

High-level conference

# Oceans

the future of the blue planet



Joint conference of the **European Parliament** and the **European Commission**  
Plenary chamber, European Parliament, Brussels – 19 March 2019

## Programme

**12:00 – 14:00 Registration of participants** (Atrium welcome point)

**14:00 – 15:00 Opening ceremony**

- **Gesine Meissner**, Special Envoy of the President of the European Parliament on Maritime Affairs
- **Karmenu Vella**, Member of the European Commission, responsible for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
- **Adriana Petcu**, Secretary of State, Ministry of Waters and Forests, Romania
- **Carlos Moedas**, Member of the European Commission, responsible for Research, Science and Innovation
- **Geneviève Pons**, Director of Institut Jacques Delors Brussels office
- **Sébastien Willemart**, Representative of the French-speaking youth council of Belgium
- **Nele Van Hoyweghen**, UN youth delegate for sustainable development of the Dutch-speaking youth council of Belgium

**Family photo**

**15:00 – 16:00 Panel 1: Shaping global ocean governance for the future**

**Chair: Alain Cadec (EPP), Chair of the Parliament's fisheries committee**

**Introduction:** **Alain Cadec** (EPP), Chair of the Parliament's fisheries committee – **João Aguiar Machado**, Director-General of the European Commission's directorate general for maritime affairs and fisheries – **Christian Leffler**, Deputy Secretary General of the European External Action Service

- **José Inácio Faria** (EPP), **Ulrike Rodust** (S&D), **Gabriel Mato** (EPP)
- **Steve Trent**, Environmental Justice Foundation
- **Maria Damanaki**, The Nature Conservancy
- **Árni M. Mathiesen**, Assistant Director-General FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture
- **Pasquale Legora De Feo**, CEO CONATECO S.P.A.

**Q&A**

**#OceanEU**



## 16:00 – 17:00 Panel 2: Achieving healthy, clean seas and oceans

**Chair:** Adina-Ioana Vălean (EPP), Chair of the Parliament's committee on environment, public health and food safety

**Introduction:** Adina-Ioana Vălean (EPP), Chair of the Parliament's committee on environment, public health and food safety – Jean-Eric Paquet, Director-General of the European Commission's directorate general for research and innovation – Joanna Drake, Deputy Director-General of the European Commission's directorate general for environment

- Mark Demesmaeker (ECR), Ricardo Serrão Santos (S&D), Cláudia Monteiro De Aguiar (EPP)
- Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Assistant Director-General of UNESCO
- Peter Herzig, Executive Director at GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research in Kiel
- John Kornerup Bang, Head of Sustainability Strategy and Climate, MAERSK
- Tiago Pitta e Cunha, CEO Oceano Azul Foundation

## 16:45 – 17:00 Keynote speech

- Antonio Tajani, President of the European Parliament

## 17:00 – 18:00 Panel 3: A sustainable blue economy, reducing pressures on the oceans

**Chair:** Hans-Olaf Henkel (ECR), Vice-Chair of Parliament's committee on industry, research and energy

**Introduction:** Hans-Olaf Henkel (ECR), Vice-Chair of Parliament's committee on industry, research and energy – Emma Navarro, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank – Pierre Delsaux, Deputy Director-General of the European Commission's directorate general for internal market, industry, entrepreneurship and SMEs

- Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (ALDE), Clara Eugenia Aguilera García (S&D), Jakop Dalunde (Greens/EFA), Isabelle Thomas (S&D)
- Vitor Verdelho, General Manager at the European Algae Biomass Association (EABA)
- Ester Asin, Director of the WWF European Policy Office
- Rémi Gruet, CEO Ocean Energy Europe
- Christophe Tytgat, Secretary General at SEA Europe

### Q&A

## 18:00 – 18:30 Concluding remarks

- Karmenu Vella, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
- Gesine Meissner, Special Envoy of the President of the European Parliament on Maritime Policy



## EU-FUNDED PROJECTS EXHIBITION

### ARCHEOSUB

The project aims to develop products and services in support of the discovery of new Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH) sites and of the surveying, conservation, protection, and valorisation of new and existing ones. It uses an in-situ underwater sensor network deployed at a site for real-time monitoring and surveillance. Discover ARCHEOSUB's autonomous underwater vehicle, and much more!

### BRIDGES

The main objective of BRIDGES (Bringing together Industry for the Development of Glider Environment) in accordance with expected increase ocean industrialisation, is to perform research on cost-effective, robust, re-locatable and easily-deployed autonomous platforms with multiple sensing, surveying and monitoring capabilities to support long-term in-situ exploration and protection services of the coastal and deep ocean.

### CM PREVENTION OF COSMETIC-INDUCED NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND MICRO PLASTICS ENTERING FOOD CHAINS

Nearly all EU citizens use some form of personal hygiene products in the scope of cosmetics. Cosmetics are a major source of water and food chain pollution via the microplastics they often contain. The application created in the frame of the project detects ingredients in the cosmetics products (e.g. microplastics). The Cosmetics database currently consists of more than 130,000 unique cosmetic products, including the image, barcode and other product details.

### COPERNICUS

Copernicus is the European Union's Earth Observation Programme, which monitors our planet, including oceans and its environment for the ultimate benefit of the citizens of Europe. It delivers information and services based on satellite earth observation data and in situ on-space data. The information services, as well as the data from which they are derived, are accessible on a full, free and open basis by anyone.

### COPERNICUS MARINE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING SERVICE

The service provides regular and systematic reference information on the physical and biogeochemical state, variability and dynamics of the ocean and marine ecosystems for the global ocean and the European regional seas. The observations and forecasts produced by the service support all marine applications, including: marine safety; marine resources; coastal and marine environment; weather, seasonal forecasting and climate.

### FARNET

Fisheries areas across the EU are facing significant challenges. The continuous decline in income and employment in the fishing sector has underlined the need for innovative responses that are both sustainable and inclusive. FARNET is the network implementing Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) helping local people take the lead and work together. In this exhibition, FARNET shows how local artisanal producers use their talents and creativity to develop viable, sustainable coastal communities.

### MARINA AND ResponSEable – PUTTING PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE OF OCEAN GOVERNANCE

The projects have developed and collated consolidated methods, approaches and products for Responsible Research and Innovation and Ocean Literacy that enhance ocean governance. Both projects' findings are the basis for the 2019 Ocean Dialogues. Today, in line with the participatory and interactivity spirit that drive both projects and the Ocean Dialogues, they propose a series of activities that illustrate key ocean governance principles and that put people's engagement into practice.

### #ReadyToChange PHOTO STAND

Support the European Commission's campaign against the utilisation of single use plastic items. Take a selfie with our giant props (ear buds, straws, coffee cups...) and post it on your social media or show it to your family and friends for a laugh.