

# FISHING FOR A SOLUTION: CANADA'S FISHERIES RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION, 1977–2013 Donald Barry, Bob Applebaum, and Earl Wiseman

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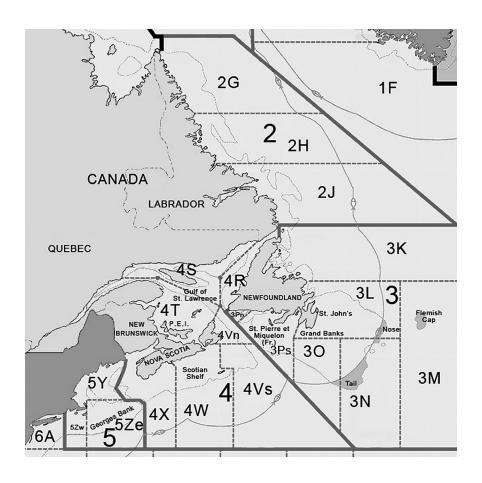
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# APPENDIX I: MAP OF NAFO CONVENTION AREA



Source: Fisheries and Oceans Canada



# APPENDIX II: MEMBERS OF NAFO

### Current members

Canada (1978)

Cuba (1978)

Denmark, on behalf of the Faroe Islands and Greenland (1979)

European Union (1978)

France, on behalf of St. Pierre and Miquelon (1996)

Iceland (1978)

Japan (1980)

South Korea (1993)

Norway (1978)

Russian Federation (1992)

Ukraine (1999)

United States (1995)

### Former members

Bulgaria (1979–2006)

Estonia (1992–1994, joined the EU)

Latvia (1992–2004, joined the EU)

Lithuania (1992–1994, joined the EU)

Poland (1979–2004, joined the EU)

Romania (1979-2002)

Portugal (1979–1986, joined the EU)

Spain (1983–1986, joined the EU)

East Germany (1978–1990, joined the EU following reunification of Germany)

Soviet Union (1978–1991, succeeded by the Russian Federation)

Source: Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization



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	TABLE I	
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TABLE

Comparison of EU Unilateral Quotas, EU NAFO Quotas, and EU Catches Reported to NAFO for NAFO Groundfish Stocks and 2J3KL Cod for 1986-1992

(Quantities in Tonnes)

		1986			1987			1988	
EU NAFO Quota	OB	EU Unilateral Quota	EU Catch Reported to NAFO	EU NAFO Quota	EU Unilateral Quota	EU Catch Reported to NAFO	EU NAFO Quota	EU Unilateral Quota	EU Catch Reported to NAFO
6,4	6,465	7,500	11,079	6,465	7,500	6,441	0	0	562
12,3	12,345	26,400	30,285	12,345	26,400	19,896	14,750	26,400	19,816
3,	3,100		11,571	3,100		22,648	3,100	12,000	7,247
	0		23,388	0		28,179	0	20,000	12,722

2,549	9,831	3,205	2,888			58,820	26,559	85,379
3,000	000'6	5,000	4,000	25,000	250	104,650	84,000	188,650
350	510	300	0	NS¹	250	19,260	0	19,260
5,106	16,992	1,183	2,954			103,399	33,607	137,006
				25,000	375	59,275	76,400²	135,675³
350	610	300	0	NS	375	23,545	0	23,545
2,789	21,122	5,887	3,788			109,909	60,446	170,355
				25,000		58,900	68,560²	127,460³
350	700	300	0	NS		23,260	0	23,260
3M American Plaice	3LNO American Plaice	3LNO Yellowtail	3NO Witch	3+4 Squid	3NO Capelin	Totals	2J3KL Cod	Grand Totals

TABLE I (CONT'D)

Comparison of EU Unilateral Quotas, EU NAFO Quotas, and EU Catches Reported to NAFO for NAFO Groundfish Stocks and 2J3KL Cod for 1986-1992

(Quantities in Tonnes)

	EU Catch Reported to NAFO	638	6,825	13,672	7,311
1990	EU Unilateral Quota	0	7,000	12,000	6,000
	EU NAFO Quota	0	6,860	7,750	0
	EU Catch Reported to NAFO	548	18,817	13,225	6,344
1989	EU Unilateral Quota	0	26,400	12,000	20,000
	EU NAFO Quota	0	9,220	3,100	0
	Stock	3M Cod	3NO Cod	3M Redfish	3LN Redfish

461	650	130	1,411			31,098	23,759	54,857
200	200	200	1,200	NS.	750	28,150	32,000	60,150
350	317	100	0	NS <sup>-</sup>	750	16,127	0	16,127
3,404	11,492	1,131	1,990	350		57,301	35,595	92,896
3,000	6,820	1,670	4,000	25,000	700	99,590	58,4004	157,990
350	385	100	0	NS <sup>1</sup>	700	13,855	0	13,855
3M American Plaice	3LNO American Plaice	3LNO Yellowtail	3NO Witch	3+4 Squid	3NO Capelin	Totals	2J3KL Cod	Grand Totals

# TABLE I (CONT'D)

Comparison of EU Unilateral Quotas, EU NAFO Quotas, and EU Catches Reported to NAFO for NAFO Groundfish Stocks and 2J3KL Cod for 1986–1992

(Quantities in Tonnes)

	EU Catch Reported to NAFO	6,421	2,377	6,845	4,148	704	605
1992	EU Unilateral Quota	6,465	5,016	6,665	6,000	350	328
	EU NAFO Quota	6,465	5,016	6,665	476	350	328
	EU Catch Reported to NAFO	4,280	6,511	10,502	11,201	1,603	973
1991	EU Unilateral Quota	6,465	5,016	7,750	6,000	350	328
	EU NAFO Quota	6,465	5,016	7,750	0	350	328
	Stock	3M Cod	3NO Cod	3M Redfish	3LN Redfish	3M American Plaice	3LNO American Plaice

3LNO Yellowtail	140	140	246	140	140	122
3NO Witch	0	1,000	1,100	0	1,000	586
3+4 Squid	Z S	ZS.		Z	NS¹	
3NO Capelin	750	750		750	750	
Totals	20,799	27,799	36,416	20,190	26,714	21,808
2J3KL Cod	0	27,000	23,512	0	26,300	7,523
Grand Totals	20,799	54,799	59,928	20,190	53,014	29,331

1. Quota to the EU was not specified

Based on reports from the European Commission, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization

<sup>2.</sup> Includes 9,500t of 2J3KL cod allocated by Canada to the EU under the Canada-EU Long Term Fisheries Agreement.

<sup>3.</sup> The EU did not set unilateral quotas for all stocks.

<sup>4.</sup> Amended by the EU in July 1989. Set initially at 84,000t.



### **NOTES**

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1 Quoted in Elizabeth Brubaker, "Unnatural Disaster: How Politics Destroyed Canada's Atlantic Groundfisheries," in Terry Lee Anderson, ed., *Political Environmentalism* (Stanford: Hoover Institution Press, 2000), 164
- 2 Brubaker, "Unnatural Disaster," 164–65.
- 3 The European Union (EU) was known as the European Economic Community (EEC), or simply as the European Community (EC), from its establishment in 1958 until 1993, when it acquired its present name following the conclusion of the Treaty on Economic Union (Maastricht Treaty). The contemporary title is used throughout the book, except

- where it is found in documents and statements from the pre-1993 era.
- 4 Barbara Johnson, "Canadian Foreign Policy and Fisheries," in Barbara Johnson and Mark Zacher, eds., Canadian Foreign Policy and the Law of the Sea (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1977), 52–99; Christian Lequesne, "Fisheries Policy: Letting the Little Ones Go?" in Helen Wallace, William Wallace and Mark A. Pollack, eds., Policy-Making in the European Union, 5th ed. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), 353–76.
- 5 Lequesne, "Fisheries Policy," 358. Lequesne writes with reference to Europe, but the point applies equally to Canada.
- 6 Peter Clancy, "Chasing Whose Fish? Atlantic Fisheries Conflicts and Institutions," in Mark

- Sproule-Jones, Carolyn Johns and B. Timothy Heinmiller, eds., *Canadian Water Politics: Conflicts and Institutions* (Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2008), 262–65.
- 7 William E. Schrank, "The Newfoundland Fishery: Ten Years After the Moratorium," Marine Policy 29 (2005): 417–18; Report of the Independent Chair: MOU Steering Committee, "Newfoundland and Labrador Fishing Industry Rationalization and Restructuring, February 2011,"
- 8 Johnson, "Canadian Foreign Policy and Fisheries," 54.
- 9 The history of the term and its antecedents is discussed in Advisory Panel on the Sustainable Management of Straddling Fish Stocks in the Northwest Atlantic, "Breaking New Ground: An Action Plan for Rebuilding The Grand Banks Fisheries," June 2005, 60–71.
- 10 Lequesne, "Fisheries Policy,"
  354. For extended discussions
  of the Common Fisheries Policy
  see: Michael Leigh, European
  Integration and the Common
  Fisheries Policy (London: Croom
  Helm, 1983); M.J. Holden and
  David Garrod, The Common
  Fisheries Policy, 2nd ed. (Oxford:
  Fishing News Books, 1996); and
  Robin R. Churchill and Daniel
  Owen, The EC Common Fisheries
  Policy (Oxford: Oxford University
  Press, 2010).
- 11 Lequesne, "Fisheries Policy," 362–63; Europa/Summaries of Legislation/Glossary, Coreper, http://europa.eu/

