

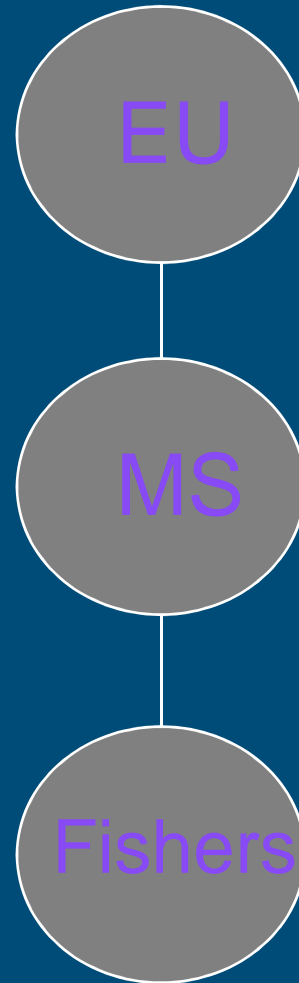
Up or Out:

The changing role of Member States in EU Fisheries Management

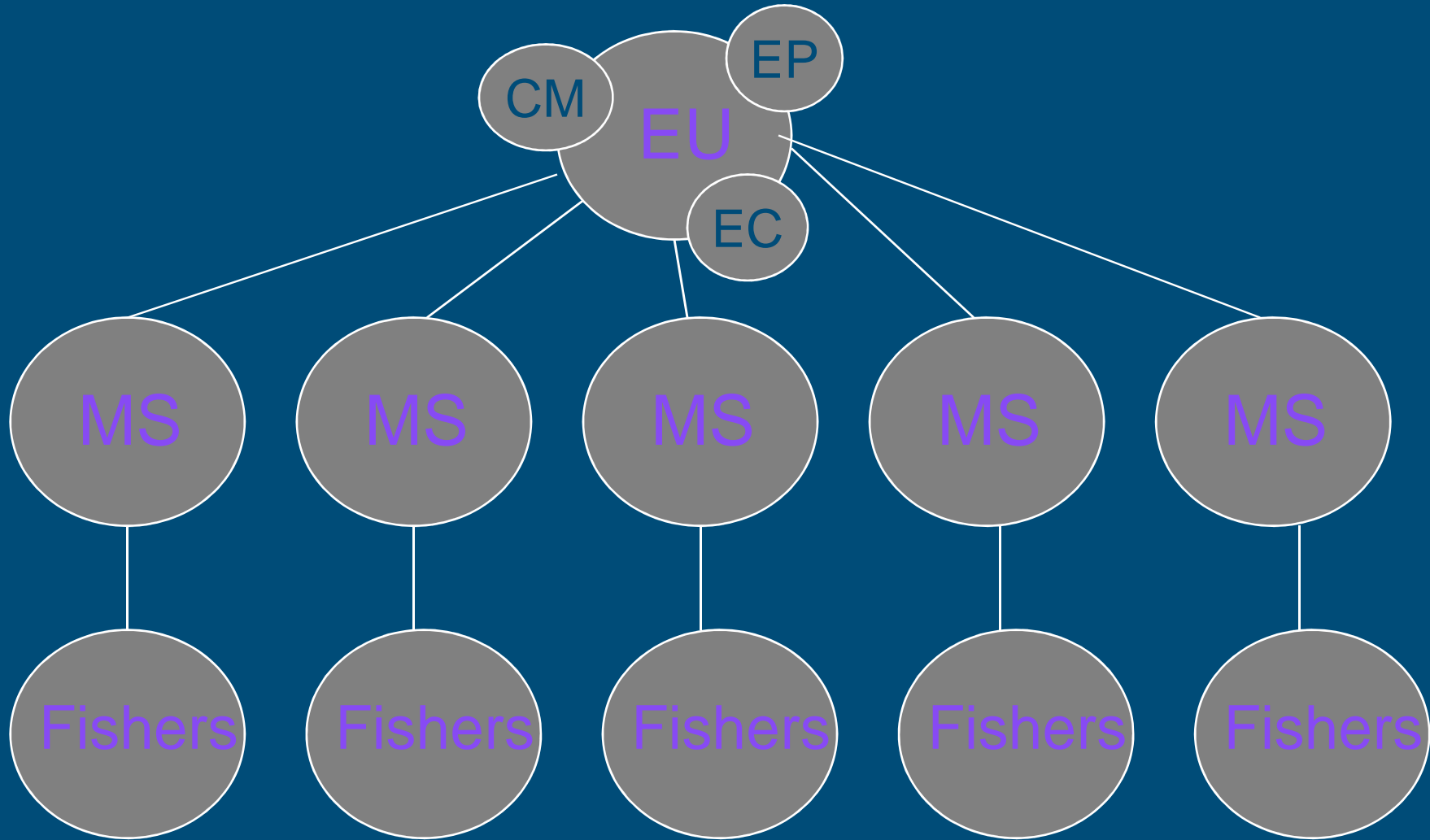
*Luc van Hoof & Jan van Tatenhove
EAFE conference 2009
Malta*



