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Impact of the Governmental Policies on the Egyptian Fishes Foreign Trade

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ABSTRACT

Egypt considers importing some fish varieties which are not available in the Egyptian market to increase the supply of fish and increasing the production for exportation. The governmental policies are important to achieve the coordination between these targets and to guarantee their non-conflict and ensure they are not affecting the producers and consumers. So that investing in the fish production becomes a real added value of the Egyptian economy. This requires highlighting the role of the governmental policies in increasing the exports and limiting the un-useful imports of the fish.

By studying the variety distribution of the Egyptian fish exports and imports, it can be declared that the most important exported and imported types of fish varieties are; the fresh, chilled, frozen fishes, shrimp, crustacean and clams in addition to the processed fishes (frozen, salted, cut, packaged). It becomes clear that the most important future blocs for the Egyptian exports is the Arab countries and the most important bloc which export fish to the Egyptian market is the European countries.

By studying the current status for the governmental policies related to the fish imports, it can be declared that the impact of the openness policies which support the increase in the imports, had a statistically significant impact which is greater than the impact of the targeted protective policies which is not statistically significant. This may be due to despite the country's efforts to limit the imports and to increase the local production, but increasing the demand make the importers go to the importation and raise the burden of the import to the consumer through raising the prices in the local marker. This in turn points out the importance of the work in increasing the local production and improving the quality of the local fish and not just relying on the commercial governmental policies which limit importation.

Introduction

During the period (2005 – 2020), the foreign trade for the Egyptian fishes witnessed many changes and developments which ranges between openness policies to increase the exports and the utilization from the expansion in the investments related to the fish farms and fishing, and protective policies to preserve the increase of supply in local market for food security considerations and for protecting the local fish production from dumping by the imported fish products.

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Egypt imports some types of fishes which are not available locally such as Mackerel, Tuna and others in order to increase the supply of white meats which are characterized by their lower prices compared to the red meat **(Youness and Nassar, 2016).**

Starting with the objective of increasing the local supply of fishes through increasing the imports and increasing the local production to the objective of increasing the fish production for export; lies the governmental policies which aim to achieve the integration between these objectives and to guarantee their non-confliction and they don't affect both

producers and consumers so that the investment in the fish production becomes of actual added value to the Egyptian economy.

This requires highlighting the role of the governmental policies in increasing the exports and in limiting the un-useful imports of fish types, and, at the same time, increasing the supply of fishes and protecting the local fish products.

Research Problem

The research problem focuses on studying the instability and fluctuation of the foreign trade policies for the Egyptian fishes between the openness policies and the protective policies. It's also unpredictable how these policies will impact the fish production in Egypt. A major point is the insufficiency of the exerted efforts to develop the Egyptian fish exports and the un-desirable imports which harm the potentials of the local product to compete.

Research Objective

The research aims to identify the current status for the openness and protective foreign trade policies for the Egyptian fishes and their role in developing the exports and limiting the imports. In addition to this object, the following two objectives are as follows:

- Identifying the current status for the Egyptian foreign trade of fishes in terms of exports and imports.
- Highlighting the commodity and geographical distributions for the Egyptian foreign trade for fishes in terms of exports and exports.

Research Method and Source of data

The research relies on the qualitative and quantitative analysis methods. The qualitative method is used to explain some concepts and variables related to the research. Whereas the quantitative analysis is used for measuring the features and the variables related to the research problem where the known statistical analysis tools are used. The tools include; general trend equations, multiple regression and stepwise multiple.

As for the source of data; the research depends on published and un-published secondary data issued by the specialized data authorities such as; Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Ministry of Trade and Industry and other authorities. The research also uses some information published on the internet in addition some economic researches related to study subject, bulletins and data issued by the various research institutes.

Results and Discussion

1.Governmental Policies and Egyptian Exports of Fish

1.1 Development of Egyptian fish exports during the period (2005 – 2020)

Data presented in Table (1) shows an increase in the value of the Egyptian fish exports from approximately 3969 thousand dollars in 2005 to approximately 42568 thousand dollars in 2020 which implies an increase equals to 38599 thousand dollars at 973% increase which in turn shows the great development in the value of the Egyptian fish exports during this period.

