

**Decree No. 77-130 of 11 February 1977 on the establishment,  
pursuant to the law of July 16, 1976,  
of an Economic Zone off the coasts of the territory of the Republic  
bordering the North Sea, the English Channel and the Atlantic,  
from the Franco-Belgian border to the Franco-Spanish border**

The economic zone defined in Article 1 of the Law of July 16, 1976 shall extend, off the coasts of the territory of the Republic bordering the North Sea, the English Channel and the Atlantic, from the Franco-Belgian border to the Franco-Spanish border, from the outer limit of the territorial sea to 188 nautical miles beyond this limit, subject to delimitation agreements with neighbouring States.

As far as this zone is concerned, the provisions of the above-mentioned Law shall enter into force from the date of the publication of the present Decree.

**Article 2**

Subject to the provisions of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and its implementing legislation, foreign vessels shall, in accordance with the Law of March 1, 1888 as amended, be prohibited from fishing in the above-mentioned economic zone.

However, notwithstanding these provisions, fishing licences may be issued to certain foreign vessels under the conditions laid down by the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and its implementing legislation, by international agreements and by French municipal law.

**Article 3**

As regards offences relating to fishing committed in the economic zone referred to in Article 1, a fine of from F 600 to 1,000 shall be substituted for the penalties laid down in Articles 5(6), 6(6), 7(1), 8 and 9 of the Decree of January 9, 1852 and in Article 11(2) of the above-mentioned Law of March 1, 1888.

**Article 4**

The Minister of Justice, the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Economics and Finance, the Minister of Defence, the Minister of Works, the Minister of Industry and Research, the Minister of the Environment and the Secretary of State for Transport shall be charged, as appropriate, with the execution of the present Decree, which shall be published in the Journal Officiel of the French Republic.