

EU Report on the implementation of IATTC Resolution C-23-11

Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy entered into force on 1 January 2010 (the Control Regulation) and was amended in 2023 through Regulation (EU) 2023/2842 of 22 November 2023. The consolidated text is available [here](#).

The provisions of the Control Regulation are further articulated by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/2196 of 17 October 2025 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 as regards access to waters and resources, control of fisheries, surveillance, inspection and enforcement, deduction of quotas and fishing efforts, data and information, and repealing Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 404/2011 (the Implementing Regulation, available [here](#)), as well as Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2025/1766 of 27 August 2025 supplementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 by laying down rules on the control of fisheries and on the surveillance and inspection of fishing activities, enforcement and compliance (the Delegated Regulation, available [here](#)).

As regards VMS, the EU is fully compliant with Resolution C-23-11 as Article 9 of the Control Regulation requires all EU fishing vessels over 12 meters have installed on board a fully functioning tracking device which allows that vessel to be automatically located and identified by a vessel monitoring system through transmitting automatically the vessel position data at regular intervals. Moreover, the provisions of IATTC Resolution C-23-11 are duly implemented by Articles 20 to 23 of the Implementing Regulation (IR) and Articles 4 to 6 of the Delegated Regulation (DA). This includes:

- minimum requirements and technical specifications for vessel monitoring devices (Article 20 IR), the content of vessel position data (Articles 20(4) and 21 IR);
- the responsibilities of masters concerning the operation of vessel monitoring devices (Article 22 IR), including a prohibition on tampering or interfering with the device;
- the frequency of transmission of vessel position data (Article 23 IR), which requires at least two hours (30 minutes as from 10 July 2027) regardless of the type of gear and allows for shorter frequency; and
- measures to be taken in the event of technical or communication failure of the vessel monitoring device (Article 4 DA), including manual reporting every 4 hours and the prohibition on leaving port without a fully operational device except for repair or replacement;
- measures to be taken in the event of non-receipt of data concerning the position and movement of fishing vessels (Article 5 DA); and
- monitoring and recording of fishing activities using vessel position data (Article 6 DA).

In addition to VMS, Article 10 of the Control Regulation requires EU fishing vessels above 15 m in length overall to be fitted with and maintain in continuous operation an automatic identification system (AIS) in accordance with Article 6a of Directive 2002/59/EC. The master may switch off the AIS in exceptional circumstances when the master considers that the safety or security of the crew is imminently at risk of being compromised, but must report this to the flag State and, when relevant, also to the competent authorities of the coastal State. The AIS must be switched back on as soon as the source of danger has disappeared.

The Control Regulation, the Implementing Regulation, and the Delegated Regulation also provide for the mandatory daily electronic transmission of fishing activities data, in particular the electronic logbook, allowing near real time transmission of catch data and the possibility to cross-check with VMS data.

Finally, Article 9a of the Control Regulation requires EU member States to ensure that its fisheries monitoring centres (FMCs) have the proper staffing resources and is equipped with computer hardware and software enabling automatic data processing, analysis, control, electronic data transmission and data monitoring seven days a week and 24 hours a day. Member States must provide for back-up and recovery procedures in case of system failure. FMC staff must be familiar with the relevant rules and regulations (or have protocols in place) for manually reporting information if a system malfunction is detected.