- legislation\_summaries/glossary/coreper\_en.htm#.
- 12 Lequesne, "Fisheries Policy," 362, 366.
- 13 Jesús Iborra Martin, Policy Department B: Structural and Cohesion Policies, European Parliament, "The Common Fisheries Policy: Practical Guide" (Provisional version), 2009, 17.
- 14 European Parliament, "MEPs back international agreements on fishing in the North Atlantic," *Press Release*, October 18, 2010.
- 15 European Commission, "The Common Fisheries Policy: A User's Guide" (2009), 22. See also Constance Johnson, "Fisheries Enforcement in European Community Waters Since 2002—Developments in Non-Flag Enforcement," *International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law* 23 (2008): 249–70.
- 16 Lequesne, "Fisheries Policy," 361;
  ORCA Inc., "Select Drivers in
  the European Union in Relation
  to NAFO Management and
  Decisions," prepared for the
  Advisory Panel on Sustainable
  Management of Straddling
  Stocks in the Northwest Atlantic
  (February 2005), 12; Victor
  Vázquez Seijas, "The Future for
  Fisheries-Dependent Communities:
  The Fisheries-Dependent Region
  of Galicia," Journal of Northwest
  Atlantic Fisheries Science 23
  (October 1998): 175–84.
- 17 European Parliament, Directorate General Internal Policies of the Union, "Fisheries in Portugal," IPOL/B/PECH/NT/2006\_04, 26/07/2006; ORCA Inc., "Select Drivers." 12.

18 Article XI. 3 requires that the Fisheries Commission "seek to ensure consistency between:

any proposal that applies to a stock or group of stocks occurring both within the Regulatory Area and within an area under the fisheries jurisdiction of a coastal State, or any proposal that would have an effect through species interrelationships on a stock or group of stocks occurring in whole or in part within an area under the fisheries jurisdiction of a coastal State: and

any measures or decisions taken by the coastal State for the management and conservation of that stock or group of stocks with respect to fishing activities conducted within the area under its fisheries jurisdiction."

Article XI. 4 requires that "Proposals adopted by the Commission for the allocation of catches in the Regulatory Area shall take into account the interests of Commission members whose vessels have traditionally fished within that Area, and, in the allocation of catches from the Grand Bank and Flemish Cap, Commission members shall give special consideration to the Contracting Party whose coastal communities are primarily dependent on fishing for stocks related to these fishing banks and which has undertaken extensive efforts to ensure the conservation of such stocks through international action, in particular, by providing surveillance and

inspection of international fisheries on these banks under an international scheme of joint management." (The Contracting Party referred to is Canada.)

Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (NAFO Convention), http://www.nafo.int/ about/frames/about.html.

The EU was a reluctant signatory to the NAFO Convention, having opposed Canada's special interest outside 200 miles through the "consistency" and "special consideration" clauses. Throughout the UN Law of the Sea negotiations the Union had taken the position that coastal states should have no more rights outside 200 miles than other states. It decided to adopt the Convention for other reasons, including the fact that it was the first international agreement it signed to which the Soviet Union was also a party. The Soviet Union had not yet recognized the EU. The Soviets' acceptance of the EU as an equal member of NAFO was an important step for the EU in achieving international acceptance.

- 19 Scott Parsons, "Governance of Straddling Stocks in the Northwest Atlantic: A Review of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization," Prepared for the Advisory Panel on Straddling Stocks (March 5, 2005), 5.
- 20 Adela Rey Aneiros, "Spain, the European Union, and Canada: A New Phase in the Unstable Balance in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries," Ocean Development

- and International Law 42, nos. 1–2 (2011): 162. For the text of the proposed new Convention see "Amendment to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries," GC 07/4, http://www.nafo.int/about/frames/activities.html.
- 21 The UN Fish Agreement, sometimes referred to as the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA), is formally known as the United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention for the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

# 1 | THE LONG-TERM FISHERIES AGREEMENT

This chapter draws on Donald Barry, "The Canada-European Community Long Term Fisheries Agreement: Internal Politics and Fisheries Diplomacy," published in the *Journal of European Integration* 9, no. 1 (Autumn 1985): 5–28.

- 1 Terence C. Bacon, Director General, Bureau of Legal Affairs, Department of External Affairs, "Canada's 200-Mile Fishing Zone: The First Five Years," Chilean Conference on EEZ and Fisheries Regime," October 28–30, 1981.
- 2 Michael Leigh, European Integration and the Common Fisheries Policy (London: Croom Helm, 1983), 128, 130.
- 3 European Report, no. 524, July 19, 1978, and no. 528, August 3, 1978;

- Agreement on Fisheries Between the Government of Canada and the European Economic Community, July 28, 1978; *Financial Post* (Toronto, ON), July 14, 1978; confidential sources.
- 4 Agreement on Fisheries Between the Government of Canada and the European Economic Community, July 28, 1978.
- European Report, no. 526, July 26,
   1978, no. 535, September 23, 1978,
   no. 570, February 7, 1979, and no.
   573, February 17, 1979; Europe, no.
   2555, November 8, 1978; Leigh,
   European Integration, 129.
- 6 *European Report*, no. 574, February 21, 1979, and no. 608, June 30, 1979.
- 7 International Canada, March 1979, 102, and June 1979, 153; Agreement in the Form of an Exchange of Letters Between the Government of Canada and the European Economic Community, Concerning their Agreement on Fisheries, Brussels, June 28, 1979.
- 8 Europe, no. 2782, November 5/6, 1979, and no. 2824, January 11, 1980; European Report, no. 646, December 15, 1979, and no. 654, January 23, 1980; Agreement in the Form of an Exchange of Letters Between the European Economic Community and the Government of Canada, Concerning the Amendment and Extension of their Agreement on Fisheries of June 28, 1979, Official Journal of the European Communities (OJEC), no. L 312, December 8, 1979. See also Council of the European Communities, Press Release, April 14, 1980.

- 9 Canada, Task Force on Atlantic Fisheries, Navigating Troubled Waters: A New Policy for the Atlantic Fisheries (Ottawa: Minister of Supply and Services Canada, 1983), 23.
- 10 International Canada, February
  1979, 66; Eurofish Report, no.
  61, September 5, 1979; European
  Report, no. 646, December 15,
  1979; confidential sources.
- Leigh, European Integration, 92–93, 129–30; Eurofish Report, no. 82, June 25, 1980.
- 12 European Report, no. 695, June 21, 1980; Eurofish Report, no. 81, June 25, 1980; confidential sources.
- 13 The EU's apparent concession would provide little benefit to Canada. Under GATT this quantity was open to all exporting countries, including those with even more preferential quotas. Thus, it would be largely used up before Canada could take advantage of it. Norway and Iceland could use this tariff rate quota when theirs were filled or even, as they did, use it first to keep others out of the EU market, after which they would use their own quotas.
- 14 Agreement on Fisheries Between the European Economic Community and the Government of Canada, December 30, 1981, OJEC, no. L 379, December 31, 1981. In Article VII. 1, "The two Parties reaffirm their attachment to the cooperation provided for in the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, to which they are Contracting Parties and, in

- particular, in Article XI, paragraph 4, thereof."
- 15 *Eurofish Report*, no. 97, February 18, 1981; confidential sources.
- 16 Eurofish Report, no. 93, December 10, 1980, no. 97, February 18, 1991, and no. 98, March 14, 1981.
- 17 Evening Telegram (St. John's, NL), December 11, 1980; confidential sources. The Nova Scotia industry was also affected by the LTA, although in a more limited way than its Newfoundland counterpart. Opinion within the Nova Scotia industry was divided. Inshore fishers, who did not fish in areas assigned to the EU but expected to gain from the LTA tariff concessions, supported the pact. However, offshore fishers and processors, many of whom operated trawlers in the Union's designated fishing zones, opposed it. The Nova Scotia government initially supported the LTA but later came out against it. Chronicle Herald (Halifax, NS), March 4, 1981 and October 27, 1981.
- 18 Globe and Mail (Toronto, ON), January 1, 1981; Europe, no. 3079, February 16/17, 1981; Eurofish Report, no. 96, February 4, 1981, and no. 97, February 18, 1981; Leigh, European Integration, 130–31.
- 19 Europe, no. 3080, February 18,
   1981; Eurofish Report, no. 96,
   February 4, 1981; European Report,
   no. 752, February 18, 1981.
- 20 Eurofish Report, no. 97, February 18, 1981.
- 21 The Times (London, UK), March 7, 1981