By studying the general trend for the value of the Egyptian fish exports shown in Table (2), it is noticed that the linear model is the suitable mathematical model for expressing the development in the value of the Egyptian exports of fish where it is the highest F value. It is also clear that there is a statistically significant yearly increase at the probability level (0.01) estimated at 2702.6 thousand dollars with a yearly average change of 12.7%. Whereas, the coefficient of determination R^2 equals 0.95 which means that 95% of the increase occurring in the value of the fish exports during the study period is a result of the time.

The same Table shows that the quantity of Egypt's exports of fish increased from approximately 5124 thousand tons in 2005 to approximately 54351 thousand tons in 2020 with a total increase of approximately 49227 thousand tons which is a 961% increase. This shows the great development in the quantity of the Egyptian fish exports during this period.

The general trend function for Egyptian fish exports quantity in table (2) shows that the linear model is the suitable model for expressing the development of the Egyptian fish exports quantity as it has the highest (F) Value. There is also a statistical significant yearly increase at the 0.01 probability level estimated at 3171.6 thousand tons with a yearly change of 155.9%. The coefficient of determination R^2 equaled 0.91 which means that 91% of the increase occurred in Egyptian fish exports quantity during the study period is belong to time factor.

It's also noticed from figure (1) that the yearly change in values of the Egyptian exports of fish is greater than their similar exported quantities during the study period. This is mainly due to the rise in the fish international prices during the time period (2005 – 2020) where the international price of fresh and chilled fish in 2019 equaled 5650 dollar per ton in return to approximately 3710 dollar per ton in 2005 which is shown in figure (2).

Table 1. Development of Egyptian fish exports during the period (2018 – 2020)

Years	Exports Value (Thousand Dollars)	Exports Quantity (Tons)
2005	3969	5124
2006	3365	4016
2007	4450	4409
2008	10818	6121
2009	13488	4768
2010	15004	10539
2011	23356	10796
2012	18238	11054
2013	22698	19171
2014	28634	24258
2015	26160	26182
2016	38352	29818
2017	36295	33455
2018	33045	37091
2019	39125	43259
2020	42568	54351
Average :	22473	20310
The Increase for Period (2005-2020)	38599	49227
Rate of Increase for Period (2005-2020)	973	961

Source: International Trade Database www.trademap.com

Table 2. The general trend function for Egyptian fish exports quantity during the period (2005 – 2020)

Variable	Trend Equation	Coefficient of Determination	Calculated (t) Value	Average Yearly Change (%) (*)	Value of Calculated (F) in some Arithmetic Models.		
					Linear Form	Logarithmic Form	Squared Form
Value of total Fish Exports	Y= -500+2702.6 X	0.95	(16..5)**	12.8	272.6	41.2	116.3
Quantity of Total Fish Exports	Y= - 6648 + 3171.6 X	0.91	(12.15)**	15.9	147	23.1	33.2

(**) Significant at the Level (0.01), (-) Non Significant

(*) Average Yearly Change = (Coefficient of Slope / General Average) * 100

Y = Estimated Value for the Dependent Variable (X) = Number of Years

Source: Collected & Calculated from Table (1)

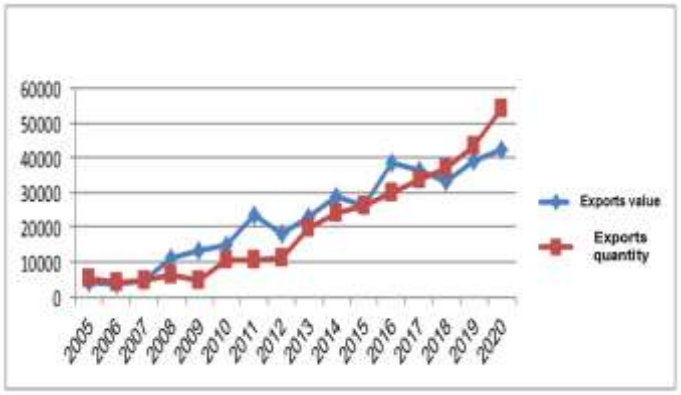

Figure 1. Development of Egyptian fish exports during the period (2005 – 2020)

Source: Data of table (1)

1.2 Development of most important types of Egyptian fish exports

Table (3) shows the species distribution of the Egyptian fish exports during the Period (2005 – 2020). It's shown that the most important export fish varieties are the fresh, chilled and frozen fish followed by the various types of Shrimp, crustacean and molluscan varieties and then the manufactured fish (frozen, salted or sliced & packed). In addition, there is a limited contribution from live and ornament fish.

