



Insuleur members

The Chambers of Commerce and Industry in the European Union with insular regions within their jurisdiction may register as ordinary members of the Network, as well as the heads of national CCI networks committed principally to the development of insular regions.

FULL MEMBERS

GREECE - EOAEN (Group of Chambers of Commerce for the Development of Greek Islands) - CCI of Chania - CCI of Chios - CCI of Corfu - CCI of Cyclades - CCI of Dodecanese - CCI of Evia - CCI of Heraklion - CCI of Kavala - CCI of Kefalonia & Ithaki - CCI of Lasithi - CCI of Lefkada - CCI of Lesbos - CCI of Magnesia - Manufacturers Chamber of Piraeus - Professional Chamber of Piraeus - CCI of Piraeus - CCI of Rethymno - CCI of Samos - CCI of Zakynthos.

FRANCE - Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie d'Ajaccio et de la Corse du Sud - Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Bastia et de la Haute-Corse - Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Basse-Terre - Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Martinique - Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Pointe-à-Pitre - Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de l'Île de la Réunion.

ITALY - Camera di Commercio, Industria, Artigianato e Agricoltura di Cagliari - Camera di Commercio, Industria, Artigianato e Agricoltura di Nuoro - Camera di Commercio, Industria, Artigianato e Agricoltura di Oristano - Camera di Commercio, Industria, Artigianato e Agricoltura di Palermo - Camera di Commercio, Industria, Artigianato e Agricoltura di Sassari.

CROATIA - Croatian Chamber of Economy, County Chamber Rijeka.

SPAIN - Cámara de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de Las Palmas - Cámara de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de Mallorca - Cámara de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de Menorca - Cámara de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de Santa Cruz de Tenerife.

MALTA - Gozo Business Chamber.

UNITED KINGDOM - Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Mull and Iona.

ASSOCIATED MEMBERS

CYPRUS - CCI of Ammochostos - CCI of Cyprus - CCI of Paphos

ITALY - Unioncamere - Unaione Italiana delle Camere di Commercio, Industria, Artigianato e Agricoltura - Assonautica - Associazione Nazionale per la Nautica da Diporto

OBSERVERS - Malta Business Bureau (Malta) - IHK Nord (Germany) - CCI of Messina / Kalamata (Greece) - Hellenic Small Islands Network (Greece) - OTIE (Osservatorio sul Turismo delle Isole Europee) - CCI - Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Tunisie (Tunisia) - CCIS of Sotavento (Cape Verde) - Eurodom - L'Europe et le Département français d'outre-mer (France) - Baltic Sea Islands (B7) - County Government of Saaremaa (Estonia) - CRPM / CPMR - Island Commission - INSULA - International Scientific Council for Island Development c/o Mab-Unesco - CMDD - Mediterranean Commission for a Sustainable Development.



NETWORK OF THE INSULAR CHAMBERS
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



Mission

The **Network of the Insular Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the European Union (INSULEUR)** is a not-for-profit association set up in compliance with Greek law which oversees the close cooperation between insular Chambers of Commerce in the EU and aims to promote the economic and social development of the islands of the EU.

The Network HQ is located in Chios (Greece) and the articles of the association have been deposited at the Court of the same city.

In addition to the ordinary members (the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, as well as certain heads of national networks committed to the development of insular regions), any legal entity whose main aim is the development of insular regions in the EU may be registered as an associate member of the Network.

The Network has permanent representation at European Union institutions in Brussels.

The most important aims of the Network are:

1. Ensuring collaboration between members so as to support insular regions in the European Union, fight isolation, highlight their specificities and formulate proposals to solve their problems.
2. Putting together an integrated policy for the development of its regions and closely collaborating in this aim with European institutions as well as with nongovernmental organisations to implement this policy.
3. Encouraging initiatives, projects and perspectives on the economic development of insular regions in the European Union.
4. Drawing up a list of specific problems businesses in insular regions in the European Union face, studying them and submitting appropriate proposals.
5. Putting information and research activities into place to facilitate the aforementioned aims being carried out.

Insuleur background

In the last decade of the twentieth century, insular problems became the focus of many actions and initiatives at different institutions at a local, national and European level. Following an initiative from the Association of Chambers of Commerce for the Development of Greek Islands (EOAEN), implemented to overcome insular isolation, the Chambers of Commerce in insular regions of the European Union organised a series of conferences:

- In 1994 on the island of Chios (Greece) regarding: "Economic and Social Cohesion"
- In 1995 in Palma de Mallorca (Spain) regarding: "In favour of a Sustainable Community Development Policy for Insular Regions in the European Union"
- In 1996 in Palermo (Italy) regarding: "The Network of European Islands - Projects and Partnership for Internal Development"
- In 1999 in Basse-Terre in Guadeloupe (France) regarding: "The Islands of the European Union after Amsterdam - Improving Competitiveness and Representation of Insular Businesses and Territories in the European Union".

