report to the Council on the economic and social development of the coastal areas of the Member States and the state of stocks. On the basis of that report, and of the objectives of the common fisheries policy, the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, will examine what arrangements should follow the derogations in force until 31 December 1982.

Special protocol on Norway

26. This instrument acknowledges the very great importance of the fishing industry for Norway in consequence of Norway's special geographical situation. Fisheries and related industries constitute an essential activity for the population of a large part of the coastal areas where other possibilities of employment are limited. It adds that the Conference shares the objectives of the Norwegian Government regarding the maintenance of a satisfactory demographic balance in the areas of Norway that are essentially dependent on inshore fishing. The institutions of the Community are accordingly recommended to take particular account, in the examination of the Commission report provided for in the Act of Accession, of the problems facing Norway in the field of fisheries, both in the context of its general economy and for reasons stemming from the particular demographic and social structures of the country, and so to act that the provisions then to be made are drawn up accordingly; these may include, among other measures, extension of the derogations beyond 31 December 1982, to an appropriate degree and in accordance with rules to be determined.

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