

MCIB

Marine Casualty Investigation Board
Bord Imscrúdú Taisní Muirí



**INTERIM REPORT
OF AN INVESTIGATION INTO A
MARINE CASUALTY INVOLVING
THE FISHING VESSEL
BREIZH ARVOR II
IN OR AROUND 100 NAUTICAL
MILES WEST OF THE
BLASKET ISLANDS, CO. KERRY
ON OR ABOUT
14 DECEMBER 2023**

**REPORT NO. MCIB/334/INTERIM
(No.3 OF 2024)**

The Marine Casualty Investigation Board (MCIB) examines and investigates all types of marine casualties to, or on board, Irish registered vessels worldwide and other vessels in Irish territorial waters and inland waterways.

The MCIB objective in investigating a marine casualty is to determine its circumstances and its causes with a view to making recommendations for the avoidance of similar marine casualties in the future, thereby improving the safety of life at sea.

The MCIB is a non-prosecutorial body. We do not enforce laws or carry out prosecutions. It is not the purpose of an investigation carried out by the MCIB to apportion blame or fault.

The legislative framework for the operation of the MCIB, the reporting and investigating of marine casualties and the powers of MCIB investigators is set out in The Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Casualties) Act, 2000.

In carrying out its functions the MCIB complies with the provisions of the International Maritime Organisation's Casualty Investigation Code and EU Directive 2009/18/EC governing the investigation of accidents in the maritime transport sector.

Section 34 of the Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Casualties) Act, 2000, as amended by Section 12 of the 2022 Act, requires that where the Board is unable to publish a report within 12 months of the date of the casualty, it shall publish at least one interim report of the investigation during that period.

This is an interim report and no conclusions should be drawn from its contents.



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The Marine Casualty Investigation Board was established on the 25th March 2003 under the Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Casualties) Act, 2000.

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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The fishing vessel (FV) Breizh Arvor II is a conventional stern trawler of 22.4 metres (m) in length and was fishing for prawns off the west coast of Ireland on 14 December 2023. The vessel was two days into an intended fishing trip of ten to 13 days when one of the crewmembers suffered a fall in the accommodation. The vessel was trawling at the time of the incident and the catch from the previous haul was being processed by the crew on deck. The weather was Beaufort Force 5 with fresh breeze and moderate to rough seas with the vessel rolling moderately. The Casualty was found unresponsive lying on the deck in the sleeping area. Efforts were made to revive him but unfortunately were not successful. The vessel returned to the home fishing port of Castletownbere, Co.Cork and the Casualty was landed ashore.

Note: Times are local time = UTC + 1 (Co-ordinated Universal Time + 1)



Breizh Arvor II alongside in Kinsale, County Cork



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