Traditional Fisheries Management: CFP



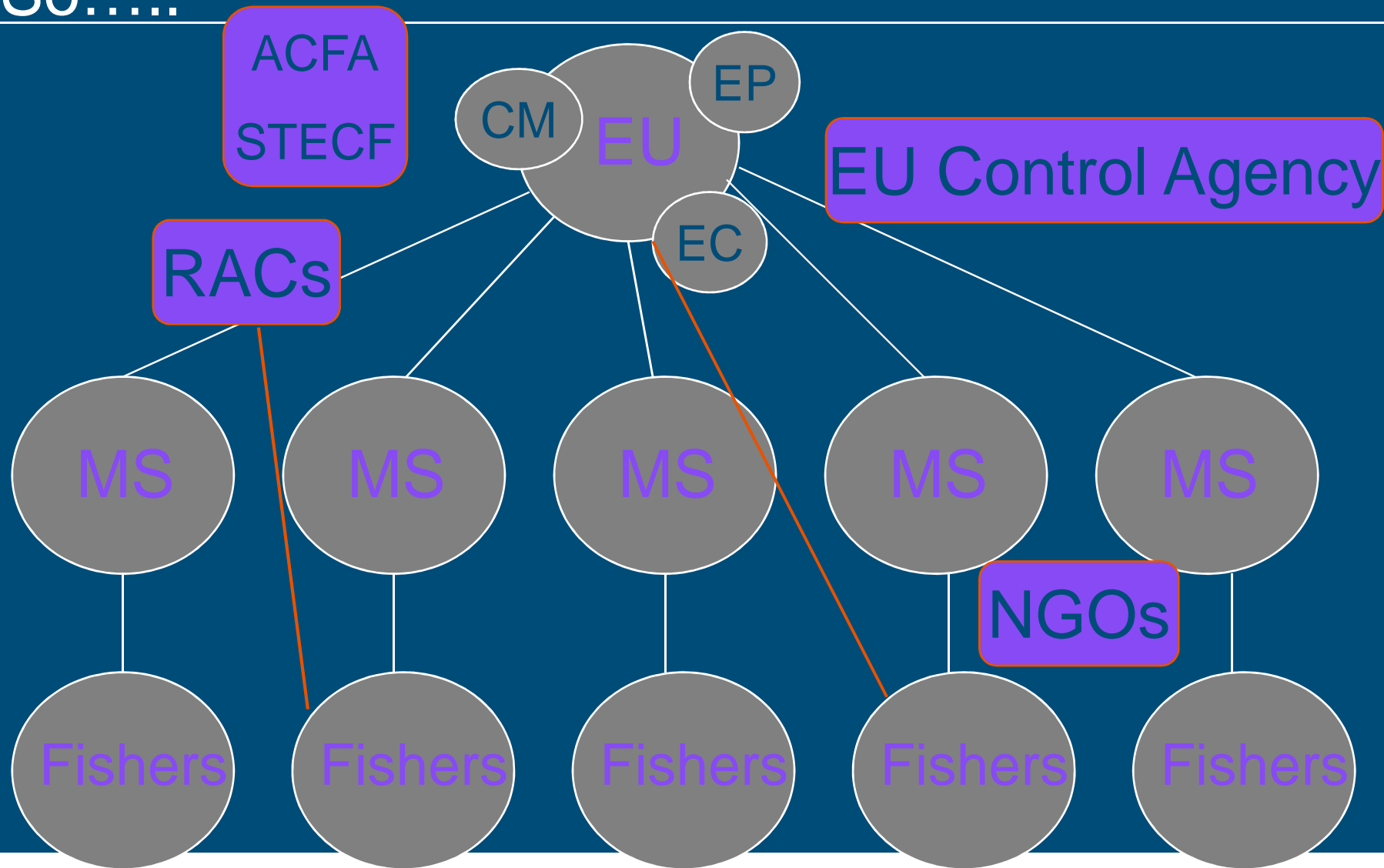
Well.....



