IUU FISHING AND SOME PROPOSALS FOR THE BLACK SEA

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IUU Fishing

"The single major obstacle to achieving global sustainable fisheries in both areas under national jurisdiction and on the high seas."

Estimated Value of approximately US$23 Billion

Economic and Environmental crime

Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUU fishing)

- Illegal fishing is in contravention of a legal regime;
- Unreported fishing is not reported or mis-reported;
- Unregulated fishing is by vessels without nationality or vessels flying a flag of convenience.

Numerous UN agencies, and NGOs are already involved in the fight against IUU fishing: FAO, UNEP, UNODC, Interpol, the EU, the RFBs etc.

STATE OF THE ART

Stock of fish has declined to 50% in the Mediterranean Sea in 2011 (Barros 2011).

FIRST IUU WORKSHOP FOR THE BLACK SEA
ISTANBUL 2013

OBJECTIVE OF THE TWO WORKSHOPS in 2013

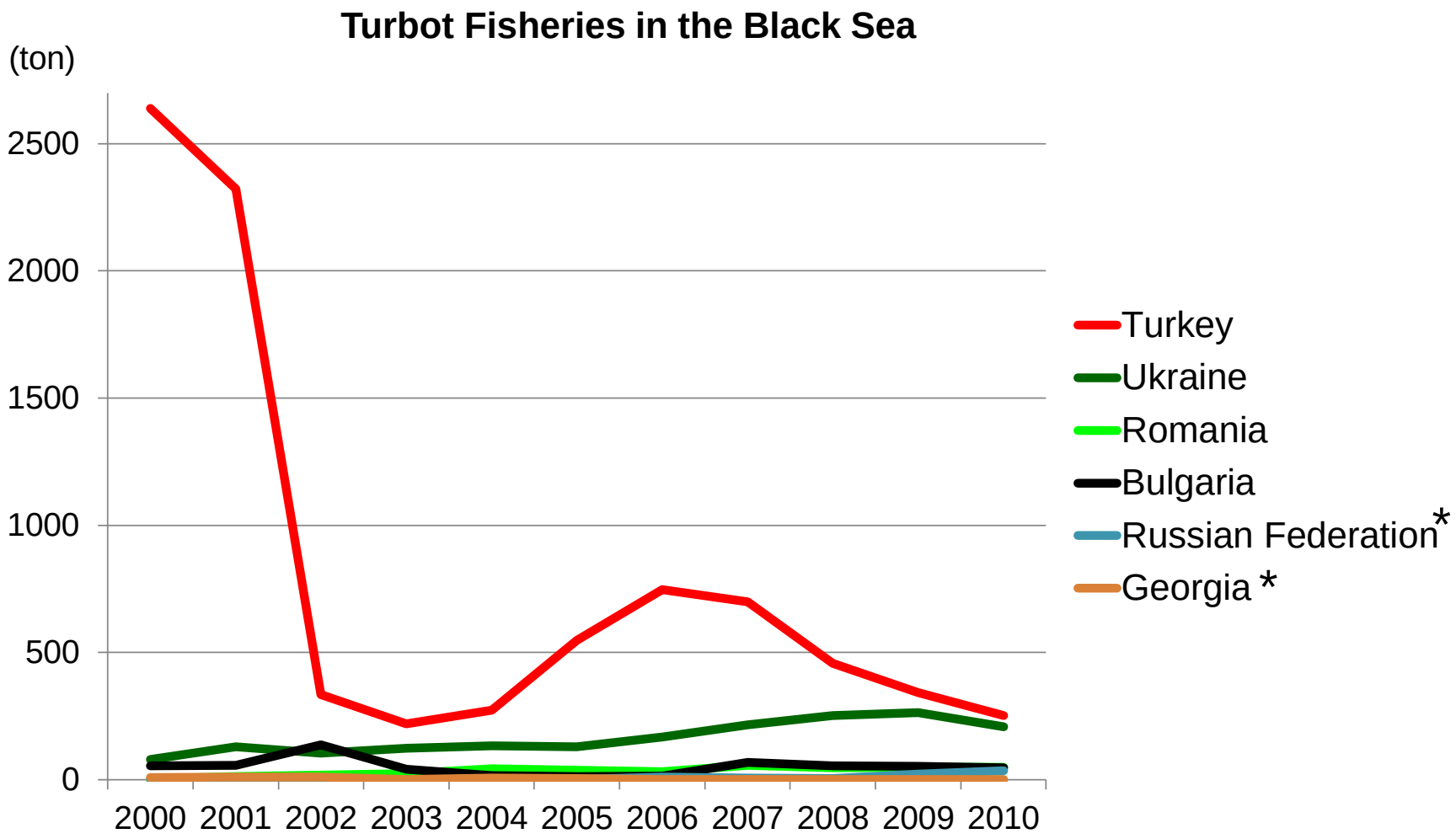
- To improve knowlegde of the nature and extent of IUU fishing in the Black Sea
- To collect and review information provided by Black Sea on their fleet operating in the area as well as their experience in the fight of IUU fishing
- To inform participants of the measures available at international and regional level to fight IUU fishing, with particular reference to MCS related measures
- To draw up a roadmap to fight IUU fishing in the Black Sea .

