SUPPORTING INFORMATION (SI)

SI.1: Examples of preys found in the stomachs of *Coelorinchus caelorhinchus*

Examples of prey types found in the stomachs of a sample of *Coelorinchus caelorhinchus* from the bathyal plane of the Central Thyrrhenian Sea.

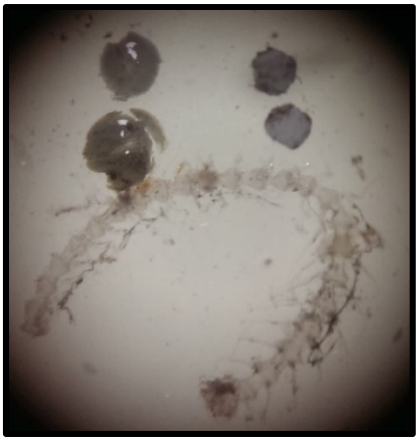

Figure S1. Fish remains; vertebral column, otoliths and eyes.

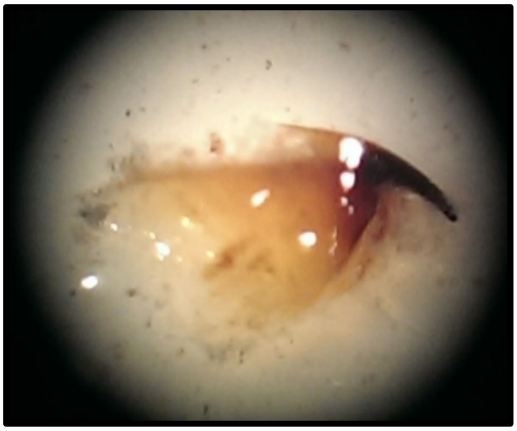

Figure S2. Cephalopod's beak.

Figure S3. *Natatolana borealis*(Lilljeborg, 1851).

Figure S4. *Gnathia* sp. (praniza phase).

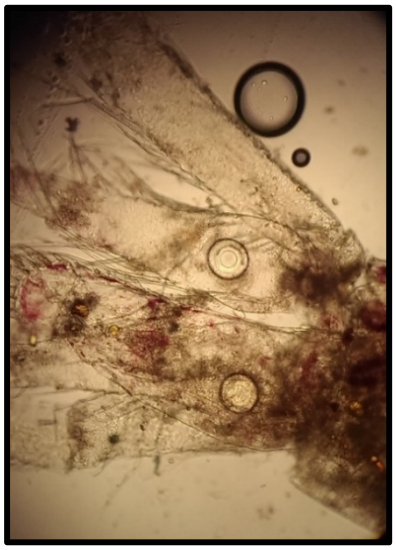

Figure S5. *Pseudomma* sp.

Figure S6. *Vibilia armata* Bovallius, 1887.

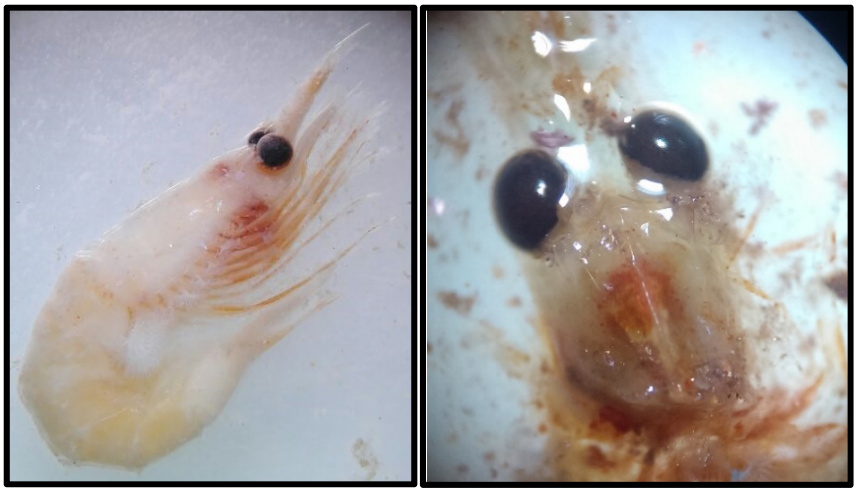

Figure S7. *Meganyctiphanes norvegica* (M. Sars, 1857).

