



The GTA Perspective on the New Fisheries Subsidies Text

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The Global Tuna Alliance



The Global Tuna Alliance is an independent group of retailers and tuna supply chain companies, who are committed to realising harvest strategies for tuna fisheries, avoidance of Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU) products, improved traceability as well as environmental sustainability, and progressing work on human rights in tuna fisheries.

Vision - tuna ultimately meets the highest standards of environmental performance and social responsibility

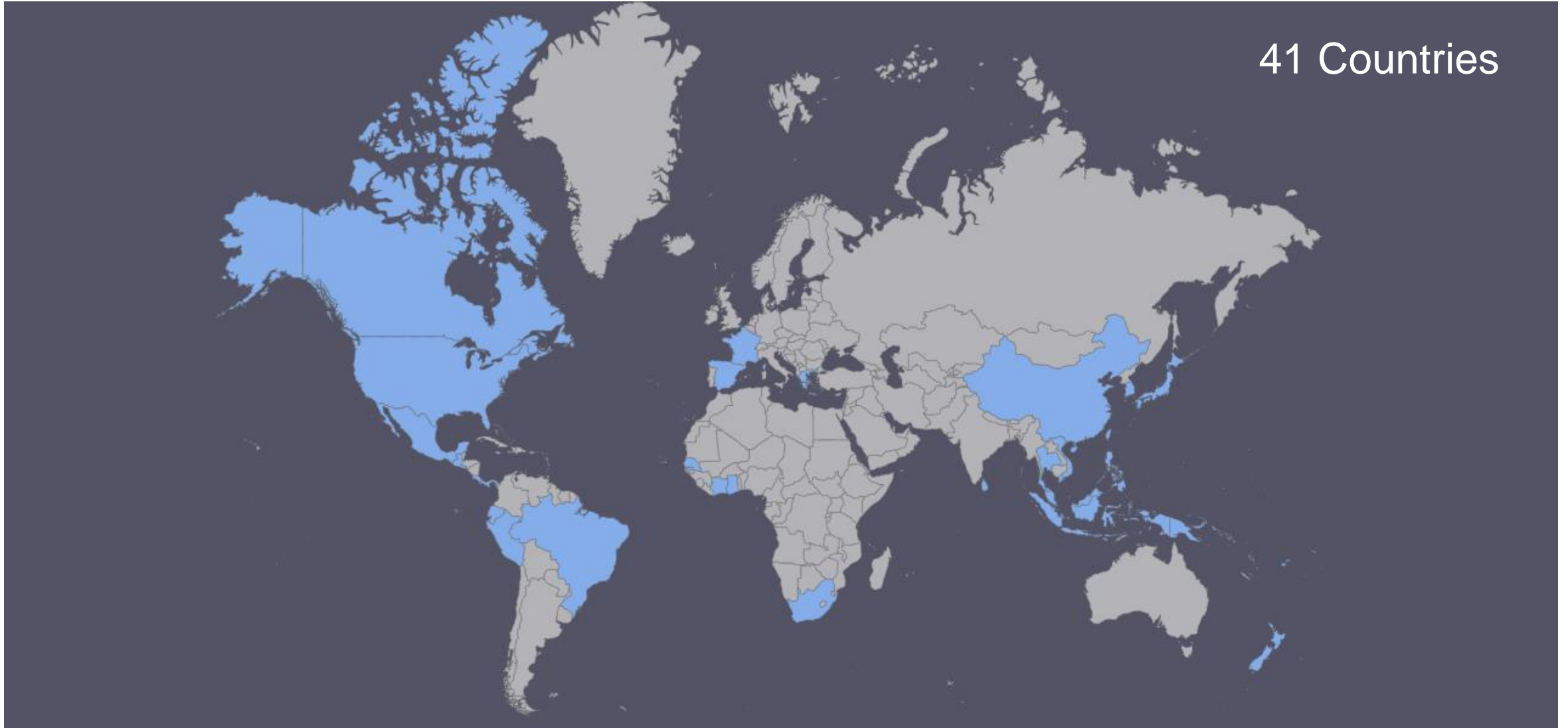
The Global Tuna Alliance



Scale of Global Tuna Alliance Partners (2020)



Where do GTA Partners source from?



Our interest in ending Harmful Subsidies

The background of the slide is a collage of images related to fishing: a fishing net with yellow floats on the left, a pile of fresh fish on the right, and a large fishing vessel on the water at the bottom right.