Table (3) also shows a significant increase in the fresh, chilled and frozen fish where the exported quantities increased from approximately 2522 ton in 2005 to approximately 49900 thousand tons in 2020 with an increase estimated at 47378 thousand tons and a growth rate of approximately 1879%. The value of exports increased from 2323 thousand dollar in 2005 to approximately 25362 thousand dollar in 2020 with an increase approximated to 323039 which represents approximately 992% increase.

As for the exports of shrimp, crustacean and molluscan, the exported quantities increased from 1025 thousand tons in 2005 to approximately 1714 thousand ton in 2020, whereas the value of exports increased from 1080 thousand dollars in 2005 to approximately 13104.3 thousand dollars in 2020 with an increase of approximately 12024 thousand dollars representing 1113% increase.

As for the processed fishes, the exported quantities decreased from 1574 tons in 2005 to approximately 899.9 thousand tons in 2020; whereas the value of exports increased from 557 thousand dollars in 2005 to 2392 thousand dollars in 2020 with an increase of about 1835.5 thousand dollars and at a growth equaled 330%. This is might be due to many political and economic variables occurred in the Egyptian fish industry during the study period such as high rates of inflation, a reduction in the value of the local currency which resulted in an increase in the manufacturing costs and an increase in the difficulties the fish processors face despite the rise in the exporting price. This can be confirmed by the rise in the exporting value by 330% during the study period despite the reduction in the exported quantities by 34% which shows the importance of the research in the suitable policies for supporting the fish's industry in Egypt because of its effective role in increasing the added value of exports especially with the country's trends to expand in the construction of the fish farms and in the increase of the exports of fishes and its manufactured products.

Hence, it becomes clear from what is stated above that there a commodity concentration of exports of Egyptian fishes especially fresh fishes which shows the importance of working for increasing the diversity in the exported varieties especially shrimp, crustacean and Mollusca.

Table 3. Variety distribution for Egyptian fishe exports during the Period (2005 – 2020)

Years	Fresh, Chilled or frozen fishes		shrimp, crustacean, and molluscan.		Live Fishes and ornamental Fishes		Processed Fishes (Salted or Cut & Packed)		Total	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
2005	2522	2323	1.25	1080	3	9	1574	557	5124	3969
2006	2565	2247	747	718	1	2	703	398	4016	3365
2007	2865	3383	826	813	1	5	717	249	4409	4450
2008	4726	8393	971	1647	9	50	415	728	1621	10818
2009	3695	11059	600	1580	8	19	465	830	4768	13488
2010	9435	11572	545	2623	28	29	530	780	10538	15004
2011	9287	16792	1010	5347	24	58	475	1159	10796	23356
2012	10064	14249	810	2809	33	265	140	915	11054	18238
2013	17522	18546	835	2230	809	1161	553	761	19719	22698
2014	19234	19379	915	2716	3613	5503	496	1036	24258	28634
2015	20946	13729	381	3154	4500	6888	736	2386	26182	26160
2016	22658	22755	400	3405	5920	9301	950	2891	29818	38352
2017	28370	24887	700	4201	3575	5370	890	1837	33455	36295
2018	30082	20734	1525	8949	2080	1684	3087	1678	37091	33045
2019	40182	23147	1491	11913	112	1860	818	2175	43259	39125
2020	49900	35362	1714	13104	2113	2046	899.8	2392	54351	42568
Average	17128	14910	906	4143	1483	2141	841	1298	20310	22473
Increase over Period (2005-2020).	47378	23039	688.92	12024.3	2110	2037	-764.2	1835	49227	38599
Rate of increase over Period (2005-2020)	1879	992	67	1113	70333	22633	-43	330	961	973

Notice: Some commodities which are processed from fishes are covered by Customs Items.

Source: International Trade Database: www.trademap.com

1.3 Geographical Distribution for Egyptian Fish Exports

The demand for fishes in the international markets is characterized by presence of geographical variation for the imported markets for both the international blocs or the countries levels **(Salim *et al.*, 2020)**.

