



## Press Release

Brussels. May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Subject: The FEAP holds its 2024 Annual General Meeting in Istanbul and delivers its FEAP Award to Paul Birger Torgnes**

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The Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP) held its 2024 Annual General Meeting in Istanbul (Türkiye) on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

This yearly landmark event for FEAP's member associations was co-organised this time with the Turkish organisations Aegean Exporters' Union, Mediterranean Export' Union, and Istanbul Exporters' Association. It was a renewed opportunity to strengthen our network, bringing together over fifty delegates representing 18 countries, 20 national aquaculture associations and organisations, as well as invited experts from other networks and projects such as EATIP, EUMEPS or CTAQUA.

Over these two days, no stone was left unturned to analyse and exchange knowledge, challenges and trends across FEAP's different species commissions, EU policy works and other FEAP missions such as continuously promoting the good work and promising future of fish farming in Europe.

With addresses by FEAP President Lara Barazi Geroulanou, as well as Director General of Fisheries and Aquaculture at Turkish Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock Turgay Turkyilmaz, we also addressed the many challenges and difficulties faced by aquaculture and the fish farming sector. Challenges threatening a sector on which rely so many hopes for a qualitative, sustainable and job creating food industry that will increasingly play a critical role in Europe's food security.

Following the FEAP General Assembly the 2024 FEAP Award was delivered. The FEAP Award represents the recognition by the federation of the exceptional contribution, by an individual, to the development of fish farming in Europe. The person selected to receive this acknowledgement is decided by the previous recipients of the award following the proposals received from national fish farming associations throughout Europe.

The recipient of the FEAP 2024 Award has been Paul Birger Torgnes, who has been involved in aquaculture since the early 80's.