Main IUU species

	Bulgaria	Georgia	Romania	Russia	Turkey	Ukraine
Anchovy	x	x			x	
Bluefish				x	x	x
Sprat		x	x		x	
Horse mackerel	x			x	x	x
Bonito			x	x	x	
Sardine					x	
Scad					x	
Chub mackerel	x				x	
Whiting					x	
Red mullet					x	
Turbot	x	x	x	x	x	x
Russian sturgeon		x	x	x		x
Starry sturgeon			x			x
Beluga	x			x		x
Black Sea shad						x
So-iuy mullet						x
Spiny dogfish	x		x			
Sea snail					x	
Baby clams					x	

MAIN IUU TARGET FISH: TURBOT

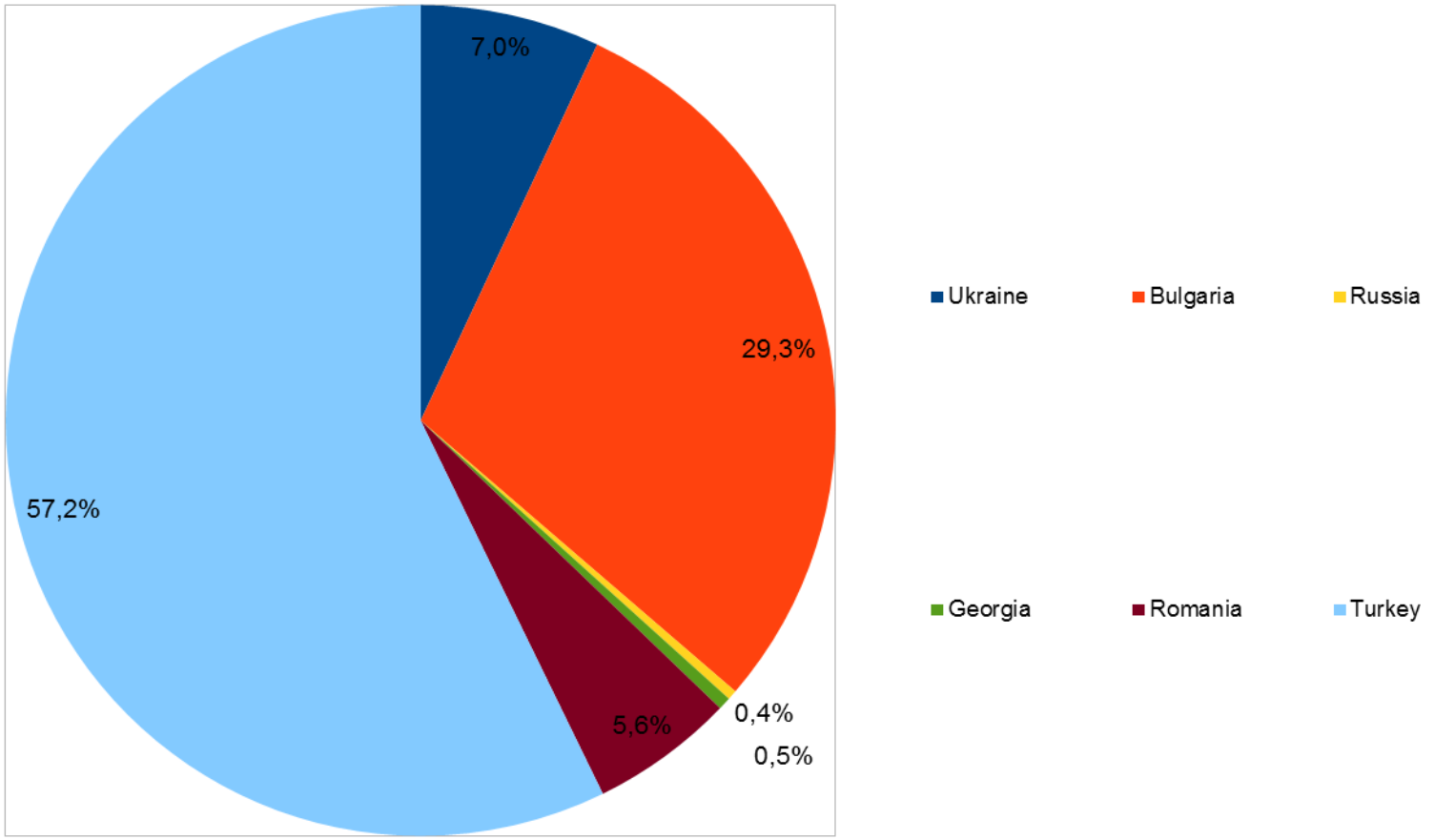
Commercially the Black Sea turbot (*Psetta maxima*, *Scophthalmus maeticus*) is one of the most valuable species in the basin, and currently caught with gillnets and bottom trawls.