1.3.1 Geographical Distribution for the Egyptian Fish Exports according to the Important International Blocs

Figure (2) shows the most important international blocs for the Egyptian fish exports. Arab countries occupy the first rank with 71%of the exports as an average during the Period (2005-2020). The European Union comes in the second rank with 18% followed by the African countries, Southeast Asia countries and the American countries at the rates of 1-3-2 Geographical Distribution of the Egyptian Fish Exports according to the most important imported countries:

Table (4) shows the geographical distribution for the Egyptian fish exports as an average for the period (2005–2020) at the country level. The most important importing countries are Lebanon with 16.2%, Emirates with 11.6%, with 7%, and with 4% of the exports.

It is clear from the previous; there is a large geographical concentration of 5%, 2% and 1% respectively during the same period.

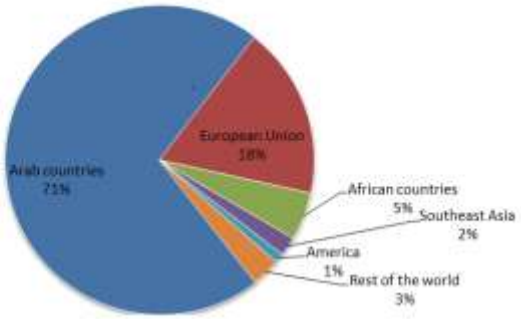

Figure 2.The Geographical Distribution of the Egyptian Exports of Fishes based on the International Conglomerates as an Average for the Period: 2005 – 2020

Source: International Trade Database www.trademap.com

Egyptian fish exports in the Arab Countries. This is for several reasons including transportation distances with Egypt compared with other blocs. In addition, the consumers' preferences, in these markets, are similar to the Egyptian fish products. Another reason is the existence of many commercial treaties that increase the opportunities of penetrating these markets.

Table 4. Geographical distribution of Egypt's fish exports as an average for the period 2005-20 20 (thousand dollars)

Blocs	Important Countries inside the Bloc	Average	Contribution in Average (%)
Arab Countries	Lebanon	2679.5	16.2
	Emirates	1918.6	11.6
	Palestine	1736.7	10.5
	Kuwait	1571.3	9.5
	Jordan	1521.7	9.2
	Remaining Arab Countries.	2315.6	14
	Total Arab Countries:	11743.4	71
European Union Countries	Italy	1157.8	7
	Spain	661.6	4
	France	496.2	3
	Portuguese	330.8	2
	Greece	165.4	1
	Remaining European	2977.2	18

	Countries		
	Total European Countries	2977.2	18
African Countries		827.0	5
South Eastern Asia		330.8	2
America		82.7	0.5
Al-Merksour		16.5	0.1
Remaining World Countries		562.4	3.4
T O T A L		1654	100

Source: International Trade Database www.trademap.com

This geographical concentration is considered a weakness for the Egyptian fish exports, in addition to the commodities concentration in fresh and processed fishes **(Grueff, 2013).** It is important to work on diversifying the future markets for the Egyptian fish exports to limit the exporting risks and the negative effects for the un-expected changes that can limit the access to the exporting markets.

1.4 The current governmental policies related to the fish exports

The governmental policies are considered among the effective factors in characterizing the current status for the exports in any commodity. Through presenting the current status of the governmental policies related to exports of fish varieties during the study period, it becomes clear that they are primarily linked to the following two types of policies: the first type are the policies aiming to encouraging the exports and the second type are the policies supporting the investment and the production processes and the expansion in the fish farms through the concerned authorities such as; trade, industry, agriculture, transport, foreign trade, investment and finance.

As for the policies which encouraging the exports, the information shown in Table (5) show the number of the ministerial decrees on this matter increased from 13 ministerial decree in 2005 to 41 ministerial decree in 2020 with an increase of 28 ministerial decrees. As for the policies supporting the investment and the production processes and the expansion in the fish farms, the number of the ministerial decrees on this matter increased from 14 ministerial decree in 2005 to 28 ministerial decree in 2020 with an increase estimated at 14 ministerial decree.

