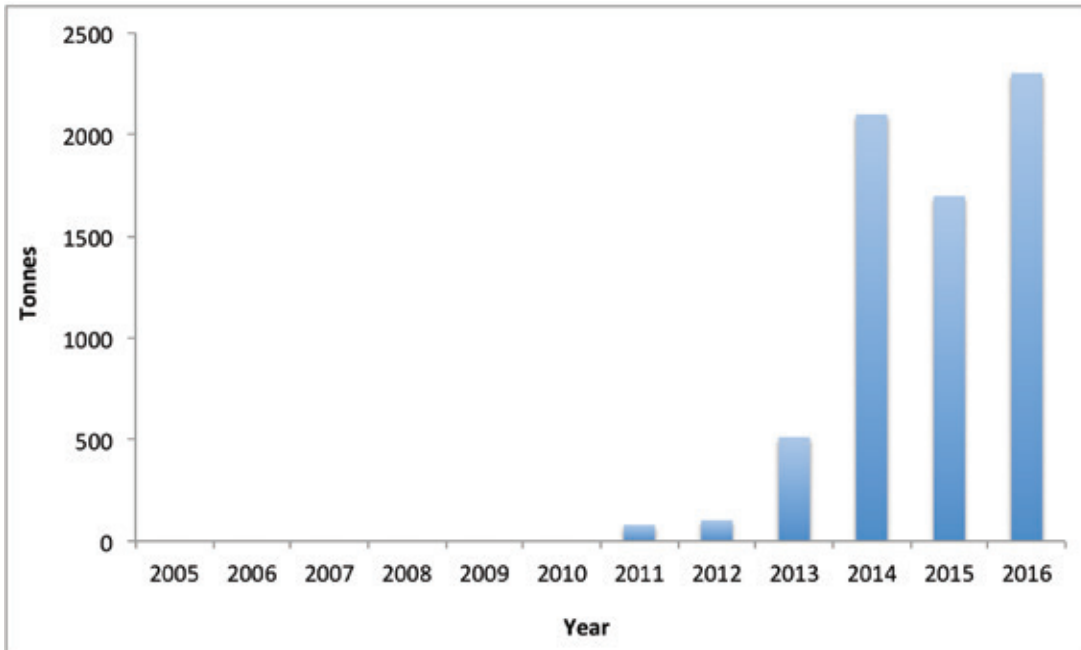


Example 1: Increased imports to Italy following carding decisions

Increased imports were, for example, reported by **Italy** following the carding of over half of the third countries/territories analysed, particularly for high value products such as swordfish and tuna.

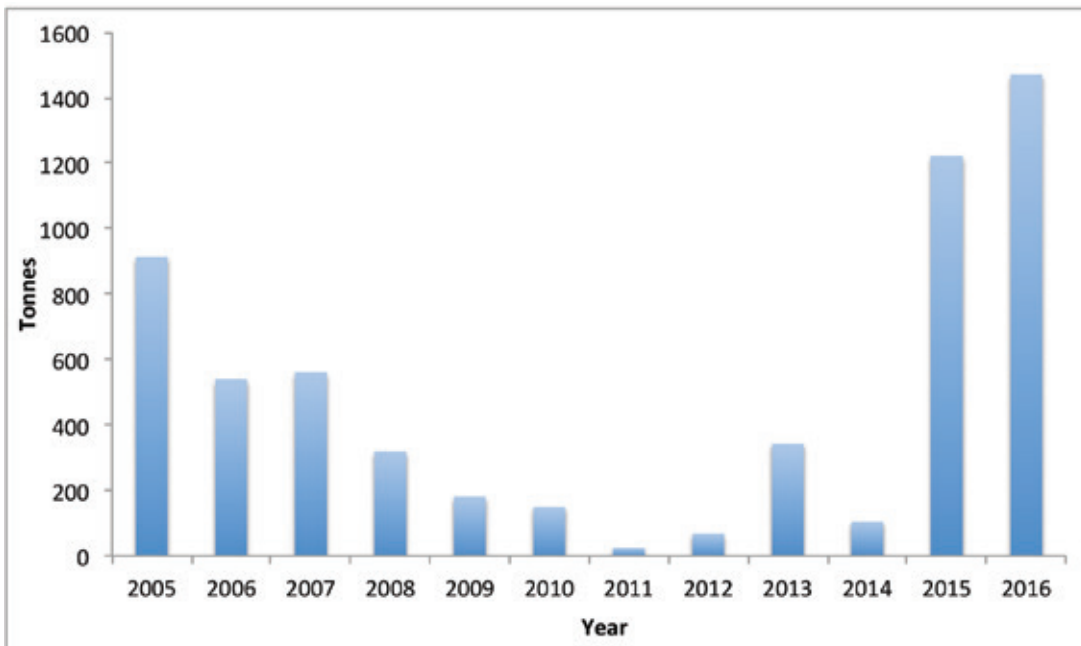
Imports of frozen yellowfin tuna from Ghana* reported by Italy (2005-2016)