A sum of money granted by the government to help an industry or business keep the price of a commodity/service low.

Harmful subsidies

Causing or likely to cause harm.

Governments are contributing to overfishing by subsidising operations which, in turn, incentivises industrial fishing that would normally be unprofitable, causing the unsustainable depletion of fish populations.

A smaller version of the Global Tuna Alliance logo is located in the bottom left corner of the slide.

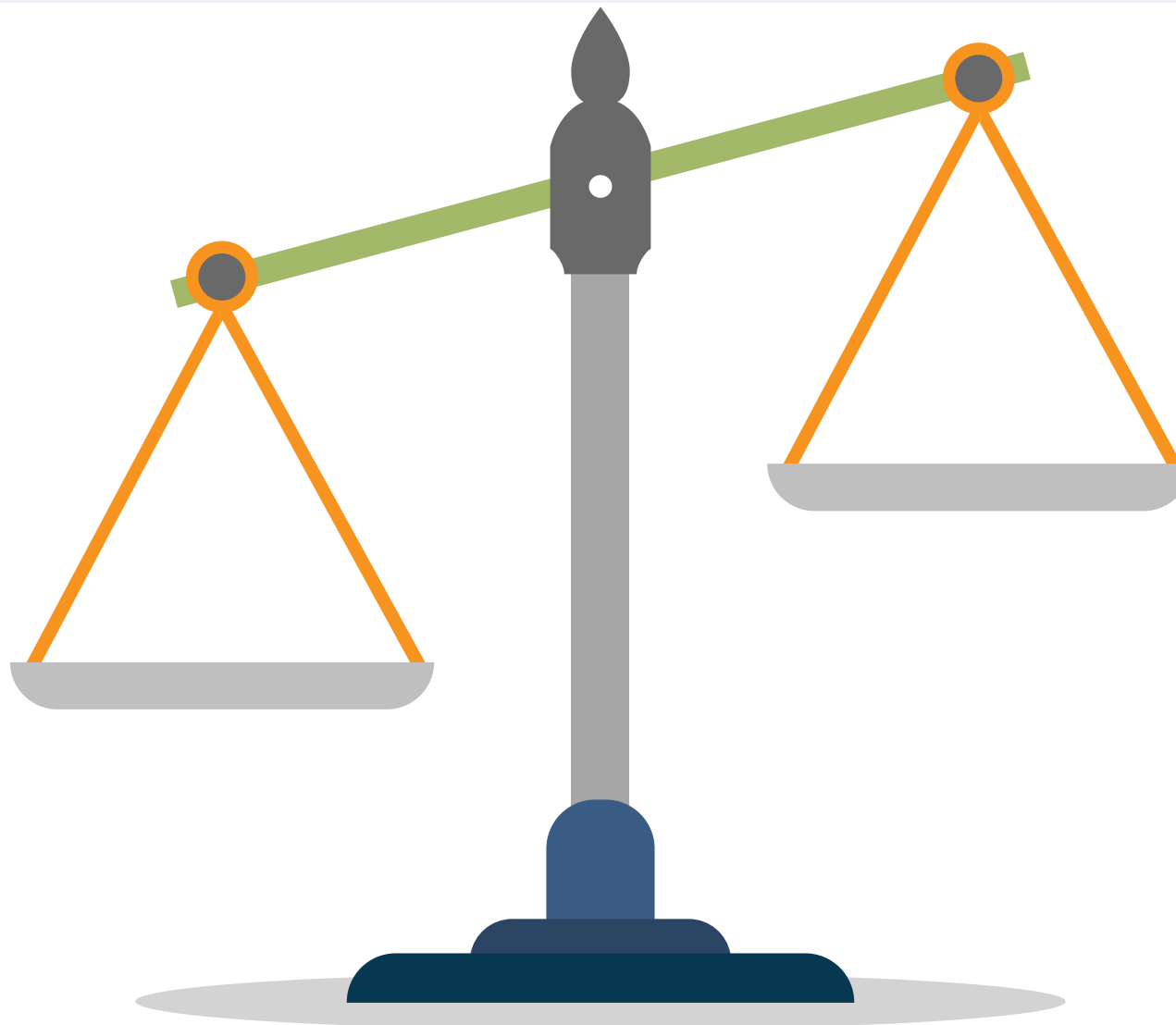
Our view on exemptions



Exemptions

The text has exemptions for fisheries that are not being managed.