Table 5. The governmental policies and the ministerial decrees related to fish exports during the period (2005 – 2020)

Years	Quantity of Exports In Tons (Y1)	Ministerial Decrees aiming at encouraging Exports(X1)	Ministerial Decrees related to Fish Production & Investment.
2005	5124	13	14
2006	4016	10	15
2007	4409	18	10
2008	6121	20	11
2009	4768	22	12
2010	10538	24	12
2011	10796	25	13
2012	11054	29	14
2013	19719	22	15
2014	24258	32	16
2015	2618	33	18
2016	29818	35	19
2017	33455	36	22
2018	37091	39	23
2019	43259	40	25
2020	54351	41	28
Average "	20310	27	17
Increase	49227	28	14
Rate of Increase	961	215	100

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Looking at information shown in Table (6), it's noticed a statistically significant impact for each of the policies where each of the ministerial decrees issued by the concerned authority related to encouraging export has contributed in increasing the exports by approximately 607 thousand tons and each of the ministerial decrees related to the policies which support the investment and the production processes and the expansion in the fish farms has contributed in increasing the quantity of the Egyptian fish exports by approximately 1948 thousand tons during the Period (2005 – 2020).

By studying the current status for the governmental policies related to the exports of fishes, we conclude that there is a statistical significant effect for these policies but the greater influence was for the policies related to policies which support investment and the production processes and the expansion in the fish farms.

This can points out that developing the exports of the Egyptian fishes doesn't only rely on the commercial policies but also rely primarily on the production policies and improving the production quality and increasing the investment in the field of fish farms and improving the legislations related to the investment environment and overcoming the other non-commercial obstacles.

Table 6. Impact of the governmental policies on the Quantity of the Egyptian fish exports during the Period (2005 – 2020)

Equation	R^2	F	Durbin-Watson
Y1 = 0.28859 + 607x1 + 1948x2 (10.9)** (4.3)** (7.5)**	0.91	(189.4)**	2.1

Whereas:

Y1 : Quantity of exported fishes in Tons.

X1 : Ministerial Decrees which aim at encouraging exports.

X2 : Ministerial Decrees related to Fish Production and Investment.

Source: Table (5)

2. The Governmental Policies and Egyptian Fish Imports

2.1 Development of the Egyptian Fish Imports

Table (7) shows the increase in the value of the Egyptian fish imports from approximately 90449 thousand dollars in 2005 to 4784.4 thousand dollars in 2020. This represents an increase of 429% over the study period which in turn clarifies the large development in the value of the Egyptian fish imports.

By studying the trend for the value of the Egyptian fish imports as shown in Table (8), it becomes clear that the linear form is the suitable arithmetical form for expressing the development of the value of the Egyptian fish imports where it has the highest (F) value. table (8) also shows a statistically significant increase at the probability level of 0.01 estimated at approximately 25766.4 thousand dollars at a yearly average change equal 6.5%. The determination coefficient R^2 is approximately 0.61 which means that 61% of the increase occurring in the value of the fish imports during the study period are due to factors included by the time factor during that period.

Through the information shown in the same table (8), it can be noticed that the quantity of Egypt's imports of fish decreased from 188250 thousand tons in 2005 to 92548 thousand tons in 2020 which means a reduction equal to 95702 thousand tons and a rate of decease 51%.

By studying the trend for the quantity of the Egyptian fish imports as shown in Table (8), it can be noticed that the linear form is the suitable arithmetic form to express the development of the quantity of the Egyptian fish imports as it has the highest (F) value. There is also a statistically significant decrease at probability level of (0.01) estimated at 6534.8 thousand tons at yearly change average equals 4.4%. The coefficient of determination equals 0.55 that is 55% of the increase in the quantity of the fish imports during the study period refer to the impact of time factor during that period.

Hence, and through presenting Figure (4), we find a decrease in the Egyptian imported fish quantities and at the same time, there an increase in the value of the imports. These indications are due to the consequences of the reduction in the value of the local currency during this period which contributed in increasing the imports invoice and an increase the value of imports. At the same time, there was an increase in the average inflation which contributed in raising the price of the imported fish product in the local market which, in turn, contributed in the decrease of the demand and, in sequence, a decrease in the quantity of the Egyptian imports of fish.

