Response from Carrefour to the [Ocean Outlaw Project investigation](https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/latest-news/china-investigation-finds-indonesian-worker-abuse-and-uyghur-forced-labour-in-seafood-supply-chains-suppling-to-europe-and-usa/) into Uyghur forced labour and migrant abuse in seafood supply chains, 10th November 2023:

*Since 1995, Carrefour has been committed to promoting, respecting, enforcing and protecting human rights in its sphere of activity and influence. The Carrefour approach is based on universally recognised international human rights treaties, major international human rights standards and norms such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations World Pact, the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions, the Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises of the Organisation for Cooperation and Development (OECD), and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The Carrefour group, which works with thousands of suppliers around the world, is thus committed to assessing the risks present in its supply chains, evaluating the social and environmental compliance of its suppliers and promoting better CSR practices along the entire length of its value chain.*

*To ensure compliance with its commitments, Carrefour is putting tools and procedures in place to monitor and support its suppliers. In accordance with Carrefour’s procurement rules, all supply plants located in high-risk or at-risk countries must undergo a social audit. The audits are conducted in accordance with Initiative for Compliance and Sustainability (ICS) and Business Social Compliance Programme (BSCI) standards. The audit is not an end in itself but rather, a tool that paves the way for dialogue and the implementation of a compliance plan to bring the supplier’s working conditions in line with requirements.*

*Carrefour conducts compliance audits on the premises of its direct suppliers and requires the same level of vigilance from them in relation to their own suppliers as mentionned in the Carrefour Supplier CSR Charter. These audits are conducted by independant third party companies according to strict standards (ICS, OIOS and SA 8000) and include the main human rights issues. We therefore make sure that no forced labour or child labour are used, that there are no forms of harassment or discrimination, and that people work decent hours. These are all checked by auditing our suppliers on a regular basis and then following up on these audits.*

*The European Union's regulation to end illegal, unreported, and unregulated (INN) fishing requires “third-party countries” (those outside the European Union) exporting fish to the EU or lending their flags to vessels that import into the EU to comply with strict fishery management standards. If these standards are not met, countries can be “carded”, which means that they could eventually be excluded from the EU market. In order to combat illegal practices, Carrefour prohibits the use of boats belonging to countries which have received yellow or red cards from the EU.*

***Stakeholder dialogue, publications mentioning the Carrefour group and alerts handled by the Food Transition Committee.*** *The Group has set up a task force to identify and deal with the different alerts associated with Carrefour’s operations. Alerts may involve any of Carrefour’s societal challenges (issues relating to governance, compliance, and labour, ethical or environmental problems). The task force is in charge of investigating reported alerts and making sure that the most appropriate corrective action plans are implemented if a breach is confirmed. The alerts are identified by the task force through stakeholder dialogue, publications mentioning the Carrefour group (thematic rankings, reports, press articles) and industry‑related alerts. Task force members keep a permanent watch on the alerts and monitor any changes. Following the identification of an alert, the relevant functions are tasked with conducting an investigation, defining an appropriate response and specifying any action plans or processes to be put in place to mitigate the risk. The duty of care plan is regularly monitored by the various governance bodies (see Section 2.2.1 Governance of the duty of care plan on* [*2022 Duty of Care Group Carrefour*](https://www.carrefour.com/sites/default/files/2023-04/Carrefour%20Duty%20of%20Care_2022.pdf) *).*

*Carrefour denies the accusations and strongly condemns the use of forced labour in its supply chain. Following the alert we received, an investigation was immediately launched.*

*All the suppliers mentioned were contacted. To date, the audits and traceability checks indicate that there are no non-compliances linked to forced labor in the Group's suppliers.*

*However, the Group has decided to continue its investigations and to include the list of sensitive sectors in its vigilance plan, and therefore to increase the level of surveillance on these sectors.*

*For more information please refer to the thematic reports*

[*Respect for human rights*](https://www.carrefour.com/sites/default/files/2022-05/Carrefour%20-%20RSE%20-%208%20-%20EN%20-%20001.pdf)

[*Promoting sustainable fishing and aquaculture*](https://www.carrefour.com/en/csr/reference-documents)