



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Plenary sitting

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure
on the European Year of Seas and Oceans

Ivan Jakovčić

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the European Year of Seas and Oceans

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the objectives laid down in the European Strategy for more Growth and Jobs in Coastal and Maritime Tourism,
 - having regard to Europe's maritime identity and the numerous maritime aspects of the EU economy,
 - having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas Europe, and in particular the EU, borders two oceans and four seas, with its jurisdictional waters stretching from subtropical latitudes to areas near the North Pole;
- B. whereas more than two fifths of EU citizens live in coastal regions, and whereas the maritime sector employs 5.4 million people and generates between EUR 330 billion and EUR 485 billion in gross value added;
- C. whereas a recent assessment by the European Environment Agency (EEA) revealed the worrying state of European seas, and whereas less than 20 % of habitats and ecosystems are reported to be in good status;
- D. whereas Europe's maritime heritage is beginning to be recognised as a valuable resource which, together with tourism and other leisure activities, would allow coastal zones to be converted into service areas;
1. Calls on the Commission to propose the European Year of Seas and Oceans.