Table 7.Development of Egyptian Fish Imports for Period (2005 - 2020)

Years	Imports Value (Thousand Dollars)	Imports Quantity (Tons)
2005	90449	188250
2006	104318	208042
2007	165998	220795
2008	269677	122763
2009	377961	147554
2010	385909	182377
2011	403170	178250

2012	531686	174123
2013	542493	100223
2014	561847	125110
2015	562164	140802
2016	501311	160288
2017	457228	151120
2018	445922	92514
2019	466098	92639
2020	478404	92548
Average	396540	148587
Quantity of Change Over Period (2005-2020)	387955	-95702
Rate of Change over Period (2005 – 2020)	429	-51

Source: International Trade Database

www.trademap.com

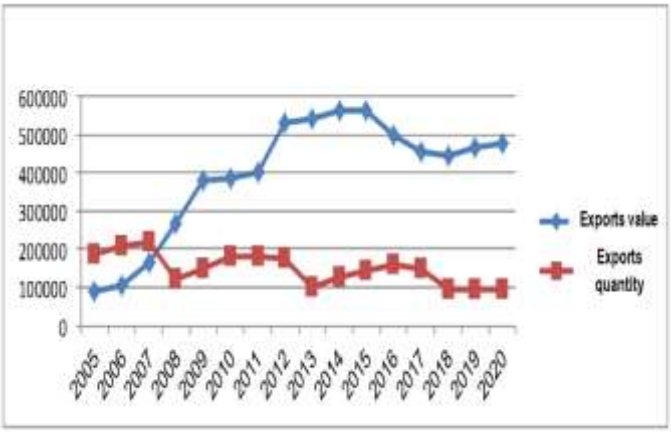

Figure 3. Development of Egypt's imports of fish during the period (2005 – 2020)

Table 8. General trend function for the Egyptian fish imports during the period (2005 – 2020)

Variable	Trend Equation	Coefficient of Determination	Calculated (t) Value	Average Yearly Change (%) (*)	Value of Calculated (F)
Value of total Fish Imports.	Y=1774+ 25766.4 X	0.61	4.65**	6.5	21.64**
Quantity of Total Fish Imports	Y=204.1 - 6534.8 X	0.55	4.17**	-4.4	17.4**

(**) Significant at the Level (0.01),
(-) Insignificant
(*)Annual rate of change = (Coefficient of Slope / General Average) * 100
Y = Estimated Value for the Dependent ,
Variable (X) = Number of Years
Source: Collected & Calculated from Table (7)

2.2 Development of Imports from Most Important Varieties of Egyptian Fish

Table (9) shows the variety distribution of the Egyptian imports of fish during the Period (2005 – 2020) where the most important imports of fish varieties are fresh, chilled and frozen fishes, followed by shrimp, crustacean and clams imports. Then, comes the processed fishes (frozen, salted, cut or packed), in addition to a limited contribution from imports of live and ornamental fishes.

The same table (9) also shows a significant decrease in the imports of the fresh, chilled and frozen fishes where the imported quantities decreased from approximately 183714 ton in 2005 to 55529 thousand tons in 2020 with a decrease estimated at 128185 thousand ton at a rate of approximately 70%. The imported values increased from approximately 205710 at a rate equals 253%.

As for the imports of shrimp, crustacean and clams, the imported quantities increased from 3881 thousand tons in 2005 to 18510 thousand ton in 2020; whereas the value increased from 7676 thousand dollar in 2005 to 95681 thousand dollar in 2020 with an increase of 88005 thousand dollars at a rate equals 1146%.

As for the imports of the processed fish, it increased from 655 tons in 2005 to 18510 thousand tons in 2020; whereas the exporting value increased from 1441 thousand dollar in 2005 to 2392 thousand dollars in 2020 with an increase equaled 95681 thousand dollars at a rate equaled 6540% over the study period.

