Global Investigations into Abuse

Over the last decades, there have been a number of investigations into abuses in the seafood industry. These videos captured by the Environmental Justice Foundation, GreenPeace, and Human Rights Watch depict some of the worst cases of human and labor rights abuses found in seafood supply chains:

- Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF):
  - Thailand’s Seafood Slaves.
  - Pirates and Slaves.
  - Sold to the Sea.

- GreenPeace: Life on Taiwan’s Tuna Boats - Exposed Short Documentary.


Additional investigative reporting:


- The Guardian: A year-long investigation into the Irish prawn and whitefish sector confirmed that labor abuses occur outside of Southeast Asian fishing industries. The investigation uncovered undocumented Ghanaian, Filipino, Egyptian and Indian fishermen manning boats in ports from Cork to Galway (Lawrence et al. 2015).

- Associated Press (AP): AP Investigation: Slaves may have caught the fish you bought.

- Stringer et al: Researchers also found a migrant fishing crew aboard South Korean vessels in New Zealand’s waters to be victims of forced labor (Stringer et al. 2016).

- Associated Press: A six-month AP investigation into Hawaii’s fishing fleet uncovered unfair labor practices and some instances of human trafficking due to a legal loophole excluding certain fishing vessels from federal law (Mendoza and Mason 2016).

- Associated Press: In the fall of 2016, AP reported that despite reports of improvement, Thailand fell short in its efforts to compensate victims of slavery and shift shrimp processing from peeling sheds to their own facilities (Mendoza 2016).

- Environment Justice Foundation (EJF): In 2018, The EJF investigation into the Taiwanese Distant Water Fleet revealed unsafe and inhumane conditions on Taiwanese fishing vessels, experienced by migrant fishermen mainly hailing from Indonesia and the Philippines.