However, it is vitally important that only responsible managed fisheries qualify for exemptions. Otherwise the impact of the agreement is undermined.

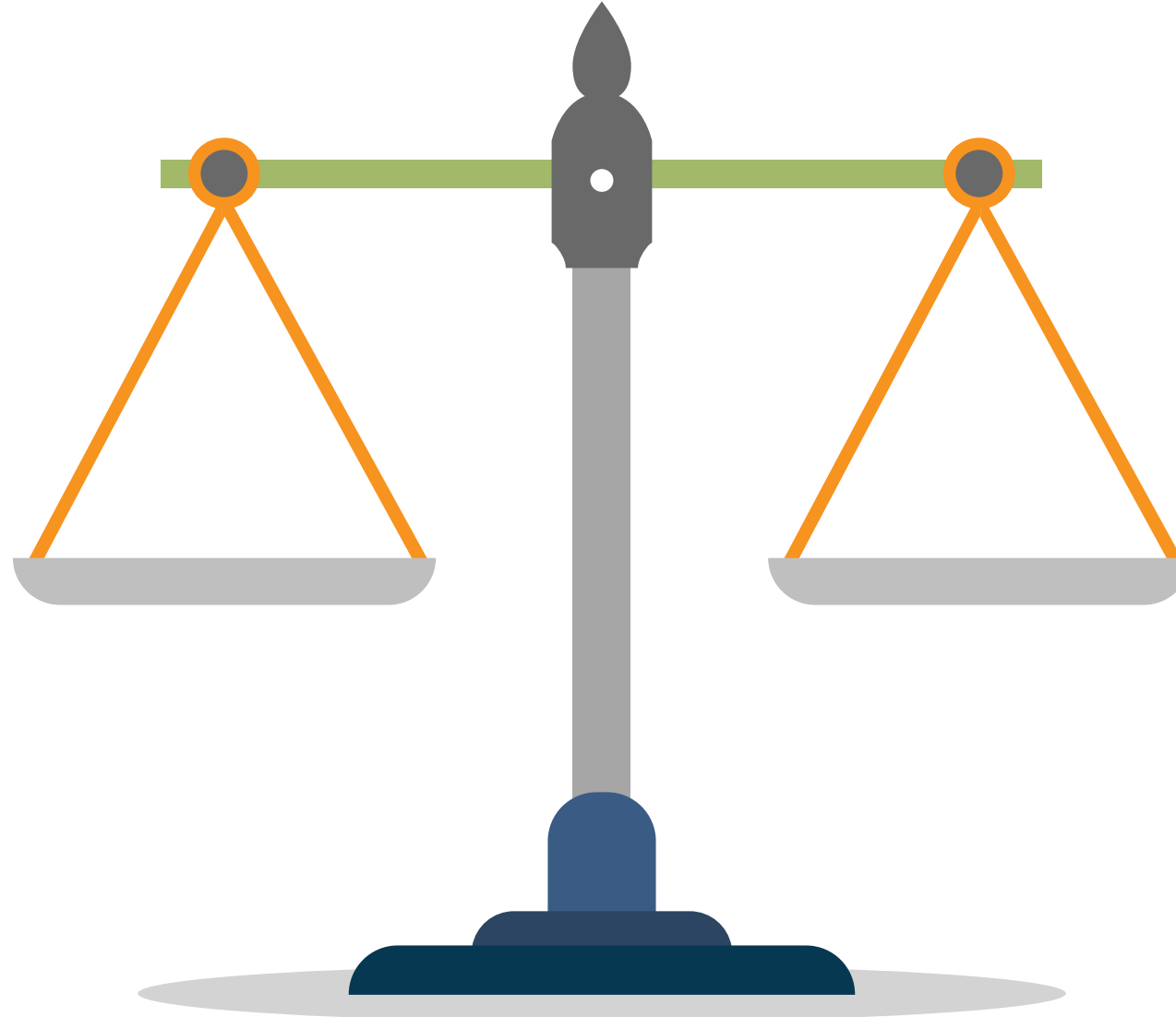


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Market Demand

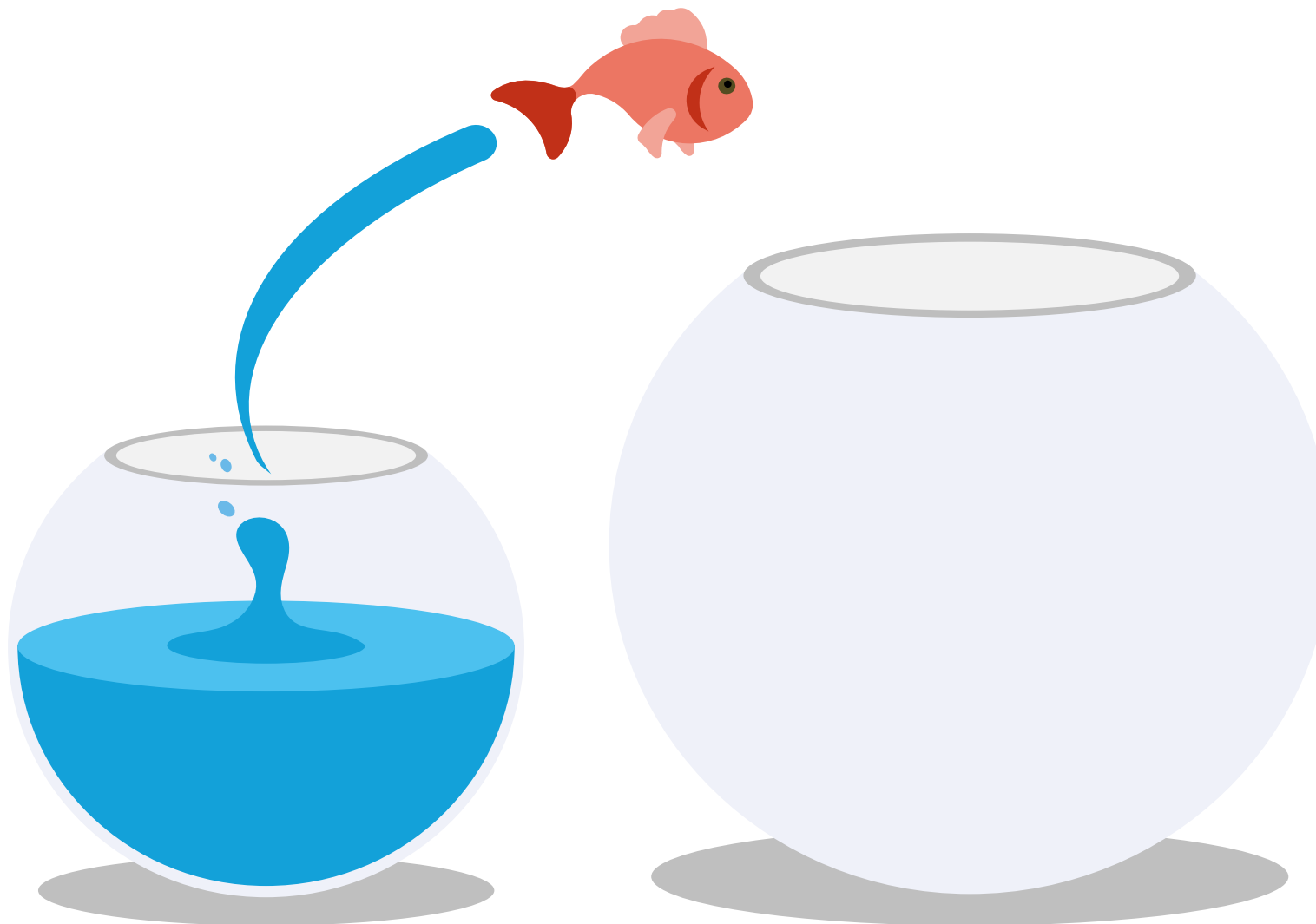
For commercial fisheries, the value of the exemptions will be limited by the direction in which the market is going in anyway, which is asking for sustainably managed fish products. For example, GTA strategy is to source tuna from fisheries where there are effective harvest strategies in place

Our view on exemptions



Positive Subsidies

The GTA supports positive subsidies which can lead to improved fish stock health and long-term sustainability. Funds should be redirected to improve management.



Unintended Consequences

The text needs to be robust and focussed to avoid inadvertently widening exemptions that can lead to overfishing.

Going forward



Some GTA members are thinking about adjusting sourcing decisions based on subsidy-related considerations.

SOURCING



The transparency provisions in the agreement are important, and complying with them may make it easier to access markets.

TRANSPARENCY




For commercial fisheries, the value of exemptions may be limited by market demands sustainably managed fish products.

PROS & CONS



Thank You

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