Table 9. The species distribution of Egyptian fish imports during the period (2005 – 2020)

Year	Fresh, Chilled or frozen fishes		Shrimp, Crustacean and Molluscan		Live Fishes and ornamental Fishes		Processed Fishes (Salted or Cut &Packed)		Total	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
2005	183714	81332	3881	7676	0	0	655	1441	188250	90449
2006	199624	87860	6179	12436	711	1141	1528	2881	208042	104318
2007	202035	125877	14346	29288	1	2	4413	10831	220795	165998
2008	88960	163992	12904	60213	0	0	20899	45472	122763	269677
2009	117937	255131	16213	81809	118	412	13286	40609	147554	377961
2010	133561	255865	36945	83494	88	276	11783	46274	182377	385909
2011	123269	285313	19975	87261	64	235	34942	30361	178250	403170
2012	112977	360652	3005	142616	40	447	58101	27971	174123	531686
2013	84711	435991	13113	60866	0	1	2399	45635	100223	542493
2014	68428	420544	40875	108794	9	320	15798	32189	125110	561847
2015	98501	417413	12109	112292	0	0	30192	32459	140802	562164
2016	96173	300787	32058	100262	0	0	32058	100262	160288	501311
2017	90672	274337	30224	91446	0	0	30224	91446	151120	457228
2018	55508	267553	18503	89184	0	0	18503	89184	92514	445922
2019	55583	279659	18528	93220	0	0	18528	93220	92639	466098
2020	55529	287042	18510	95681	0	0	18510	95681	92548	478404
Average	110449	268709	18585	78534	64	177	19489	49120	148587	396540
Increase over Period (2005-2020)	128185	205710	14629	88005	0	0	17855	94240	-95702	387955
Rate of increase or decrease over Period (2005-2020)	-70	253	377	1146	-24.47	-16.6	2726	6540	-51	429

Notice: Some processed types of fishes are covered by Custom Items outside Chapter (3). These products are introduced in calculating the value and quantity of exported the processed fishes.

Source: www.trademap.com

Hence, it can be declared that there is a decrease in the imported quantities of the Egyptian fish due to the decrease occurred for the imported quantities of the fresh, chilled & frozen fishes. This is mainly due to both their high prices and their high costs of importing. This is in addition to some protective governmental policies for protecting the national industry of fishes from market dumping with the imported products. **(Soliman and Amer, 1999)** This in turn points at the importance of the commercial policies in specifying the imported quantities from fishes to Egypt.

2.3 Geographical distribution of the Egyptian fish mports

The Egyptian Market is characterized by an increase in the demand for fishes especially the fresh and frozen brands because their low costs compared with the red meat **(youness and Bahloul, 2019)**. 2-3-1 The Geographical Distribution of Egyptian Fish Imports according to the most important International Blocs:

According to figure 5; the most important blocs that Egypt imports fish from are; European countries that represent 50% of the Egyptian imports, followed by south-eastern Asia countries with 19% and the Arab Countries with 9% during the study period.

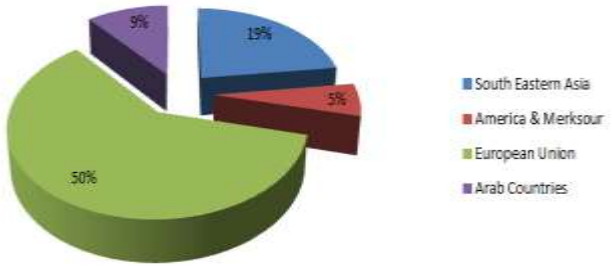

Figure 4.The Geographical Distribution for Egyptian Imports of Fish according to most important International blocs as an Average for the Period (2005 – 2020)

Source: www.trademap.com

2.3.2 The Geographical Distribution of the Egyptian Imports of Fish according to the Most Important Exporting Countries.

Information presented in Table (10) show the geographical distribution of the Egyptian fish imports for the average Period (2005-2020) at the level of the countries within the blocs. Netherlands comes first as the biggest exporter to Egypt with 30% followed by Norway at 6.5%, Vietnam with 7%, and Japan with5% of the Egyptian imports.

Table 10.Geographical distribution for Egypt's fish imports as Average for period (2005 – 2020). (Thousand Dollars)

Blocs	Most important Countries inside the blocs.	Average for Value of Imports.	Contribution in Average %
Arab Counties	Emirates	14672	3.7
	Oman Sultanate	3172	0.8
	Saudi Arabia	17051	4.3
	Total Arab Countries	8.8	34895
European Union Countries.	Netherlands	11935	30.1
	Norway	25775	6.5
	Spain	13086	3.3
	Ireland	226.3	5.7
	United Kingdom	14275	3.6
	Remaining European Countries	5552	1.4
	Total European Countries	200649	50.6
South Eastern Asia & China	Vietnam	28154	7.1
	China	113879	3.5
	Japan	20224	5.1
	Remaining South Eastern Asia Countries	12689	3.2
	Total South eastern Asia Countries:	74946	18.9
Al-Merksor & America	Brazil	9517	**2.4**
	America	5552	1.4
	Remaining Al-Mexor Countries & America.	5155	**1.3**
	Total Al-Mexor Countries & America.	20224	**5.1**
Remaining World Countries		65826	16.6
T O T A L :		396540	100

