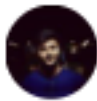


PledgeTimes

Environment: controversy around the inauguration of a giant trawler in Concarneau



by [Bhavi Mandalia](#) — September 25, 2020 in World



The France Pélagique company on Friday inaugurated a new factory ship, denounced by environmental NGOs as a symbol of industrial fishing.

[#AlertPollution](#)

Contaminated rivers or soils, abandoned industrial waste... Do you live near a polluted site?
[Click here to alert us!](#)

It is a juggernaut full of innovations that the France Pélagique company is inaugurating on Friday September 25 in Concarneau (Finistère). The trawler-factory is however the subject of a sharp controversy, environmental organizations denouncing a type of fishing *"incompatible with the maintenance of resources and jobs"*.

The *Scrombus*, a ship 81 m long and 17 wide, was presented to the press on Thursday. Its general manager praised the *"major innovations"* with which it is endowed. *"We are making a big technological leap with the commissioning of this boat"*, he congratulated himself. *"Many tasks are automated on board."*

The arrival of this new vessel is however criticized by environmental associations which have planned to take action in Concarneau on Friday, at the request of Pleine Mer and Bloom in particular, in the form of *"funeral of artisanal fishing and marine resources"*.

For the Bloom association, it is *"defend small-scale coastal fishing"*, against *"the industrialization of the sector, synonymous with the plundering of marine ecosystems, the grabbing of quotas, contempt for the common good and the disappearance of artisanal fishermen"*.

"The 'Scombrus' alone can catch 200 tonnes of fish per day, while a vessel of less than 12 meters around a few tonnes per year", assures Charles Braine, president of Pleine Mer. The ship can bring back up to 120 tons of fish per day, corrects the boss of France Pélagique.

"We cannot fish what we want", he insists, referring to the quotas imposed by the European Union. *"It is a bad trial that we are being made"*, considers the leader. *"We do not fish for the same species, nor in the same waters"* than artisanal fishermen, he explains.