Figure S8. *Othomaera schmidtii* (Stephensen, 1915)

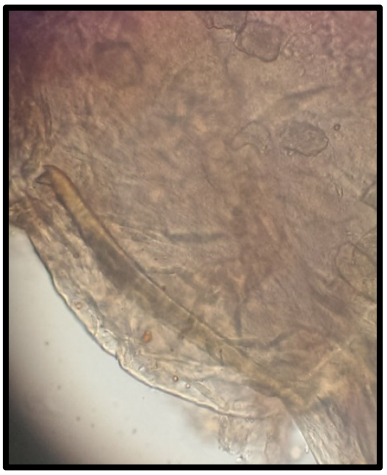

Figure S9. Acicular chaeta of Onuphid polychaete.

Figure S10. Thoracic uncini of *Trichobranchus* sp. polychaete.

Figure S11. Maxillary apparatus of Lumbrinereid

SI.2: Examples of preys and parasites found in the stomachs of *Galeus melastomus*

Examples of prey types and parasites found in the stomachs of a sample of *Galeus melastomus* from the bathyal plane of the Central Tyrrhenian Sea.

Figure S12. Fish remains.

Figure S13. Cephalopoda Beaks.

Figure S14. *Pasiphaea sivado* (Risso, 1816).

Figure S15. *Vibilia armata* Bovallius, 1887.

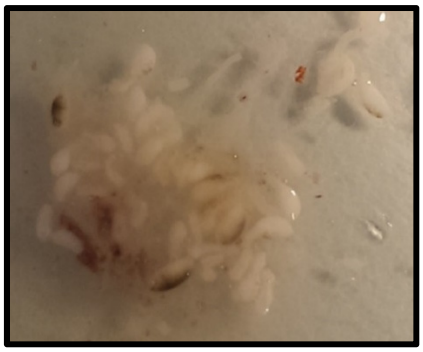

Figure S16. Cestoda.

Figure S17. *Anisakis* sp.

SI.3: Microplastics

SI.3.1: Microplastics found in the stomachs of *Coelorinchus caelorhinchus*

Examples of medium–sized microplastics filaments and fragments found in the stomachs of some specimens of *Coelorinchus caelorhinchus* (with code) from the bathyal plane of the Central Thyrrhenian Sea

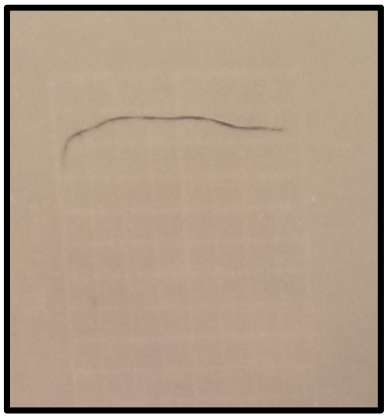

Figure S18. 7CCI

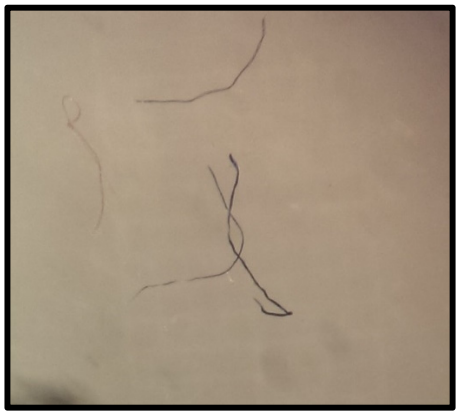

Figure S19. 26CCI

Figure S20. 6CCP

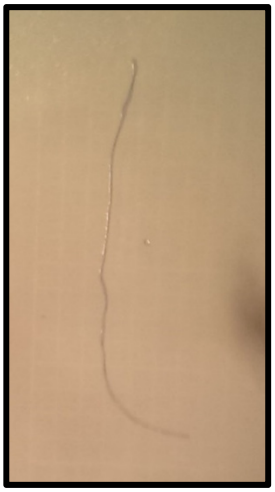

Figure S21. 4CCE

Figure S22. 11CCA

SI.3.2: Microplastics found in the stomachs of *Galeus melastomus*

Examples of microplastics filaments, lamina and fragments ingested in some specimens (with code) of *Galeus melastomus* from the bathyal plane of the Central Thyrrhenian Sea