Source: International Trade Database www.trademap.com

2.4 The current status of the governmental policies related to fish imports

The governmental policies are diversified according to the objective of diversifying the imports and

protecting the national industry and the increase of the supplied commodities to ensure suitable prices. Through browsing the current status of the governmental policies related to importing the fish varieties during the study period, it can be noticed that it is primarily linked to the following two types of policies: the first type is the protective policies which mainly limiting the imports in order to protect the local producers, the second type is the opening policies which contribute in increasing the supplied fishes to guarantee preserving the prices and to guarantee that these prices do not rise especially fishes are considered as among the most important alternatives to meat and, in turn, contributes to food security and the social and political aspects related to the rise in the prices of food.

In general, the governmental policies related to the fish imports are detected through the ministerial decrees related to the concerned authorities in each of the trade, industry, agriculture, transport, foreign trade, investment and finance ministries.

As for the protective policies which aim at limiting the quantity of imports, it can be noticed from the information shown in Table (11) that the number of the ministerial decrees on this subject increased from 12 ministerial decrees in 2005 to 34 ministerial decrees in 2020. Concerning the opening policies, Table (11) shows that the ministerial decrees aiming at increasing the imports and increasing the supply in the local market dropped from 14 ministerial decrees in 2005 to only two ministerial decrees in 2020.

Information shown in Table (11) shows a statistically significant impact for both the opening and the protective policies on the quantity of the Egyptian fish imports where each of the opening policies ministerial decrees contributed to increasing the imports by approximately 14990 thousand tons, and each of the protective policies decrees contributed in a reduction of the quantity of the Egyptian imported fish by 426 thousand tons during the Period (2005 – 2020).

By studying the current status of the governmental policies related to the fish imports, it can be declared that the opening policies supporting the increase of imports had a statistically significant impact which is greater than the impact of the targeted protective policies whose statistically significant was not proved. Despite the country's efforts to limit the imports and increasing the local production, the increase in demand encourages importers to allocate efforts to imports, and loading the import burdens on the consumer by raising prices in the local market, which indicates the importance of working to increase local production and improve the quality of local fish and not to rely only on trade policies that limit imports.

Table 11. Governmental policies and ministerial decrees related to Imports Fish for Period (2005 – 2020)

Years	Quantity of Imports (Tons)	Trade Policies related to Imports	
		Decrees encouraging increase the imports (Opening).	Decrees encouraging reduce the imports (Protective).
2005	188250	14	12
2206	208042	16	15
2007	220795	8	19
2008	122763	7	21
2009	147554	10	23
2010	182377	11	26
2011	178250	10	23
2012	174123	9	21
2013	100223	8	19
2014	515110	10	12
2015	21082	1	14
2016	6088	1	18
2017	7612	2	24
2018	9214	2	28
2019	9239	2	32
2020	92548	2	34
Average	136454	7	21
Amount of Increase	-95702	-12	22
Rate of Increase	72	50	178

(*) Ministerial decisions include the following ministries: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Agriculture, Transport, Foreign Trade, Investment & Finance.
Source: Collected from the Official website for the Egyptian Al-Wakaea Newspaper Issued by Alamiria Printers
http://www.alamiria.com/ar-eg/Pages/Default.aspx:

Table 12. The influence of the Governmental Policies on the Quantity of the Egyptian Fish Imports for the Period (2005 – 2020)

Equation	R Square	F	Durbin-Watson
$Y1 = 1206 + 14990\ X_1 - 4226\ X_2$ (0.9)- (4.3)** (2.4)**	0.91	(189.4)**	2.1

Y1: Quantity of exported fishes in Tons.
X1: Ministerial Decrees which aim at encouraging imports (Opening Policies).
X2: Ministerial Decrees which aim at limiting Imports (Protective Policies).

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