- 22 European Report, no. 759, March 14, 1981; Eurofish Report, no. 99, March 18, 1981; Europe, no. 3101, March 19, 1981.
- 23 The Times, March 21, 1981.
- 24 The Times, March 25, 1981.
- 25 *European Report*, no. 763, March 28, 1981.
- Leigh, European Integration, 113– 14; confidential sources.
- 27 Daily News (St. John's, NL), January5, 1982; confidential sources.
- 28 Eurofish Report, no. 119, December 22, 1981; European Report, no. 832, December 24, 1981; confidential sources.
- 29 Agreement on Fisheries Between the European Economic Community and the Government of Canada, December 30, 1981, OJEC, no. L 379, December 31, 1981
- 30 Confidential sources.
- 31 Leigh, European Integration, 132; Eurofish Report, no. 120, January 13, 1982, and no. 121, January 27, 1982; Europe, no. 3288, January 15, 1982, and no. 3293, January 22, 1982; confidential sources.
- 32 Confidential sources.
- 33 Globe and Mail, March 12, 1982; Evening Telegram, March 12, 1982; Eurofish Report, no. 125, March 24, 1982; Donald Barry, Icy Battleground: Canada, the International Fund for Animal Welfare, and the Seal Hunt (St. John's: Breakwater Books, 2005).
- 34 European Report, no. 903, November 6, 1982, and no. 920, January 15, 1983; Globe and Mail, January 28, 1983; confidential

- 35 Department of Fisheries and Oceans, "Reduced Cod Allocation for EEC," Press Release, March 4, 1983.
- 36 Globe and Mail, March 1, 1983, and March 2, 1983.
- 37 Agreement in the Form of an Exchange of Letters Between the Government of Canada and the European Economic Community Concerning their Fisheries Relations, December 30, 1983.
- 38 Chronicle Herald, December 2,
   1983; Evening Telegram, December
   21, 1983; Globe and Mail,
   December 21, 1983.

# 2 | FROM CONFLICT TO COOPERATION

- L.S. Parsons, Management of Marine Fisheries in Canada, Canadian Bulletin of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, no. 225, 1993, 273–74.
- 2 Parsons, Management of Marine Fisheries in Canada, 273–74; Eurofish Report, no. 204, May 9, 1985; Evening Telegram (St. John's, NL), May 11, 1985, June 18, 1985, and June 27, 1985; Canadian Press, January 23, 1986.
- 3 This discussion is based on Parsons, Management of Marine Fisheries in Canada, 265–71.
- 4 Commission Communication to the Council, "Guidelines and Initiatives for the Development of the Common Fisheries Policy," June 12, 1986, COM (86) 302 final. The implementation of this policy, which led to severe overfishing, was not only harmful to the Northwest Atlantic resources but also

devastated many of the fisheries of developing countries with which the EU signed agreements. In these agreements the Union primarily provided money for quotas. Often the recipient countries lacked an adequate management system in their zones and the EU provided scientific "cooperation," which generally overestimated the amount of fish available to catch. This, combined with the lack of effective controls, led to unrestricted fishing and unsustainable catch levels.

- 5 Tom Wray, "Spain to Harden EEC Line on Fisheries," *National Fisherman*, November 1985, 5.
- 6 Karl M. Sullivan, "Conflict in the Management of a Northwest Atlantic Transboundary Stock," *Marine Policy* 13, no. 2 (April 1989): 128.
- 7 Evening Telegram, October 2, 1985; Times & Transcript (Moncton, NB), October 8, 2005; Parsons, Management of Marine Fisheries in Canada, 274–75.
- 8 Prior to this time, the Fisheries
  Council had routinely reviewed
  and adopted the results of the
  NAFO meetings. Although the
  Council had the authority to
  annul the European Commission's
  objections, it did not do so in 1985
  or any subsequent year.
- 9 Eurofish Report, no. 235, July 31, 1986. Although the EU stated that it would set its unilateral quotas based on a higher, F<sub>max</sub> level of fishing, it allocated to itself all of the increased fishing at the F<sub>max</sub> level and more. Even if the EU had limited its catches to its unilateral

- quotas, which it did not, while the other members of NAFO caught their legitimate shares of the TACs set by NAFO, the  $F_{\rm max}$  level would have been significantly overfished for some stocks. This unilateral claim had no basis in science but reflected the EU Common Fisheries Policy's commitment to find fishing opportunities for its distant water fleet in apparent disregard for the costs.
- Eurofish Report, no. 226, March 27, 1986, and no. 230, May 22, 1986; Toronto Star (Toronto, ON), May 7, 1986; Evening Telegram, May 21, 1985.
- 11 Toronto Star, May 27, 1986.
- 12 Government of Canada, "New Fisheries Relations Policies Announced," News Release, June 13, 1986. For many years the Spanish fleet had fished close to the 200-mile limit, and at times some of these boats followed the fish into Canada's waters. This reflected the historic distribution of the stocks, which were primarily found in greater abundance inside the Canadian zone. When Canadian patrol vessels approached the Spanish vessels fled back across the line. Some were apprehended and fined. The owners were prepared to pay the fines as "a cost of doing business." With the higher fines the Spanish fleet, their past claims of faulty navigation equipment resolved, suddenly found the boundary line, demonstrating that real financial penalties can restrain illegal fishing practices.
- 13 Eurofish Report, no. 233, July 3, 1986

- 14 Parsons, Management of Marine Fisheries in Canada, 275.
- 15 Chronicle Herald (Halifax, NS), September 12, 1986, and September 13, 1986; Eurofish Report, no. 248, February 19, 1987.
- 16 Evening Telegram, November 21, 1986; Fisheries Council of Canada, "Foreign Overfishing: A Strategy for Canada," February 1987; Toronto Star, February 14, 1987.
- 17 Parsons, Management of Marine Fisheries in Canada, 275; Eurofish Report, no. 254, May 14, 1987.
- 18 Chronicle Herald, September 18, 1987; Eurofish Report, no. 268, November 26, 1987.
  - Times & Transcript, January 29, 1988. See also Europe, no. 4683, December 17, 1987; Eurofish Report, no. 270, December 22, 1987. The EU's own NAFO reported quotas and catches show that although the Union increased its unilateral quotas, its actual catches fell, reflecting the declining state of the stocks. For example, for 1986 the EU fleet reported to NAFO cod catches at about the same level as its unilateral cod quotas of 103,176t. The EU's official NAFO cod quotas, not including any 2J3KL cod, were only 21,215t. For 1987, the Union unilaterally increased its cod quotas for 1988 to 110,300t, while its NAFO quota fell to 18,810t. It reported cod catches of 59,944t. For 1988, For 1988, the EU accepted the NAFO moratorium on 3M cod but also increased its unilateral quota for 2J3KL cod, bringing its unilateral cod quotas to 110,400t, and set for itself unilateral quotas for six
- other NAFO stocks, bringing its total unilateral quotas to 188,650t compared to its NAFO quotas of 19,260t. However, that year the decline in the stocks started to hit the EU fleet. Its total cod catch reported to NAFO was only about 47,000t. Between 1986, when the Union began setting unilateral cod quotas until 1992, when it stopped, without external restraints its cod catches fell by more than 75 percent. While all other NAFO members respected the scientific advice, the Union continued to support its fleet's perceived immediate needs to the detriment of all other NAFO parties. Canada had similar problems with the decline in quotas and its effect on the Canadian fleet. However, strict conservation measures were adopted, even if their adoption may have been slow at times. The reduction in quotas in the Northwest Atlantic had a significant effect on most of Canada's fleet, which only fished in the Northwest Atlantic. The EU's distant water fleet in the NRA was significantly less affected.
- 20 Eurofish Report, no. 264, October
   1, 1987, and no. 273, February 28,
   1988; Globe and Mail (Toronto,
   ON), October 2, 1987.
- 21 Eurofish Report, no. 287, September 1, 1988.
- 22 Eurofish Report, no. 289, September 29, 1988; Globe and Mail, September 14, 1988, and September 15, 1988; Ottawa Citizen (Ottawa, ON), September 16, 1988.
- 23 Ottawa Citizen, December 14, 1988. See also Eurofish Report, no.

- 293, November 24, 1988, and no. 295, December 15, 1988.
- 24 Department of Fisheries and Oceans, "Northern Cod TAC for 1989 Announced," News Release, February 8, 1989.
- 25 John C. Crosbie, No Holds Barred: My Life in Politics (Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1997), 378.
- 26 William E. Schrank, "The Newfoundland Fishery: Ten Years After the Moratorium," Marine Policy 29, no. 5 (2005): 410. See also Alan Christopher Finlayson, Fishing for Truth: A Sociological Analysis of Northern Cod Stock Assessments from 1977 to 1990, Institute of Social and Economic Research, Memorial University, Social and Economic Studies, no. 52, 1994; Leslie Harris, "The East Coast Fisheries," in Bruce Mitchell, ed., Resource and Environmental Management in Canada: Addressing Conflict and Uncertainty (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1995), 130-50; George A. Rose, Cod: The Ecological History of the North Atlantic Fisheries (St. John's: Breakwater Books, 2007); Alex Rose, Who Killed the Grand Banks? The Untold Story Behind the Decimation of One of the World's Greatest Natural Resources (Mississauga, ON: John Wiley & Sons Canada, 2008); and Gus Etchegary, Empty Nets: How Greed and Politics Wiped Out the World's Greatest Fishery (Portugal Cove-St. Philip's, NL: Boulder Publications, 2013).
- 27 In its retrospective analysis of the northern cod stock in 1989.