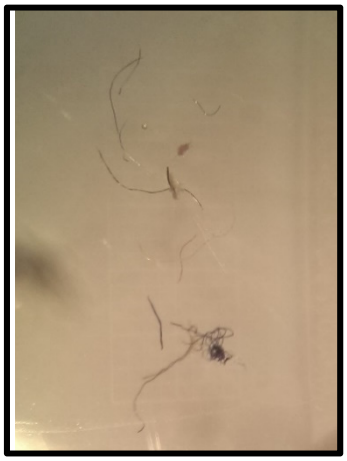

Figure S23. 6GMI

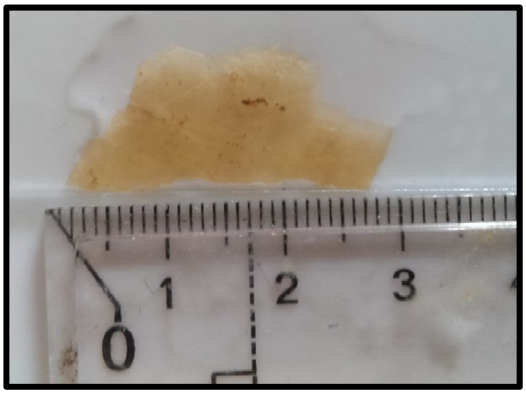

Figure S24. 27GMI

Figure S25. 42GMP 23GME

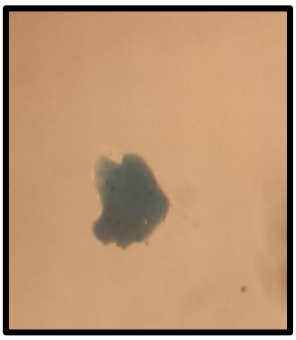

Figure S26. 6GME

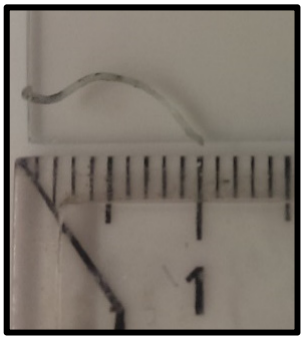

Figure S27.

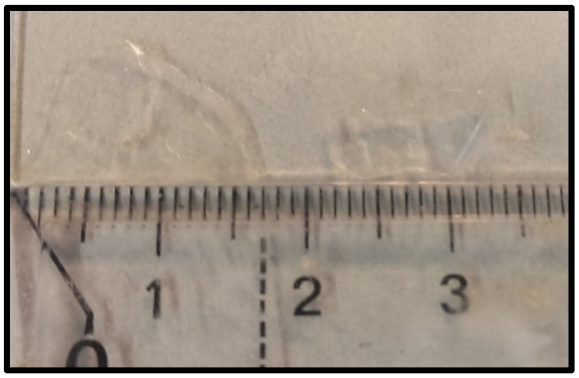

Figure S28. 29GME

Figure S29. 18GMA

SI.4: Fishing data

Table S1. Fishing data concerning samples' collection in the eastern central Tyrrhenian Sea

Haul's date	Trawler	Starting time		Finishing time		Depth (m)	Meteo	Sea state
		Latitude	Longitude	Latitude	Longitude			
16/02/2017	Crescenzo I	42 04608 N	11 12058 E	42 01140 N	11 31385 E	250-400	7/8	Calm
06/06/2017	Crescenzo I	42 05945 N	11 21210 E	42 03406 N	11 27395 E	260-380	5/6	Calm
18/07/2017	Crescenzo I	42 05931 N	11 34252 E	42 06664 N	11 20846 E	260-390	0	Calm
08/11/2017	Crescenzo I	42 02025 N	11 32450 E	42 57263 N	11 16743 E	250-415	5/6	Calm