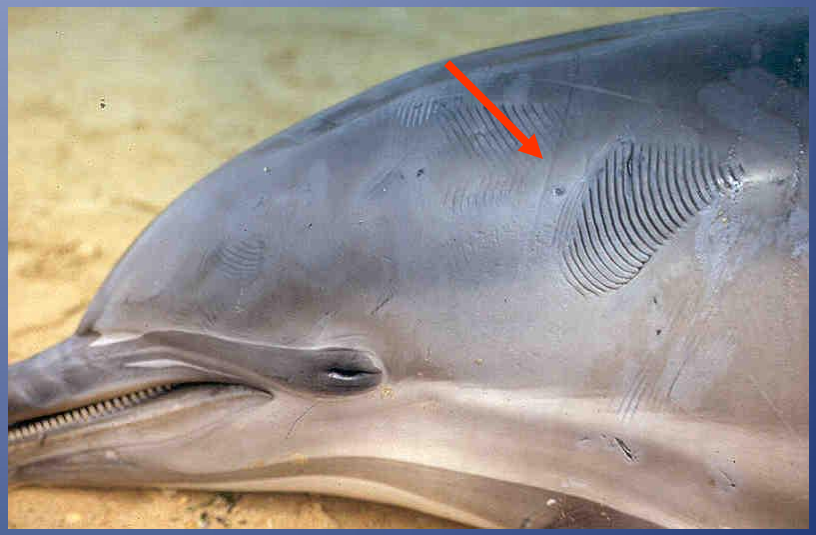
* All flatfish fisheries were considered in the cases of Russian Federation and Georgia

Fisheries data are obtained from global production database, FIGIS, FAO

BLACK SEA FISHING FLEETS



Harbour porpoises, bottlenose dolphins and common dolphins are often bycaught in turbot and dogfish nets.



BYCATCH and GHOST FISHING

INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION IS ESSENTIAL. The Meetings of the Leaders of the Black Sea Littoral States Border/Coast Guard Agencies and Black Sea Cooperation Forum

Black Sea Littoral States
Border/Coast Guard Cooperation Forum
BSCF

WHY IUU FISHING?
SOCIAL FACTS FOR THE BLACK SEA

- No transparency for landing and catch in most countries
- High economical profit and demand for some fish species ⟹ Black market for some species
- Low salary of fishermen and inspection officers
- Political uncertainty and conflicts
- Lack of environmental conciousness
- Weak NGO involvement

WHY IUU FISHING?
TECHNICAL FACTS FOR THE BLACK SEA

- Weak implementation of AIS regulations
- Weak monitoring, control and surveillance system
- Unefficient capacity and number of patrol boats
- Inexperienced staff

KEY PLAYERS IN THE BLACK SEA IUU ISSUES

- **GFCM**
- **EU**
- ACCOBAMS
- Black Sea Commission
- Black Sea Economic Cooperation
- Port State Control of the Black Sea
- Black Sea Coast Guard Agreement,2011

- NGO’s

- Fisheries cooperatives and unions
- State research institutions
- Universities
- **Fishing companies and fishermen**

PROPOSED ROAD MAP -1

- For mitigating IUU fishing, clear and transparent information system should be established.
- Standardization of fishing gear
- Turbot stock asssesment in the entire Black Sea
- Particular study for anchovy in the Caucasian shores
- All necessary precautions against sturgeon poaching in some countries

PROPOSED ROAD MAP -2

- Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) system should be developed to reduce illegal fishing practices.
- All fisheries associations and cooperatives should take an initiative for mitigation or zero tolerance against IUU fisheries among member fishermen.
- IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL RULES, LAWS,REGULATIONS FOR FISHING
- SO IMPORTANT…

PROPOSED ROAD MAP -3
Scientific Cooperation is essential.