- the Canadian Atlantic Fisheries
  Scientific Advisory Committee
  determined that a major factor
  contributing to the perilous
  condition of the stock was that the
  Canadian TACs had been set too
  high because much of the catch
  reporting data of the 1960s and
  1970s, on which the TACs had been
  based, was inaccurate. European
  fleets were blamed because of their
  blatant disregard for conservation
  after the EU decided, in 1985, to
  conduct an unrestricted fishery.
- 28 Globe and Mail, April 1, 1989; Michael Harris, Lament for an Ocean: The Collapse of the Atlantic Cod Fishery: A True Crime Story, updated ed. (Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1999), 111–15.
- 29 Department of Fisheries and Oceans, "Report on Northern Cod Released," News Release, May 20, 1989: confidential sources.
- 30 Financial Post (Toronto, ON), April 10, 1989.
- 31 *Eurofish Report*, no. 303, April 27, 1989, and no. 305, May 25, 1989.
- 32 *Eurofish Report*, no. 306, June 8, 1989.
- 33 Eurofish Report, No 306, June 8, 1989; Globe and Mail, June 3, 1989.
- 34 Globe and Mail, September
  12, 1989; Eurofish Report, no.
  314, September 28, 1989. The
  official's claim was incorrect. At
  the time, fishing vessels from
  NAFO members Norway, Iceland,
  and Denmark did not receive
  allocations in Canadian waters.
  The other NAFO parties did so
  as part of bilateral agreements
  signed between 1977 and 1979.
  These agreements as well as the

NAFO Convention had recognized the special interest of Canada as the coastal state in the NAFO Regulatory Area. The EU had refused such agreements, even though Spain and Portugal had signed similar pacts prior to their accession to the EU.

35 "Relative stability" was a key principle built into the EU's Common Fishery Policy. It meant that as TACs changed, the relative quota shares of the stocks would remain constant among the member states. The same principle applied in NAFO. However, the EU's unilateral quotas violated this principle. For example, in 1989, the NAFO TAC for the 3NO cod stock on the Tail of the Grand Banks was 25,000t. The EU's share at relative stability was 37 percent of the TAC. However, with its unilateral quota set at 26,400t, the Union claimed more than 100 percent of the TAC set by NAFO. Further, by its actions it created a new TAC of 42,180t (the NAFO TAC of 25,000t minus the EU's NAFO-allocated quota of 9,220t plus the Union's unilateral quota of 26,400t), and the EU claimed 62.2 percent of this EU-imposed TAC. For witch flounder in the same area the situation was even worse. The EU had no traditional fishery and hence a zero quota. However, through its objection it set a unilateral quota of 4,000t for this stock. The entire TAC for the stock was 5,000t. The EU claimed the right to 80 percent of its newly created TAC, even though it had no significant catches before it began

using the objection procedure in 1985. The most egregious attack on relative stability was on the 3LN redfish stock. The TAC in 1987 was 25,000t, which was allocated to Contracting Parties that had traditionally fished that stock. The EU's member states had never done so. Accordingly, the Union's quota was 0t, which it had always been, although as a result of its objection the EU allowed its fleet to catch 28,179t that year. The EU fleet caught more than the entire TAC itself. With these catches the EU raised its proportion from 0 to 53 percent of the total catch envisaged for that year. This attack on the principle of relative stability affected all NAFO members and prompted the unanimous support, except for the EU, for this resolution.

- 36 Globe and Mail, September 16,
- 37 Government of Canada, "Canada Announces Public Information Campaign to End EC Overfishing," News Release, October 6, 1989; Department of External Affairs, "Canada Appoints Ambassador for Marine Conservation," Press Release, October 6, 1989.
- 38 Department of External Affairs.
  "Information Campaign on
  Overfishing in the Northwest
  Atlantic, Activity Summary, June
  1989–December 1009;" *Globe and*Mail, October 14, 1989.
- 39 Globe and Mail, December 13, 1989; Calgary Herald (Calgary, AB), December 21, 1989.
- 40 *Calgary Herald*, December 20, 1989.

- 41 *Ottawa Citizen*, January 19, 1990, and January 2, 1990.
- 42 Globe and Mail, January 24, 1990.
- 43 Globe and Mail, January 20, 1990. The Spanish and Portuguese fishing effort for flatfish was a new development. The EU had received very small NAFO quotas because of a lack of a traditional fishery. These were based on the historical catches of the French fleet operating out of St. Pierre and Miquelon. The quotas assigned to the EU were in turn traditionally allocated to France. This changed when the EU onslaught on the fish stocks began in 1986, and Spain and Portugal massively entered the flatfish fishery.
- 44 Globe and Mail, January 23, 1990.
- 45 Independent Review of the State of the Northern Cod Stock, "Final Report," February 1990 (Ottawa: Minister of Supply and Services Canada, 1990); Eurofish Report, no. 327, April 12, 1990.
- 46 Globe and Mail, May 8, 1990; Eurofish Report, no. 330, May 24, 1990.
- 47 Ottawa Citizen, May 11, 1990; Eurofish Report, no. 330, May 24, 1990.
- 48 Chronicle Herald, May 16, 1990.
- 49 Institute of Fisheries and Marine Technology, "Conference on the Conservation and Management of the Living Resources of the High Seas," St. John's, NL, September 5–7, 1990.
- 50 Eurofish Report, no. 339, September27, 1990. See also no. 336, August16, 1990, and no. 338, September13, 1990.

- 51 "Report of the Implementation Task Force on Northern Cod (Summary), October 1990 (Ottawa: Minister of Supply and Services Canada, 1990), 4–5; Globe and Mail. December 15, 1990.
- 52 Eurofish Report, no. 344, December 6, 1990.
- 53 Globe and Mail, December 1, 1990.
- 54 Government of Canada, "Canadian Ministers Object to EC Commission's Fishing Quota proposals," News Release, no. 286, December 11, 1990; Eurofish Report, no. 345, December 20, 1990. The EU's unilateral quotas for the redfish and witch flounder stocks were largely based on the EU's unrestricted catches of these stocks in 1986 and 1987, under the Union's objections to NAFO TACs and quotas. (The Commission had not set any quota limits for these stocks for those years.) Reported EU catches in 1986 and 1987 averaged about 26,000t and 3,400t for these stocks, respectively. These catch levels were used by the Union to set unilateral quotas for these stocks in 1988 and 1989 at 20,000t and 4,000t, respectively. However, the EU reported catches for these stocks in 1990 had declined to 7,311t and 1,411t. Therefore, the levels of the Union's unilateral quotas set for these stocks in 1991 (6,000t and 1,000t) were not a serious effort to cut the fleet's fishing possibilities. Since 1986, through the use of the objection procedure, the EU had created a dependency on two new fisheries for its fleets, which it could not eliminate. Further, despite the EU's

- agreement to accept most of the NAFO quotas for 1991, its reported catches show that most of its own unilateral and NAFO quotas were exceeded.
- 55 Eurofish Report, no. 345, December 20, 1990, and no. 344, December 6, 1990.
- 56 Eurofish Report, no. 350, March 14, 1991
- 57 Government of Canada, "Canada Calls for Emergency Decision to Improve Controls on Fishing," News Release, February 28, 1991.
- 58 Department of Fisheries and Oceans, "Monitoring of Fishing Activity Outside 200 Miles," *News Release*, May 14, 1991.
- 59 Globe and Mail, July 13, 1991, August 28, 1991, September 14, 1991, December 17, 1991, and December 19, 1991; Eurofish Report, no. 364, September 26, 1991, and no. 370, December 19,
- 60 *Globe and Mail*, January 6, 1992 and January 10, 1992.
- 61 Globe and Mail, February 18, 1992,
   February 25, 1992, and February
   29, 1992; Eurofish Report, no. 374,
   February 27, 1992.
- 62 Globe and Mail, March 3, 1992, March 4, 1992, March 30, 1992, April 1, 1992, and April 2, 1992; confidential sources.
- 63 European Community "EC/ Canada Relations in the Fisheries Sector," NR (92) 5, April 2, 1992.
- 64 Globe and Mail, April 2, 1992. See also Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, "Questions and Answers on Foreign Overfishing," 21 May 1992.

- 65 Globe and Mail, April 3, 1992, April 22, 1992, and April 24, 1992; Europe, no. 5717, April 25, 1992.
- 66 Globe and Mail, May 16, 1992; Europe, no. 5742, June 3, 1992; European Community, "The Scientific Council of NAFO Assesses the Status of Cod," NR (92) 10, June 5, 1992; Eurofish Report, no. 382, June 18, 1992.
- 67 Raymond B. Blake, From
  Fishermen to Fish: The Evolution of
  Canadian Fisheries Policy (Toronto:
  Irwin Publishing, 2000), 86; Globe
  and Mail, July 3, 1992
- 68 J. Alan Beesley and Malcolm Rowe, "Canada and Spain: A Conservation Dispute," L.O.S. Lieder, reprinted in the *Telegraph-Journal* (St. John, NB), May 16, 1995; *Eurofish Report*, no. 395, December 21, 1992.
- 69 The Packet (Clarenville, NL),
  December 29, 1992, and January
  5, 1993; Crosbie, No Holds Barred,
  396; Agreement in the Form of an
  Exchange of Letters Between the
  European Community and the
  Government Concerning Fisheries
  Relations, Official Journal of the
  European Communities (OJEC), no.
  L 340, December 12,1993.