SI.5: Dietary data

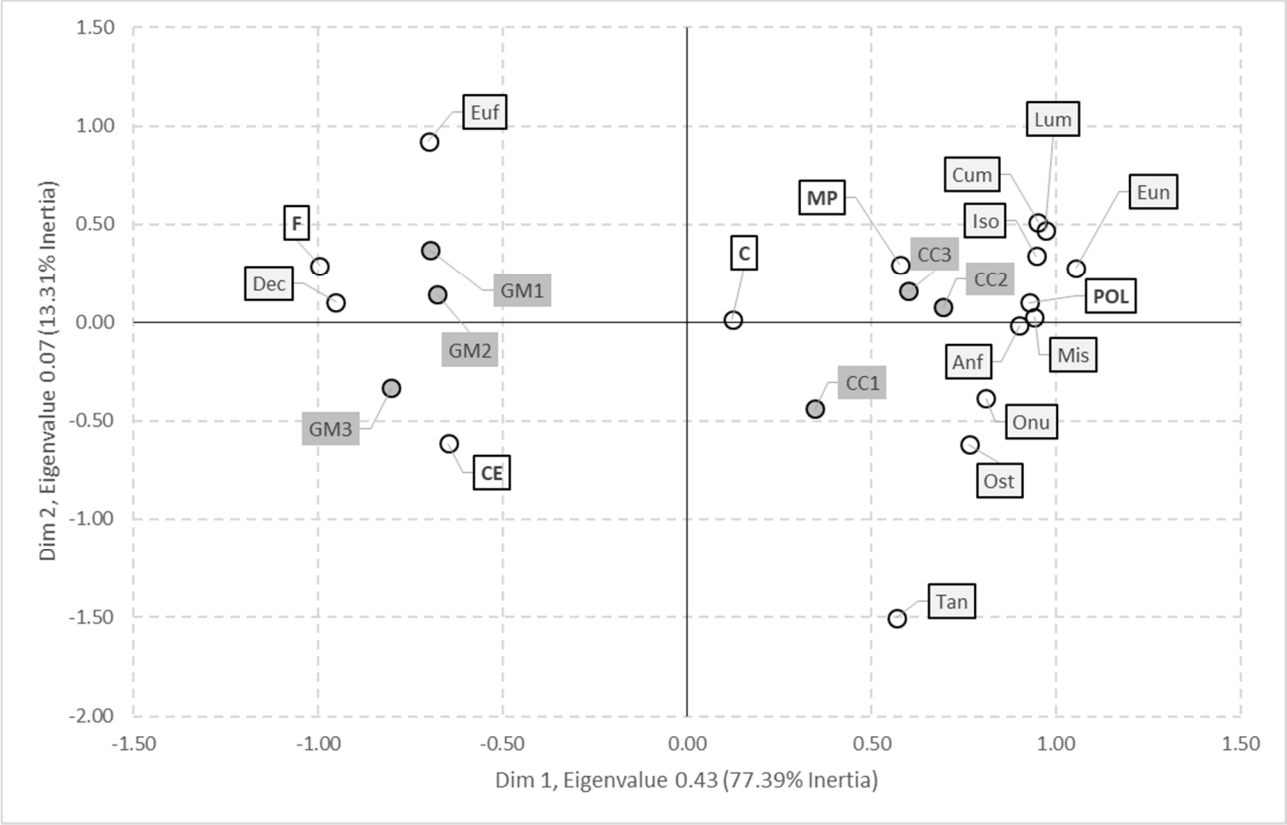

Figure S30. Biplot from Correspondence Analysis representing prey composition in the diet of two generalistic and opportunistic deep–water predators *Coelorinchus caelorhinchus* (CC) and *Galeus melastomus* (GM) from the bathyal plane of the Central Thyrrhe-nian Sea and according to three size classes (1, 2 and 3). C: total crustaceans; POL: total polychaetes; F: bony fishes; CE: cephalopods; MP: microplastics. Dec: Decapoa; Euf: Euphasiacea; Tan: Tanaidacea; Ost: Ostracoda; Anf: Anfipoda; Mis: Misydacea; Iso: Isopoda; Cum: Cumacea; Onu: Onuphidae; Eun: Eunicidae; Lum: Lumbrinereidae. The two dimensions explaining the most of cumulated variance were interpreted as de-scribing an ontogenic (Dim 2) and prey importance (Dim 1) gradients, respectively.