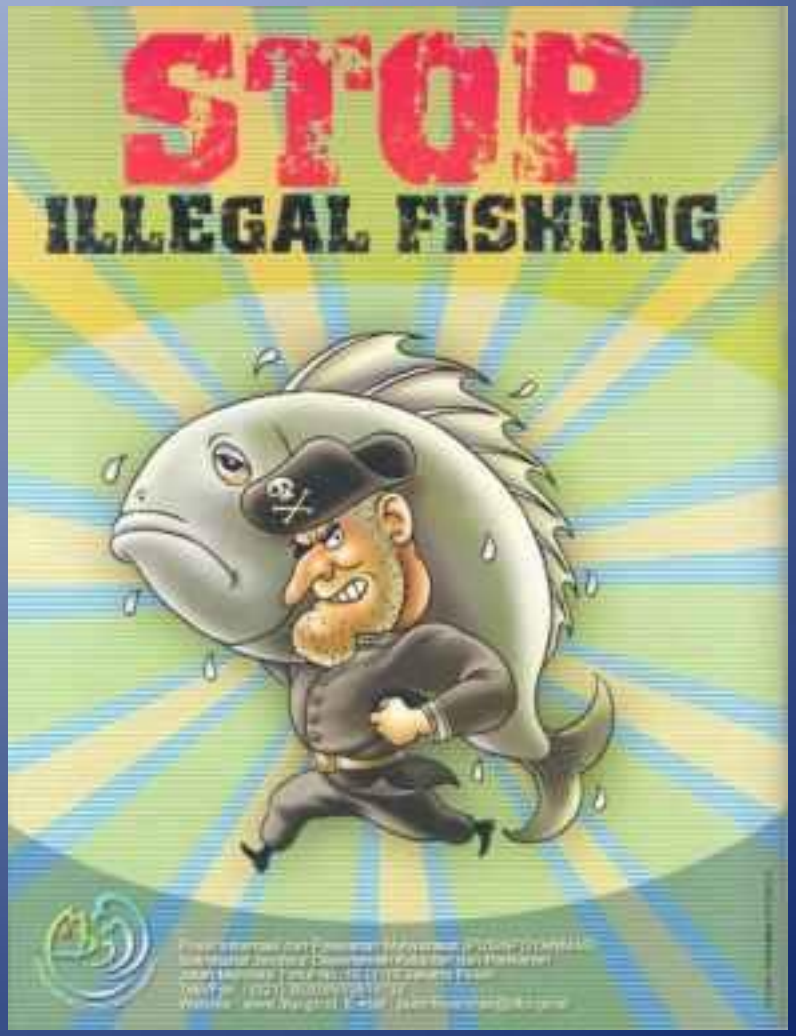
- Lack of studies on IUU fishing
- Lack of bycatch records
- Lack of ghost fishing records
- Lack of coordination among states and concerted actions
- Lack of estimated revenue of IUU products
- Lack of analysis on social, economical impacts for IUU fisheries

PROPOSED ROAD MAP -4

- A scientific monitoring program is needed for creating a database of the IUU fishing in the region.
- Similarly, GFCM Rec. GFCM/33/2009/8 “On the establishment of a list of vessels presumed to have carried out IUU fishing in the GFCM Area, amending Recommendation GFCM/2006/4” should be implemented in a way that special attention is given to the Black Sea.
- A permanent working group for IUU fishing to be created within the GFCM would significantly help to address all these issues and more. This working group could work under the remit of the GFCM Working Group on the Black Sea

OUTREACH AND DISSEMINATION IS NEEDED

- Outreach and dissemination methods to halt IUU fishing by GFCM member states
- Public awareness for fishermen and other stakeholders
- Multinational languages
- Posters, brochures, videos.
- An annual dedicated day against IUU fishing such as Clean Up The Med



MEDITERRANEAN EXAMPLES

Violation of GFCM Rec seen in Marseille, France

European Union Regulation 1005/2008

The only marine fishery products to be imported into, or exported from, the EU must be validated by the flag State of the fishing vessel or the export State.

REC:GFCM/37/2013/2

On the establishment of a set of minimum standards for bottom-set gillnet fisheries for turbot and conservation of cetaceans in the Black Sea.

GFCM/2006/4

On the establishment of a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities in the GFCM area.