### **3 | THE TURBOT WAR**

This chapter draws upon Donald Barry, "The Canada-European-Union Turbot War: Internal Politics and Transatlantic Bargaining," published in the *International Journal* 53, no. 2 (Spring 1998): 253–84.

- 1 House of Commons, *Debates*, January 18, 1994, 10.
- 2 Eurofish Report, no. 421, January 20, 1994; Chronicle Herald (Halifax, NS), January 25, 1994.
- 3 Evening Telegram (St. John's, NL), February 26, 1994.
- 4 Globe and Mail (Toronto, ON), April 4, 1994.
- 5 Government of Canada, "Canada Takes Action to End Foreign Overfishing," NR-HQ-94-30E, May 10, 1994; Chronicle Herald, May 11, 1994; Eurofish Report, no. 432, June 23, 1994. For a discussion of the Coastal Fisheries Protection Act and its impact, see Douglas Day, "Tending the Achilles' Heel of NAFO: Canada Acts to Protect the Nose and Tail of the Grand Banks," Marine Policy 19, no. 4 (1995): 257-70.
- 6 Claude Emery, "Overfishing Outside the 200-mile Limit: Atlantic Coast," *Current Issue Review* 90-6E, Research Branch, Library of Parliament, September 17, 1996, 13–14 and App. 3.
- 7 Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO), Scientific Council Reports, 1994 (Scientific Council Meeting, 8–22 June 1994), 108.
- 8 Globe and Mail, September 24, 1994; Eurofish Report, no. 439, September 29, 1994; NAFO, Report of the Fisheries Commission, 16th Annual Meeting, 19–23 September 1994, NAFO/FC Doc. 94/13; Eurofish Report, no. 445, December 22, 1994. The figure of 40,000t that was in the Scientific Council report was not a recommendation for a catch level. It was intended

- to demonstrate the Council's view that if the fishing pressure remained as high as it had been in the previous year a catch of about 40,000t could be expected compared to the EU's 1993 catch of close to 50,000t. The Council also made it clear that it advised a significant reduction in the level of fishing and warned of the need to reduce catches.
- Brian Tobin, All in Good Time
   (Toronto: Penguin Canada, 2002),
   95, 95–96; Eurofish Report, no. 434,
   July 21, 1994; confidential sources.
- Europe, no. 6397, January 13, 1995;
   European Report, no. 2007, January 14, 1995; Eurofish Report, no. 446,
   January 19, 1995.
- 11 Evening Telegram, January 14, 1995.
- 12 Chronicle Herald, February 1, 1995.
- 13 Fisheries and Oceans, "Tobin Says NAFO Must Decide Equitable Sharing Arrangement for Greenland Halibut," News Release, January 27, 1995.
- 14 Tobin, *All in Good Time*, 96–100; confidential sources.
- 15 NAFO, Report of the Fisheries
  Commission Special Meeting, 30
  January–1 February 1995, Brussels,
  Belgium, NAFO/FC Doc. 95/2;
  Tobin, All in Good Time, 99–102;
  Michael Harris, Lament for an
  Ocean: The Collapse of the Atlantic
  Cod Fishery, A True Crime Story,
  updated ed. (Toronto: McClelland
  & Stewart, 1999), 13–14. Canada's
  lobbying efforts are discussed in
  Adam Gough, "The Turbot War:
  The Arrest of the Spanish Vessel
  Estai and its Implications for

- Canada-EU Relations," MA Thesis, University of Ottawa, 2009, 49–50.
- 16 Globe and Mail, February 2, 1995.
- 17 Europe, no. 6212, February 3, 1995.
- 18 Globe and Mail, February 8, 1995:
   Europe, no. 6419, February 13/14,
   1995; Tobin, All in Good Time,
   103-7, 109-12.
- Tobin, *All in Good Time*, 103–4;Europe, no. 6420, February 15, 1995.
- 20 Globe and Mail, February 16, 1995
- 21 Evening Telegram, February 18, February 21, and February 22, 1995.
- 22 Evening Telegram, February 21, 1995.
- 23 Globe and Mail, February 24, 1995.
- 24 Tobin, All in Good Time, 109; Robert H. Edwards, "The 1995 Canada-European Union Turbot Crisis: Canada's Use of Force in Fisheries Diplomacy," MA Thesis, Dalhousie University, 1996, 159–68.
- 25 Tobin, All in Good Time, 114, 112– 14; Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, "Canada Urges EU to Respect NAFO Halibut Allocation and Negotiate Outstanding Issues," News Release, March 2, 1995.
- 26 Europe, no. 6434, March 6–7, 1995; European Report, no. 2022, March 8, 1995.
- 27 Calgary Herald (Calgary, AB), March 7, 1995; Sources Say, no. 786, March 7, 1995, Europe, no. 6435, March 8, 1995; Evening Telegram, March 8, 1995.
- 28 Globe and Mail, March 9, 1995.
- 29 Jean Chrétien, My Years as Prime Minister (Toronto: Alfred A. Knopf

- Canada, 2007), 109, 108–9; Tobin, *All in Good Time*, 116–18, 123–24.
- 30 Toronto Sun (Toronto, ON), March 19, 1995; Globe and Mail, March 10, 1005.
- 31 Globe and Mail, March 10, 1995; Harris, Lament for an Ocean, 1–5; Gough, "The Turbot War," 59–63.
- 32 James Bartleman, Rollercoaster: My Years as Jean Chrétien's Diplomatic Advisor, 1994–1998 (Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 2005), 101.
- 33 Evening Telegram, March 10, 1995.
- 34 European Union, "Commission Statement on Canadian Attempted Seizure of European Fishing Vessel," NR (95) 11, March 9, 1995.
- 35 Sources Say, no. 793, March 10, 1995; Financial Times (London, UK), March 11, 1995.
- 36 Calgary Herald, March 11, 1995.
- 37 *European Report*, no. 2023, March 11, 1995.
- 38 Gough, "The Turbot War," 65.
- 39 Globe and Mail, March 13, 1995; Calgary Herald, March 13, 1995; Bartleman, Rollercoaster, 101–3.
- 40 Globe and Mail, March 14, 1995; Calgary Herald, March 14, 1995.
- 41 Globe and Mail, March 14, 1995; Manchester Guardian Weekly (Manchester, UK), March 19, 1995.
- 42 European Report, no. 2024, March15, 1995; Globe and Mail, March15, 1995.
- 43 Globe and Mail, March 15, 1995.

  The "official" logbook significantly under-reported the catch in order to allow the vessel to remain on the fishing grounds for the entire season. As well, failure to file accurate catch reports when the vessel offloaded its catch in port would lead to lower taxes having

- to be paid by the owner and an opportunity to move large volumes of fish onto the grey market. Tax evasion in the fisheries sector in Spain and Portugal was well known in the industry and to the two countries' governments.
- 44 Europe, no. 6441, March 16, 1995.
- 45 European Report, no. 2045, March 18, 1995; MacLean's, March 27, 1995, 18–19.
- 46 Globe and Mail, March 16, 1995.
- 47 Calgary Herald, March 17, 1995, and March 18, 1995; Europe, no. 6443, March 18, 1995; European Report, no. 2025, March 18, 1995, and no. 2026, March 21, 1995; Globe and Mail, March 18, 1995, and March 21, 1995; Sources Say, no. 801, March 16, 1995; Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, "Conservation and Enforcement Primary Concerns in Fisheries Dispute," News Release, March 18, 1995; confidential sources.
- 48 Globe and Mail, March 18, 1995; Evening Telegram, March 21, 1995.
- 49 Calgary Herald, March 17, 1995,
- 50 Bartleman, Rollercoaster, 103-5; Globe and Mail, March 22, 1995; Calgary Herald, March 24, 1995.

and March 19, 2005.

51 Sources Say, 28 March 1995;
Gazette (Montreal, QC), March
28, 1995; Europe, no. 6449, March
27–28, 1995; Calgary Herald,
March 28, 1995. The inability of EU
fisheries inspectors to find evidence
of infractions by the fleet was a
long-standing enforcement issue.
A vessel would be inspected at sea,
a serious infringement found, and
a citation issued. But when the

- ship returned to its home port no violation could be detected. It was easy for vessels to divert to another port, transfer or dump their catch at sea, or discard small-mesh nets.
- Globe and Mail, March 29, 1995. Tobin sent Rowat back to Brussels after rumors surfaced that the Department of Foreign Affairs was lobbying Chrétien and the Privy Council Office to take charge of the negotiations because of fisheries officials' alleged inflexibility. Smith reportedly complicated Rowat's task in Brussels by implying that the government was not fully behind Tobin. Earlier, Smith had tried to persuade Tobin to alter his stance, asking whether it was worth damaging relations with the EU for the sake of "some smelly little fish." Tobin notes that, in contrast, officials abroad performed their duties admirably. Among these was Jacques Roy, the ambassador to the EU, who, along with Gianluigi Giola, the European Commission's Deputy Director General for External Relations, played an important role in helping to keep the lines of communication open between the two sides. Tobin, All in Good Time, 117, 133-36; Gough, "The Turbot War," 77-78.
- 53 Brian Tobin, All in Good Time, 132.
- 54 Globe and Mail, March 30, 1995.
- 55 Financial Times (London, UK), March 29, 1995; Eurofish Report, no. 451, March 30, 1995; Europe, no. 6452, March 31, 1995. For the text of the note, see European Union, "Canada-EU fisheries Dispute," News, NR (95) 18, March 30, 1995.