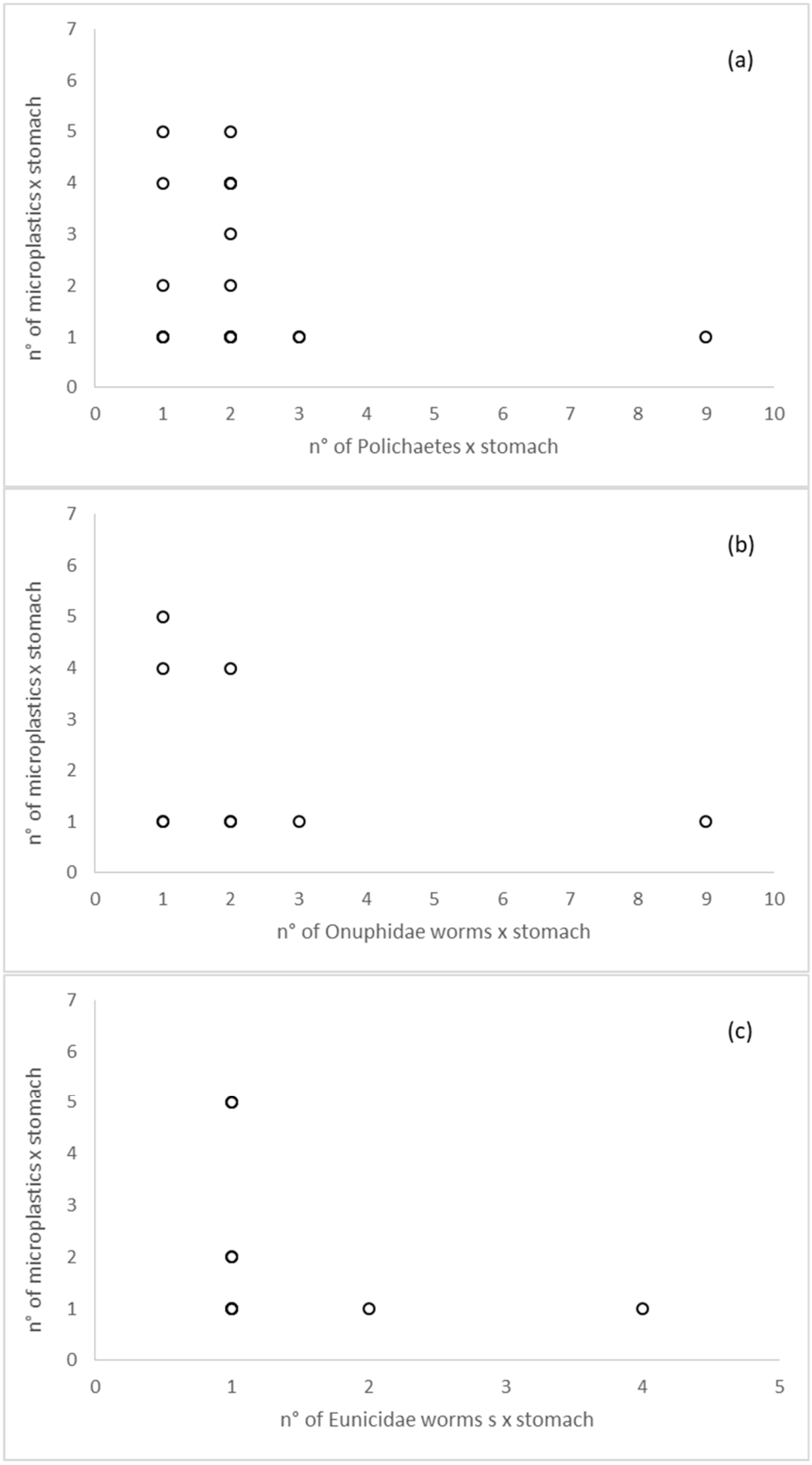

Figure S31. a, b, c. Relationships between number of ingested microplastics and increasing number of ingested total polychaetes (a), Onufphidae (b) and Eunicidae (c) families by individual stomach from a sample of

Coelorinchus caelorhinchus from the bathyal plane of the Central Thyrrhenian Sea; inverse gamma correlation are at borderline p–level of significance ($r=–0.31$, $p=0.06$) for total polychaetes and significant for Onuphi-dae ($r= –0.69$, $p<0.05$) and Eunicidae ($r= –1$, $p<0.05$).