Multi-level Governance

- Sharing of policy making between governmental institutions at several levels (supranational, national, regional and local) and private actors
- Over time:
 - A shift in what is being discussed: shift in focus e.g. from a *fisheries discourse* towards a *conservation discourse*
 - A shift in where it is discussed: new constellation of state, market and society
- Multi-level governance: capture the shift from the traditional state level to subnational and supranational levels

So.....



A changing stage (1)

- 1983 CFP
 - Conservation policy, Structural policy, Market policy and International policy
- Bird and Habitat Directive; NATURA 2000
- Marine Strategy Framework Directive
- *Marine Environmental Policy outside the CFP*

A changing stage (2)

- Advisory Councils (RACs)
- Maritime Policy: integration over activities and their stakeholders
- *More participatory and also more stakes and stakeholders.*

A changing stage (3)

- Also EU policies set at the supranational level.
 - Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of 2002 in which the Commission and Member States signed up to the aim of achieving a maximum sustainable yield (MSY) for depleted stocks by 2015 at the latest.
- *Fisheries management objective set at a world stage*

Hence

- A spatial focus (Bird & habitat, Water Directive, Marine Directive, Marine Spatial Planning)
- Regional Focus (Ecosystem approach, RAC)
- Integral overcharging all activities (Maritime Policy)

A change of play in fisheries management

- No longer only about the management of fish stocks but increasingly wider ecological setting (as reflected in Natura 2000 and MSD) as well as other than fisheries uses of the marine space.
- No longer only a matter between the Commission and the MS, but there are more participants and via RACs the discussion is staged at a regional level.
- Also, with the Johannesburg Declaration, aims of policies are derived from a supranational stage.

And for the MS

- Usually reluctant to devolve power but:
- Some activities can only be managed at a supranational level (shipping, fishing, ecosystem conservation)
- Joint policy development under MSFD
- Level playing field between MS
- In research (ERANets) and DCR clear call for more cooperation between MS
- RACS are a start of participation in fisheries policy: how to do this under the Marine Policy: a super RAC?
- *How are the MS going to deal with this regionalisation?*

Change of character

- MS challenge: integration, participation and regionalisation
- How to position state, market and society
- And where to position the Member State in the policy development process.
- *Are MS the most logical level of decision taking??*

Conclusion

- With increased cooperation between (regional) member states in developing and implementing marine resource management and research and a simultaneous development of participatory platforms at the regional level the member states will need to redefine their position and role.
- In this new world decisions are either taken at a central (EC) level or at a regional level.
- In order to match this restructuring of stakes and stakeholders, condensing at the regional level, the traditional position of Member States controlling the debate from the nation state will change.

Up or Out?