- 56 Calgary Herald, March 31, 1995.
- Calgary Herald, March 31, 1995; Europe, no. 6452, March 31, 1995. Some commentators have suggested that the British government supported Canada for reasons of historic ties and sentiment. But it is unlikely that these factors overrode domestic considerations. Readers will recall that the UK blocked approval of the long-term fisheries agreement with Canada for almost a year because the British fishing industry was dissatisfied with the pact's market access provisions, and to gain bargaining leverage on other Common Fisheries Policy matters.
- 58 Chronicle Herald, March 30, 1995.
- 59 Globe and Mail, March 30, 1995.
- 60 Eurofish Report, no. 452, April 12, 1995; Daily News (Halifax, NS), April 13, 1995.
- 61 European Report, no. 2031, April 8, 1995, and no. 2032, April 12, 1995; Tobin, All in Good Time, 133–36.
- 62 *European Report*, no. 2032, April 12, 1995; confidential sources.
- 63 Gazette, April 12, 1995; Chronicle Herald, April 13, 1995; Financial Times, April 13, 1995.
- 64 European Report, no. 2033, April 14, 1995.
- 65 Calgary Herald, April 13, 1995; Globe and Mail, April 15, 1995.
- 66 Globe and Mail, April 15, 1995, and April 17, 1995.
- 67 Calgary Herald, April 15, 1995; Bartleman, Rollercoaster, 110–11; Chrétien, My Years as Prime Minister, 110–11.
- 68 Chrétien, My Years as Prime Minister, 111; Lawrence Martin, Iron Man: The Defiant Reign of Jean

- *Chrétien* (Toronto: Viking Canada, 2003), 113.
- 69 Globe and Mail, April 17, 1995; Bartleman, Rollercoaster, 112–13; "Agreement on Fisheries Between the Government of Canada and the European Community," April 16, 1995.
- 70 Sources Say, no. 840, April 18, 1995.
- 71 Financial Times, April 18, 1995; European Report, no. 2034, April 19, 1995.
- 72 Financial Times, April 18, 1995. The court ruled that it did not have jurisdiction over the case because of the Canadian reservation lodged when parliament amended the Coastal Fisheries Protection Act to authorize Canadian enforcement actions on the high seas. The second legal action was a civil case brought by the owner and captain of the *Estai* for damages as a result of Canada's alleged illegal arrest and detention of the vessel and its crew. After many years of costly legal action the courts dismissed all claims against Canada.
- 73 Fishing News, April 21, 1995; Calgary Herald, May 1, 1995.
- 74 European Union, "EU-Canada Relations," News, NR (95) 21, May 2, 1995.
- 75 Times Colonist (Victoria, BC), May 4, 1995; Europe, no. 6476, May 8–9, 1995.
- 76 Chronicle Herald, September 16, 1995; Eurofish Report, no. 464, September 28, 1995; confidential sources.
- 77 See, for example, Ted L.McDorman, "Canada'sAggressive Fisheries Actions:Will They Improve the Climate

for International Agreements?" Canadian Foreign Policy 2, no. 3 (Winter 1994/95): 5-28. Allan Gotlieb and Charles Dalfen argue that under Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, Canada began pursuing its national and international legal interests more aggressively, especially with regard to maritime concerns. See their "National Jurisdiction and International Responsibility: New Canadian Approaches to International Law," American Journal of International Law 67 (April 1973): 229-58; and Michael Harris, Lament for an Ocean, 9. Prime Minister Chrétien claimed that Canada's actions during the Turbot War were aimed at enhancing the prospects for an international accord. (Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Address to the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Dallas, Texas, April 6, 1995.) In the judgment of Christopher Joyner and Alejandro Alvarez von Gustedt, the dispute contributed to the successful conclusion of the United Nations Convention on Straddling Stocks and Highly Migratory Species in August 1995. See "The Turbot War of 1995: Lessons for the Law of the Sea," International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law 11, no. 4 (November 1996): 425-58. 78 Donald Barry, "Toward a Canada-EU Partnership?" in Patrick M. Crowley, ed., Crossing the Atlantic: Comparing the European Union

and Canada (Aldershot, UK:

Ashgate, 2004), 35-58.

### 4 | NEW CONFLICTS ARISE

- 1 WorldFish Report (formerly Eurofish Report), no. 17, June 17, 1996, and no. 19, July 18, 1996.
- 2 Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (NAFO Convention), Article V. 3.
- 3 Evening Telegram (St. John's, NL), September 17, 1996; WorldFish Report, no. 25, September 26, 1996.
- 4 Fisheries and Oceans Canada, "NAFO Recognizes Canadian Decision-making for Northern Cod," News Release, September 16, 1996
- 5 WorldFish Report, no. 36, March 13, 1997; Evening Telegram (St. John's, NL), September 13, 1997; Ottawa Citizen, October 11, 1997.
- 6 Western Star (Cornerbrook, NL), September 22, 1997; WorldFish Report, no. 51, October 9, 1997. In the late 1980s the Faroe Islands' shrimp fleet began to fish on the Nose of the Banks in NAFO Division 3L. This fishery was on the same shrimp stock that straddled the Canadian 200-mile limit and had been traditionally fished inside the Canadian zone by Canada. Canada protested this fishery, claiming it was having a negative impact on the portion of the stock in Canadian waters. The Faroese insisted they had the right to an "experimental fishery." Despite objections, the Faroese continued their "experiment" for three years. In order to reduce the increased pressure on the shrimp stock as a whole, Canada sought NAFO management of

the 3L stock. NAFO agreed with the Canadian proposal and set a TAC. It also decided, in a rush at the end of a busy meeting, to allocate 90 percent of the stock to Canada and distribute the remaining 10 percent equally to all of the NAFO members. The Faroese were outraged when they received only 67t. They believed they deserved a larger share for "developing" the "new" fishery. There was no sympathy for their position among the Contracting Parties. None was prepared to give up its share to the Faroese or to be seen as rewarding a fleet that had overfished the stock. Interestingly, in the early 1990s when the EU attempted to benefit from its "discovery" of the offshore turbot stock, NAFO was consistent in not rewarding excessive unauthorized fishing. The management regime and quota shares for 3L shrimp continued in effect in subsequent years. Iceland had issues with the 3M shrimp stock on the Flemish Cap, especially about the effort management regime which would limit the number of vessels and the days they fished as a conservation measure. The shrimp fishery on the Flemish Cap is managed on the basis of effort control as a unique solution to the historic fishery. The Faroese have regularly objected to their NAFO quota share of 3L shrimp. This led to overfishing of their NAFO quota and subsequent disputes with Denmark, which represents the Faroe Islands and Greenland, in NAFO, Canada responded, on several occasions

- by closing its ports to Danishrepresented vessels.
- 7 Globe and Mail (Toronto, ON), June 20, 1998.
- 8 WorldFish Report, no. 73, August 27, 1998.
- 9 *WorldFish Report*, no. 75, September 24, 1998.
- Telegram (formerly Evening Telegram, St. John's, NL), September 22, 1998; WorldFish Report, no. 75, September 24, 1998, and no. 81, December 22, 1998.
- 11 WorldFish Report, no. 89, April 22, 1999; Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, "Better Access to EU Market for Canadian Shrimp Exports," News Release, April 1, 1999.
- 12 WorldFish Report, no. 100, September 22, 1999; Fisheries and Oceans Canada, "Dhaliwal Announces Canada Successful in Pushing for Conservation-Based Management at NAFO Meeting," News Release, September 17, 1999.
- 13 Europe, no. 7618, December 18, 1999; WorldFish Report, no. 106, December 21, 1999.
- 14 Fisheries and Oceans Canada, "Canada Announces Progress at the NAFO Annual Meeting," News Release, September 22, 2000; WorldFish Report, no. 126, October 4, 2000.
- 15 WorldFish Report, no. 92, June 3, 1999, and no. 98, August 25, 1999. The EU's concern was valid in that Canada had a different interpretation of UN Fish Agreement than the Union. Canada's new legislation allowed for regulations to authorize Canadian enforcement vessels to

- act beyond NAFO limitations. The EU fought hard against this and Canada has still not fully embraced its legislative opportunities.
- Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, "Canada and Spain Issue Joint Declaration on Overall Relationship and Fisheries Cooperation," News Release no.
   May 23, 2001, with attached "Joint Declaration Regarding the Overall Relationship and Fisheries Cooperation."
- 17 WorldFish Report, no. 131, December 19, 2000.
- 18 WorldFish Report, no. 138, April 11, 2001, no. 136, March 14, 2001, and no. 137, March 28, 2001.
- 19 Advisory Panel on the Sustainable Management of Straddling Fish Stocks in the Northwest Atlantic, "Breaking New Ground: An Action Plan for Rebuilding the Grand Banks Fisheries," June 2005, 100; Globe and Mail, February 6, 2002; Telegram, February 7, 2002.
- The depth restriction measure was critical for Canada as the primary quota holder of the small American plaice TAC. The proposed measure was intended protect the stock, which was being heavily fished as a bycatch by EU vessels in the turbot fishery. Many of them had American plaice as more than half their catch in NAFO Division 3NO, as they purposely targeted their fishery in shallow waters where the stock was abundant rather than deeper waters that were preferred by the turbot stock. Virtually all EU vessels fishing in NAFO Division 3NO exceeded the NAFO bycatch limit of 10 percent, some