Source: Eurostat

*Yellow card issued in November 2013, card withdrawn in October 2015

Imports of frozen swordfish from Taiwan* reported by Italy (2005-2016)



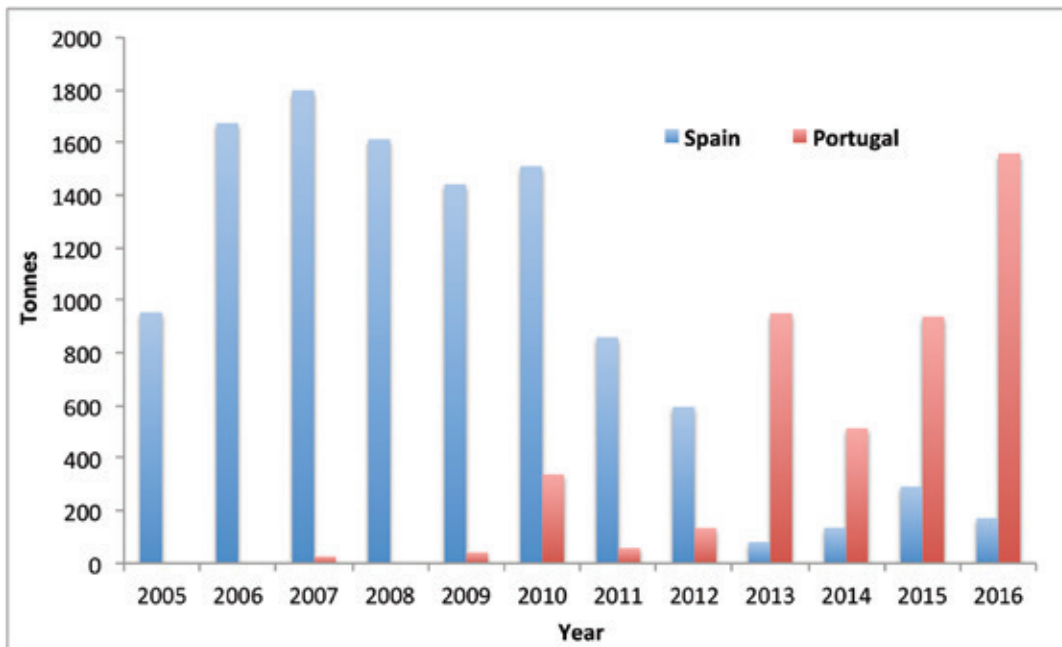
Source: Eurostat

*Yellow card issued in October 2015, not withdrawn yet (as of January 2018)

Example 2: Shift in trade flows from Spain to Portugal

Portugal reported increased imports from several third countries that had been carded, and this often coincided with a decline in imports of the same commodities (swordfish, shark and surimi) reported by **Spain**. Analysis of intra-EU trade flows also indicates that **Portugal** may have been used as a point of entry for products destined for **Spain**, making it difficult for authorities in Spain to check the legal origin of this seafood due to the EU single market.

