

## SEArICA Conference on Blue Skills

Organised with the support of the [Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions](#)

**Monday 23 May 14.00-16.00 (Brussels time)**

Online meeting

Registrations: [CLICK HERE](#)

A competitive, resilient, and socially fair blue economy needs highly qualified and skilled professionals. Yet today, many blue economy sectors have difficulties finding the right people, which hampers their growth. Within the shift towards a sustainable blue economy approach lie great opportunities for maritime and island regions. To seize these opportunities and to make the sustainable transition as well as generational renewal a success, a revolution in blue skills is needed.

EU maritime regions are supporting actions to solve this mismatch and:

- reduce the skills gap between education offers and labour market needs;
- improve communication and cooperation between education and industry;
- improve the attractiveness and awareness of career opportunities in the blue economy;
- improve the ocean literacy culture at the basis of it all.

The SEArICA conference aims to bring together representatives from EU coastal regions, stakeholders from maritime territories, EU Commission officials, Members of the EU Parliament, and Young Ocean Ambassadors to discuss about needed actions in terms of Blue Skills and the implementation of the many initiatives and proposals that are currently being put forward.

### DRAFT AGENDA

*Moderation by CPMR*

**Opening:** MEP Carmen Avram, SEArICA Vice-Chair for the Danube and the Black Sea

**Keynote speech:** Mr Andy Kontoudakis, Policy Officer for Maritime Innovation, Marine Knowledge and Investment, DG MARE

**Input by CPMR regions on the initiatives proposed by the EU Commission and on measures implemented on the ground**

- **Mr George Alexakis**, Regional Councillor of Crete, in charge of European and International Affairs, CPMR Vice-President for Maritime Affairs **tbc**

# INTERGROUP SEAS, RIVERS, ISLANDS AND COASTAL AREAS



- **Ms Simona Costa**, Head of Office, Tour4EU, Toscana, CPMR Intermediterranean Commission
- **Nouvelle Aquitaine Region**, CPMR Atlantic Arc Commission, Chair of the AAC Maritime Skills Working Group **tbc**
- **Ms Lucia Fraga**, Head of the Training Department, CETMAR foundation, Galicia Region, CPMR Atlantic Arc Commission **tbc**
- **Mr Juha Valtanen**, Senior Advisor, Turku University of Applied Sciences, SouthWest Finland, CPMR Baltic Commission
- [MINE-EMI Project](#) speaker, CPMR Balkan & Black Sea Commission, **tbc**
- [BRIDGE-BS Project](#) speaker, CPMR Balkan & Black Sea Commission, **tbc**
- **Friuli Venezia Giulia**: Towards a Pact for Blue Skills in the Adriatic and Ionian Region **tbc**

## Reactions by [Eurocean's Youth Ambassadors](#) from 4 sea basins

- **Mr Gauthier Moinet**, Belgium, North Sea area - speaker
- **Ms Dijana Catakovic**, Slovenia, Mediterranean area - speaker

## Q&A with the Youth Ambassadors and the audience

- **Ms Darta Oseniece**, Latvia, Baltic area
- **Ms Leire Lopetegui**, Spain, Atlantic area

Concluding remarks by **MEP Josianne Cutajar**, SEARica Vice-Chair for SMEs and Digitalisation **tbc**

*With the support of*



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