- with levels as high as 90 percent. The EU claimed that Canada's concerns were not substantiated in the Union's catch reports. This can be explained by the fact that vessels with large catches of American plaice continued to fish for turbot in other areas during the season. When the vessels returned to port for inspection the proportion of American plaice was significantly reduced.
- 21 Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO), Annual Report, 2001 (Scientific Council Meeting, 13 May-14 June, 2001), 109.
- 22 The EU later claimed that it did not oppose limiting the depth of the turbot fishery. The claim was unfounded, as shown by the fact that it prevented a decision on the issue in 2003, at which point it seems to have disappeared from the agenda.
- 23 NAFO, Annual Report, 2002 (Fisheries Commission Special Meeting, 29 January–1 February 2002), 74–75; WorldFish Report, no. 159, February 6, 2002; confidential sources.
- 24 Department of Fisheries and Oceans, "Canada Disappointed with Outcome of NAFO Meeting," News Release, February 5, 2002; Telegram, February 3, 2002; CBC News, "Foreign overfishing hurting Grand Banks conservation," February 7, 2002, http://www.cbc.ca/stories/print/2002/02/07/overfishing\_nfld020207.
- 25 WorldFish Report, no. 159, February 6, 2002.

- 26 Telegram, March 16, 2002, and March 22, 2002; WorldFish Report, no. 162, March 20, 2002.
- 27 Department of Fisheries and Oceans, "Canada Closes Ports to Fishing Vessels from the Faroe Islands," News Release, March 21, 2002; "Canada Closes Ports to Fishing Vessels From Estonia," News Release, April 9, 2002; "Minister Thibault Pleased with Russia's Cooperation Regarding Fishing Vessel Olga," News Release, April 3, 2002.
- 28 House of Commons, Standing
  Committee on Fisheries and
  Oceans, "Foreign Overfishing:
  Its Impacts and Solutions,
  Conservation on the Nose and
  Tail of the Grand Banks and the
  Flemish Cap," June 2002, 22, 18–19.
- 29 Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, "Minister pleased with report from Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans," News Release, June 12, 2002 (Fisheries and Aquaculture).
- 30 Globe and Mail, June 12, 2002.
- 31 Fisheries and Oceans Canada, "Thibault Presses European Ministers to Address Overfishing," News Release. June 27, 2002.
- 32 *Telegram*, May 29, 2002; *WorldFish Report*, May 29, 2002.
- 33 *WorldFish Report*, no. 160, February 20, 2002.
- 34 *WorldFish Report*, no. 167, May 29, 2002.
- 35 WorldFish Report, no. 172, August 7, 2002.
- 36 *The Nor'wester* (Springdale, NL), August 21, 2002.
- 37 Telegram, August 27, 2002.

- 38 *CBC.ca/news*, "Canada must extend control of fishing, MPs say," September 3, 2002, http://www.cbc.ca/story/canada/national/2002/09/03/overfishing.html?print; *Telegram*, September 21, 2002.
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### **5 | REFORMING NAFO**

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### INDEX

### Α

Advisory Panel on the Sustainable Management of Straddling Fish Stocks in the Northwest Atlantic, 95, 97–98

Anderson, David, 78

Andriessen, Frans, 41, 45

Applebaum, Bob, 107, 108, 109, 111–12

Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, 53

Association des Industries de Pêche, 78

Atlantic Fisheries Adjustment Program, 44, 77

Atlantic Groundfish Strategy, 77 *Avirense*, 92, 102

#### В

Balladur, Édouard, 68
Bartleman, James, 60, 61, 66, 71–72
Beesley, Alan, 42
Blake, Raymond, 119
Bonino, Emma, 57, 58, 64, 66–67, 70, 72
Borg, Joe, 102, 111
Bourgon, Jocelyne, 60 *Brites*, 92, 102
Brittan, Leon, 56, 59–60, 64, 73
Brubaker, Elizabeth, 2

### C

### Canada

authority over fisheries, 4 extension of fisheries jurisdiction, 2, 14 fisheries agreements, phases, 15–16 and fisheries enforcement, 3–4, 87, 91, 92, 93, 95–96, 122–23

Canada-EU fisheries agreement (1992), 51–52, 119

Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Action Team on Cod Recovery, 88–89

Canada-Portugal fisheries agreements, 30–31, 100

Canada-Spain fisheries agreements, 30–31,

Canadian Atlantic Fisheries Scientific Advisory Committee, 38, 40, 43, 46, 49

Canadian Council of Fisheries and Agriculture Ministers, 87

Canadian Fisheries Adjustment and Restructuring Program, 77

Cavaco Silva, Anibal, 50, 72

Chapman, Bruce, 162n36

Chrétien, Jean

and Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, 53

and Brian Tobin, 60-61, 71-72, 120 custodial management and Canada-EU relations, 73-74 calls for, 5, 12, 35-36, 39, 44, 50, 83-84, and foreign overfishing, 53, 54 85, 87, 88, 91-92, 94, 95, 96, 100, and Newfoundland's demand to renego-122, 123 tiate terms of union, 88 definitions of, 5, 83-84, 96 and Turbot War, 59, 66, 71-72 and Harper government, 101, 104, 111, Clark, Joe, 40, 44, 45 Coalition for Custodial Management, 85 and proposed new NAFO Convention, Coastal Fisheries Protection Act, 54, 60, 109, 110, 112 62-63,74rejection of, 36, 84, 88, 96, 97 Regulations, 54, 59, 60, 69, 74, 92 Collenette, David, 60 D Common Fisheries Policy creation of, 16 De Bané, Pierre, 27 decision making, 5 Delors, Jacques, 43, 50 enforcement, 6-7, 48, 86, 92-93, 151n51 external dimension, 17, 31-32, 80 impact of Portuguese and Spanish acces-Е sion, 31-32 Ecosystem approach to fisheries managepolicy areas, 5, 16-17 ment, 97, 102, 106 reform of, 5, 46, 80, 84-85, 89 Efford, John, 78 role of Committee of Permanent Repre-Estai, 61, 62-63, 64, 65, 66-67, 69, 70-71, sentatives, 6 120 - 21role of Council of Ministers, 5-6 Etchegary, Gus, 97 role of European Commission, 6 European Union role of European Parliament, 6, role of institutions of, 5-6 member states, 6-8 lowers tariff on shrimp, 78, 104. See also and subsidiarity principle, 7, 103-4 Common Fisheries Policy Community Fisheries Control Agency, 7 nomenclature, 137n3 Conference of World Fisheries Ministers, 49 EU-Canada Bilateral Scientific Observer Conference on the Conservation and Man-Agreement, 35 agement of Living Resources in the High Seas, 45 Crosbie, John F closure of northern cod fishery, 51 Faroe Islands and EU overfishing, 38, 40, 41, 42-43, access to Canadian ports, 83, 89, 95 45, 46, 47-48, 50 fishing violations, 80, 86 and fisheries agreement with the EU and NAFO observer program, 90-91 (1992), 51-52shrimp fishery, 94, 153-54n6 and northern cod TAC, 38-39 Fischler, Franz, 80, 84, 89, 91 support for high seas protest, 49 Fisheries Community Alliance of Newfoundland, 108, 111 Fish, Food and Allied Workers Union, 22, 49, 58, 59, 85

Fisheries Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, 22, 85 Fisheries Council of Canada, 36, 78 Fisheries Products International, 39, 43, 49 F <sub>max</sub> fisheries management strategy, 32–33, 40–41 F <sub>0.1</sub> fisheries management strategy, 9, 15, 32, 35, 40–41 Fraser, John, 30, 34	Helms-Burton Act, 74 House of Commons, vote on proposed new NAFO Convention, 113 House of Commons, Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans government response to reports, 87–88 reports, 83–84, 88, 100, 112–13 Hulan, Bud, 59
G7 Summit, 45 G8 Summit, 93 General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, 18 Gezelius, Stig, 118 Giola, Gianluigi, 151n52 Goldenberg, Eddie, 60 González, Felipe, 41, 45, 63, 66, 68 Governance of High Seas Fisheries and the United Nations Fish Agreement – Moving from Words to Action, 95, 96–97 Grand Banks, location of, 8 Greenland access to Canadian posts, 89, 95 salmon harvest off, 18, 19, 21, 22–23 Greenland halibut. See turbot Greenpeace, 42, 98 Grimes, Roger, 88	Implementation Task Force on Northern Cod, 46 internal politics and EU's challenge to NAFO, 122–23 importance of, 4–5, 115 and long-term agreement on fisheries, 115–18 and Portuguese and Spanish accession to EU, 118–19 and proposed new NAFO Convention, 123–24 and Turbot War, 119–122 International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, 1–2, 14–15, 16 International Court of Justice, 54, 72 International Plan of Acton to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, 95–96
H hail system, 48 Harper, Stephen, 100, 111 Harris, Leslie, 38–39, 46 Hearn, Loyola and custodial management, 83, 85, 91–92, 100 and enforcement, 102, 103–4 equates custodial management with NAFO reform, 101 and former fisheries officials, 108, 109 and NAFO, 94	J Joana Princesa, 89, 102 Johnson, Barbara, 5  K Kirby Commission. See Task Force on Atlantic Fisheries Krenzler, Horst, 65, 66 Kristina Logos, 54