BRIEFLY ..

- Just recently in November 2013, Russia joined CIESM after big inaguration in Marseille...
- EU, Turkey and other stakeholders should help and promote GFCM membership to non-members in the region.

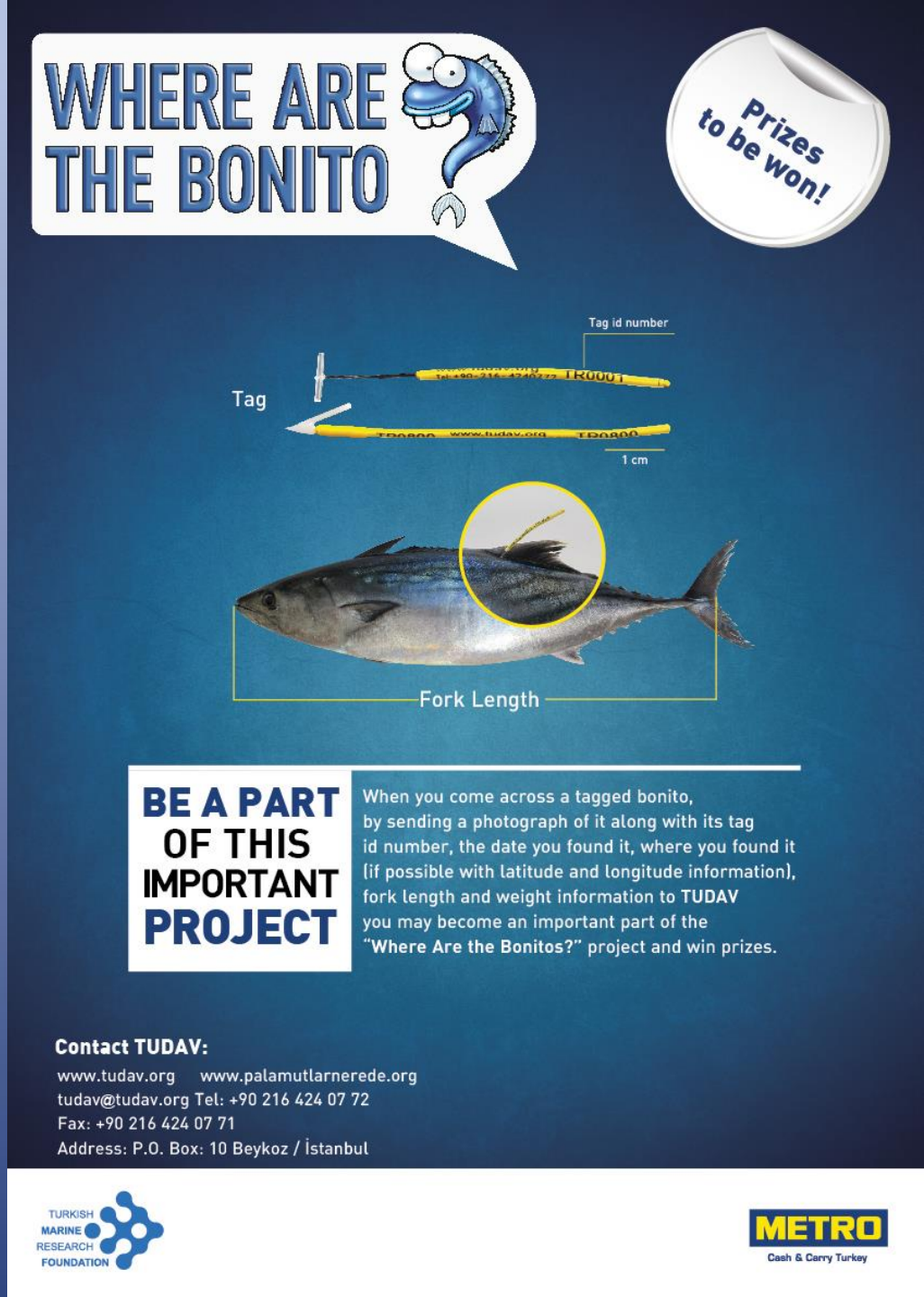
Thank you very much!

from the Black Sea Workshop 2013

People who find a tagged bonito will report to TUDAV:

- tag ID number,
- location,
- date,
- length and weight of the fish,
- photos and/or tags

They will be given some prizes.



Tagged bonito

All tagged bonito results up till now

Posters

Posters are prepared in Turkish, English, Russian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Romanian, Georgian and Arabic languages and distributed accordingly.