



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

RESTORE OUR OCEAN AND WATERS



Roundtable with Universities

Thursday, 6 March 2025, 14:30 – 16:30
European Commission Charlemagne building (CHAR) – MANS room
Rue de la Loi 170, Brussels

Programme

This meeting will gather universities and research and education communities that are engaged in Mission Ocean and Waters to share best practices and to discuss opportunities to collaborate on topics including the development of transdisciplinary EU curricula and exchanges on ocean and waters education, skills and research.

Moderator: *Kieran Coleman*, DG Research & Innovation (RTD), European Commission

14:00 Welcome coffee

14:30 Introduction and opening remarks

- *Elisabetta Balzi*, Head of Unit and Deputy Director, 'Ocean, Seas and Waters', **DG Research & Innovation (RTD), European Commission**
- *Susanne Conze*, Head of Unit, 'Higher Education', **DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (EAC), European Commission**

14:40 Panel Discussion: Universities working together

- *Milen Baltov*, **EUNICoast** and Rector, **Burgas Free University**, Bulgaria
- *Alexandra Teodósio*, **SEA-EU** and Vice-Rector, **University of Algarve**, Portugal
- *Massimo Midiri*, **BLUE-ERA** and Rector, **University of Palermo**, Italy
- *Siri Granum Carson*, **EOREA** and **Norwegian University of Science and Technology**, Norway

15:15 Universities in Action: exchange of best practices from Mission Charter actions

- *Annette Bruhn*, **Aarhus University**, Denmark
- *Alice Guittard*, **Athens University of Economics and Business**, Greece
- *Liisi Lees*, **University of Tartu**, Estonia
- *H. Cecilie Petersen*, **University of Southern Denmark**, Denmark
- *Angela Di Febbraro*, **University of Genova**, Italy

15:45 Tour de Table and Discussion

All participants – guiding questions for discussion:

1. Are there areas for collaboration related to the objectives of Mission Ocean and Waters, that are not sufficiently catered for by the existing groupings or alliances of universities, where your university could play a role?
2. What tangible actions can your university take with others to support the implementation of Mission Ocean and Waters and how can universities lead on taking the next steps?

16:15 Conclusion

- *Maria Cristina Pedicchio*, Mission Board Member, **University of Trieste**, Italy

16:30 End and Networking