L	Northern Cod Review Panel, 38–39, 40, 43,
Lequesne, Christian, 4, 5	44, 46
long-term agreement on fisheries, 2–3, 11,	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization
17	(NAFO)
=-	annual compliance assessments, 86,
allocations continued, 33–34 implementation problems, 25–27	93-94
interim accords, 18–19	approval of proposed new NAFO Con-
	vention, 110
negotiation of, 17–18, 20–25	calls for NAFO reform, 95-98
provisions of, 21, 25 resolution of, 27	Canada's approach, 101
	Canadian and EU approaches to, 93-94
termination of, 34–35, 36	Canadian and EU reports on, 85-86,
West German fleet's challenge to, 29–30	89-90
	challenges facing NAFO, 113-14.
M	changes to proposals, 109-10
	changes to, 75-76
Major, John, 68	comparison to 1979 Convention process
Marin, Manuel, 40, 41-42, 44-45, 46-48,	105
50	consistency provision, 9, 139n18
Martin, Paul, 93, 96, 100	creation of, 2, 99-100
May, Arthur, 95, 108–109	criticism of and Canadian government's
McCurdy, Earle, 58–59, 62, 85, 87, 112,	response, 110, 111-12
162n36	decision making, 9
McGuinness, Patrick, 162n36	dispute settlement, 106-107
Mifflin, Fred, 76, 78	enforcement, 10
Mitterand, François, 41	EU in lead role, 99-100, 101
Morgan, Jim, 26	EU use of, 33, 35, 36, 38, 43, 47, 48-49,
Mulroney, Brian, 41, 43, 44–45, 49, 50	51, 59
	Helsingor meeting, 81-83
A.I	Joint Enforcement Scheme, 34, 35, 37
N	Joint Inspection Scheme, 37
National Sea Products, 39, 43, 49	management inside 200 miles, 106, 108
Newfoundland and Labrador	members of, 8, 127
attitudes toward foreign fishing, 5	NAFO Regulatory Area, 8, 125
economic importance of fisheries, 4–5	new control and surveillance measures,
North Atlantic Fisheries Ministers Confer-	10, 99, 103-4, 123
ence, 74, 84, 98	Newfoundland government and fishing
Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission,	industry's views of ratifications,
103, 105-6	5, 110-11, 123
northern cod	objection procedure, 9, 10
Canadian management of, 9, 14, 30, 35	pilot project, 90–91
closure of northern cod fishery, 51	ratifications of, 10, 113
decline of, 2, 3, 38–39, 40, 44, 46, 49	role of, 8–9
EU acknowledgment of, 51, 69	significance of, 110, 122
importance of, 1, 14	Spain and Portugal views of, 110, 124
NAFO agreement on, 76	

special consideration provision, 9, 139n18 structure of, 9 voting formula, 106 weaknesses of, 9–10 Working Group on NAFO Reform, 99,	Round-Table Forum on Improving the Management of Straddling Fish Stocks, 88 Rowat, William, 61, 66, 67, 107, 109, 111–12, 151n52 Roy, Jacques, 58, 59–60, 62, 72, 151n52
105 working group proposals, 106–7	S
O'Rielly, Alastair, 85, 87 Ouellet, André, 60, 73  P Paleocrassas, Yannis, 56 Parsons, Scott, 109, 111–12 Peckford, Brian, 24, 35–36, 39 Pescamaro Uno, 66, 68, 120, 121 Portugal, economic importance of fisheries, 8 fisheries agreements with Canada, 30–31, 100 fishing violations, 12, 35, 48, 56, 57, 80, 85–86, 89, 92–93, 97, 102, 113–14 impact on EU's NAFO policy, 3, 11, 31–32 joins EU, 31–32	St. Pierre and Miquelon boundary issue, 36, 39–40  Santa Mafalda, 89, 97  Santer, Jacques, 60, 61, 66, 67, 70, 73, 74  Schmidt, Helmut, 24  Schrank, William, 39  seal hunt, 26, 27  Shea, Gail, 111, 112  Siddon, Tom, 34, 38, 40  Smith, Gordon, 60, 61, 65, 66, 67, 151n52  Solana, Javier, 64, 70  Spain  complaint to International Court of Justice, 63, 72, 152n72  economic importance of fisheries, 7–8  fisheries agreements with Canada, 30–31, 80  fishing violations, 35, 48, 56–57, 80, 85–86, 91–92, 104, 113–14  Galicia, role in fisheries, 7–8
view of Canadian policy, 32 Precautionary principle, 78, 79, 94, 106 Prodi, Romano, 74 Putnam, Robert, 115  R Recreational fishery, 79 Regan, Geoff, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 98, 100 Reid, Gerry, 82, 83, 84, 87 relative stability, 42, 146n35 Rey Aneiros, Adela, 10, 103, 124 Rideout, Tom, 37, 102 Rompkey, William, 104	impact on EU's NAFO policy, 3, 11, 31–32 joins EU, 31–32 view of Canadian policy, 32, 45 Spanish Fishing Association, 114 Standing Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans, reports, 104, 107–8, 112–13 straddling stocks defined, 8 threat to, 29–30 Sullivan, Loyola, 111

Т	nego plan
Task Force on Atlantic Fisheries (Kirby	pian
Commission), 20, 38	relea
Taylor, Trevor, 94, 96-97	Spai
Thatcher, Margaret, 24	Spai
Thibault, Robert, 82, 84, 85, 87, 88, 89	
Thorn, Gaston, 23	
Tobin, Brian	U
appointed fisheries minister, 53-54	TT-14 - 1
builds case against Eatsi, 63, 64-65,	67 United
declares turbot fishing moratorium,	61 United
and fisheries conservation, 58, 62, 64	1-65
and Jean Chrétien, 60-61, 71-72, 120	United
lays groundwork for firm response o	n United
turbot, 59	,
and North Atlantic Fisheries Ministe	ers United
Conference, 74	Officed
presses EU on fishing violations, 56-	-57 United
Treaty of Lisbon, 6	Office
turbot stock	
brought under NAFO, 54-55	United
decline of, 55–56	
increase in TACs and quotas, 79, 81-	·82, United
86	Office
rebuilding program, 91, 94	
state of 55	
Turbot War	V
agreement reached, 71–72	Valcou
approved by NAFO, 73	Vessel S
arrest of <i>Estai</i> , 61	7.71 01
Canada makes conservation case, 58	, 62, Vigo 31
64-65, 72	nion.
Canada, government and public opin role of, 120	110n, <b>W</b>
EU Council, role of, 121	Wells, 0
EU makes legal case, 62, 64, 72	Willian
EU sets unilateral quota, 59	Winha
EU solidarity tested, 63-64, 67-68, 7	70, Wisema
121	Mould'

negotiations, 61, 63–66, 68–71 plans delayed for closer Canada-EU cooperation, 72–73, 74–75 release of *Estai*, 64–65 Spain, government and public opinion, role of, 120

United Fishermen of Newfoundland, 49
United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (Earth Summit), 45, 49, 50, 51
United Nations Conference on Straddling Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, 45, 51, 66, 73, 152–53n77
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 10, 14, 49, 107
United Nations Fish Agreement, 10, 51, 73, 79–80, 92, 96, 105, 106, 107, 112–13, 158n60
United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, 77. 95–96
United Nations Law of the Sea Conference,

Valcourt, Bernard, 44–45, 46, 47 Vessel Satellite Monitoring, 78, 79, 89 Vigo Ship Owners Association, 66

Wells, Clyde, 48, 49, 50, 54, 59 Williams, Danny, 85, 95, 96, 111 Winham, Gilbert, 115 Wiseman, Earl, 107, 109, 111–12 World Trade Organization, 78–79 World Wildlife Fund, 87, 98, 99–100, 102–3

European Commission, role of, 120–21

fishing violations of *Estai*, 63, 64 NAFO TAC and quota decisions, 56,

57-58



Fishing for a Solution provides a detailed, policy-based account of the development of Canada's fisheries relations with the European Union (EU). It covers over 35 years of this contentious relationship, including the extension of Canada's fisheries jurisdiction to 200 miles in 1977, the subsequent creation of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) in 1979, and the development of a proposed new NAFO Convention in 2007 that still awaits formal approval as of 2014. Based on the experience of participants from inside the various negotiations and debates, the book delves deeply into the impact of internal politics on international fisheries negotiations. Fishing for a Solution is relevant for anyone interested in the inner workings of Canadian foreign policy or in the complexities of managing international resource agreements. It offers a unique perspective on the development of Canada-EU fisheries relations, blending the insights of a long-time observer of Canadian diplomacy with those of two former senior public servants who headed the International Affairs Directorate of Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

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