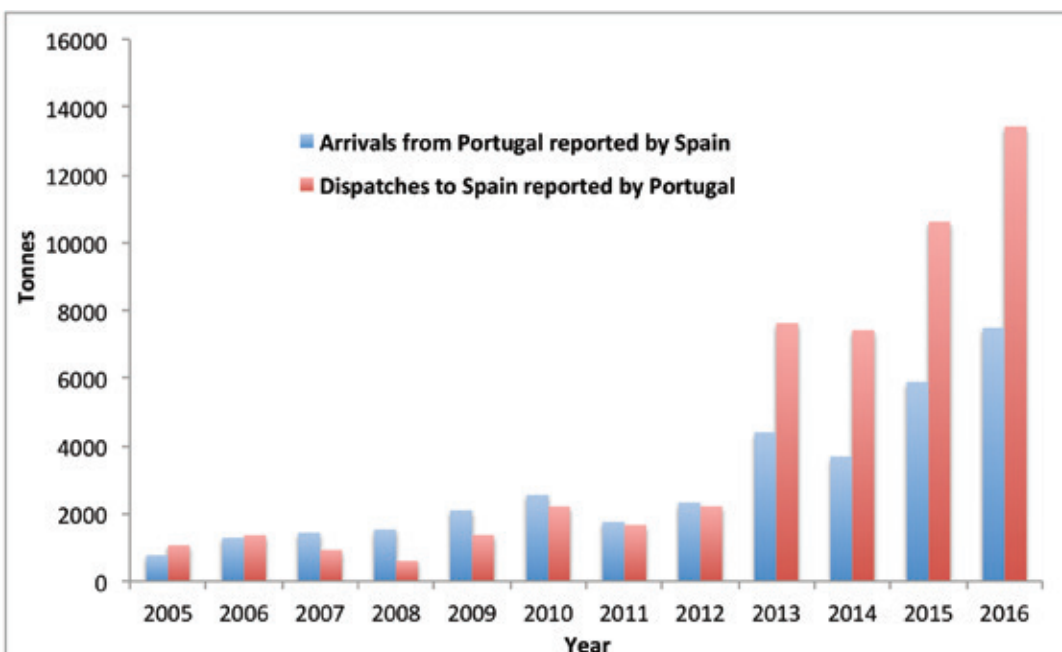
Imports of frozen swordfish from Panama* reported by Spain and Portugal (2005-2016)



Source: Eurostat

*Yellow card issued in November 2012, card withdrawn in October 2014

Intra-EU trade* in frozen swordfish from Portugal to Spain (2005-2016)



Source: Eurostat

*Includes data reported by both Portugal as the member state of dispatch (intra-EU export), and Spain as the member state of arrival (intra-EU import)

Random peaks in trade and other trade anomalies were reported also by other EU countries that are not considered major importers of seafood in the EU, e.g. **Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania** and **Poland**.



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What are the implications of these trends?

These trends suggest that operators may be exploiting those EU borders that are seen as more porous for the import of high-risk and, potentially, illegally caught seafood. This warrants the urgent need for improved **coordination and harmonisation of import controls across member states**.

Transit and destination member states also need to coordinate better to ensure that catch certificates for seafood imports are effectively scrutinised and that robust monitoring and import controls are applied consistently across the whole length of the EU border, smaller countries included. An **EU-wide IT system** to facilitate the harmonised, coordinated and risk-based monitoring of seafood imports across the EU is pivotal to the success of the IUU Regulation and its establishment must be a priority task for the European Commission and member states alike.

† The Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF), Oceana, The Pew Charitable Trusts and WWF are working together to secure the harmonised and effective implementation of the European Union's Regulation to end illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. The analysis of seafood trade following the IUU Regulation's entry into force was authored by Victoria Mundy in collaboration with TRAFFIC and can be found at:

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