{rokbox title=|Map of the Mallorca Channel seamounts showing the sampling stations :: Image: Authors|
thumb=|images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares-ieo-csic-new-species-ophiomyxa-echinodermata-mallorca-channel-seamounts-mediterranean-ordines-et-al-2024-thumb.jpg|}images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares-ieo-csic-new-species-ophiomyxa-echinodermata-mallorca-channel-seamounts-mediterranean-ordines-et-al-2024.jpg{/rokbox}

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A new species of the genus *Ophiomyxa* (Echinodermata: Ophiuroidea: Ophiomyxidae) from the Mallorca Channel seamounts in the western Mediterranean
.
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Abstract: A new species belonging to the ophiuroid genus *Ophiomyxa* is described from the Mallorca Channel seamount, in the western Mediterranean Sea. It can be distinguished from other *Ophiomyxa* species by the lack of interradial marginal plates, three arm spines, the presence of two thin, transparent and completely perforated dorsal arm plates on each arm segment, the separate heptagonal ventral arm plates, the disk integument full of transparent rounded scales with scattered perforated ossicles, and a characteristic coloration of the disk, which in the living specimen is brown with abundant scattered bright white spots. Molecular analyses based on cytochrome c Oxidase subunit I (DNA barcode) clearly support the assignment of the new species to *Ophiomyxa*
. This discovery highlights the importance of the Mallorca Channel seamounts for the Mediterranean biodiversity conservation, as they seem to provide a suitable habitat for several invertebrate species, including recent descriptions of species and new Mediterranean records, which apparently have not established permanent populations along the closest continental margin.

Keywords: Brittle star, Deep-sea, Balearic Islands, COI