It was at this last conference where the decision was taken to set up the 'Network of Insular Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the European Union'. The Network's articles of association were signed at the Chania Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Crete (Greece) on 6th May 2000, with the participation of 26 Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the insular regions of France, Greece, Spain and Italy. The Network's first General Assembly took place in Rhodes (Greece) on 5th October 2000 with the participation of 29 insular Chambers of Commerce of the European Union, the Chambers of Commerce of Cyprus and the island of Gozo (Malta) as associate members, whilst the Chamber of Commerce of Cape Verde was allowed to participate as an observer.

Furthermore, the first Network Forum on 'Sustainable Development of Small and Medium Sized Insular Enterprises in the face of Globalisation' took place on 6th and 7th October 2000.

The second Network Forum on "Sustainable Tourism Development for European Islands" was held in La Palma (Canary Islands) from 1st to 4th November 2001, attended by Spanish, Greek and Canary Island government representatives, as well as the Insular Chambers of Commerce from these countries.

The third Network Forum on 'SMEs and Insular Difficulties: the Activity of Chambers of Commerce and Industry within the Framework of the European Union' took place in Cagliari, Sardinia (Italy) on 14th and 15th November 2002.

The Network is in permanent contact with relevant bodies at the European Commission through its permanent representative in Brussels and the members of the Technical Committee, so as to find the best cooperation sectors within the framework of different European projects and initiatives.

The Insular Chambers of Commerce also take part in work by the Islands Commission at the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR).

Regular cooperation between members of the European Parliament, representatives from local and regional authorities and Chambers of Commerce has decisively contributed to including specific arrangements favouring islands in the Treaty of Amsterdam (article 158 and protocol 30).

The ambition of European Union Chambers of Commerce is to set up, via the Network, an engine for internal insular development in close collaboration with regional and local authorities and insular universities, within the framework of national and community projects, so as to ensure the viability of island economies by developing the competitiveness of insular enterprises.

Key actions since the creation of Insuleur

Since the year 2000, INSULEUR has notably taken the following actions:

- **Participating in consultations** with the Commission and taking positions on different European topics concerning insular enterprises and regions (regional policy reform, regional state aid reform, the insular chamber manifesto, the green paper on future EU maritime policy, the green paper on territorial cohesion, the consultation on the future EU 2020 strategy, the new framework for tourism policy in the European Union, etc.)

- **Collaboration in the opinion of the EESC** on "A better Integration in the Internal Market as Key Factor for Cohesion and Growth for Islands".

- **Producing studies:** "SMEs and Insular Difficulties", "The Costs of Insularity", "The Size and Role of Microenterprises: a Comparison between different EU Islands".

- **Taking part in European projects** (Innovate-Med, ORATE/EPSON, Innonautics...)



Welcome note from the president



Islands have inherent problems, such as geographical isolation, lack of infrastructure and human resources, difficulties in supplies and communications and are "vulnerable" to economic, social and environmental changes.

Nowadays, insular economies are forced to achieve significant aims, for the next period 2014-2020, maximally exploiting existing opportunities, asking

for more island-friendly EU policies.

The "island issue" pertains to all EU policies (regional, environmental, agricultural, energy, transport, enterprise, competition, health etc.), thus it should always be taken into account in the Community decision-making.

INSULEUR creation and actions have significantly contributed to the community acquis, which is to be preserved and further developed.

Results of our common efforts have been achieved, e.g. in European regional, maritime transport and agricultural policies.

In order to influence European institutions in favor of islands, INSULEUR cooperates with insular governments and organizations, such as the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), European Small Island Network (ESIN) etc. The presence of INSULEUR delegation in Brussels has also been very productive.

As president of Professional Chamber of Piraeus, who was honored to be elected president of INSULEUR for the next years, I feel responsible to insular entrepreneurs and promise to work hard for the economic and social growth of our islands.

Georgios Benetos
INSULEUR President



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Insuleur Organisation Chart

Board of directors

- Chairman : **George Benetos**, Professional Chamber of Piraeus, Greece
- Deputy Chair : **Colette Koury**, CCI Guadeloupe, France
- Deputy Chair : **Giancarlo Deidda**, CCI Cagliari, Italy
- Deputy Chair : **Michael Grech**, CCI Gozo, Malta
- Deputy Chair : **Vidoje Vujic**, CCI Rijeka, Croatia
- Treasurer : **Ioannis Margaronis**, CCI Chania, Greece
- Gen. Secretary: **Antonio Grimalt**, CCI Majorca, Spain

Technical Committee

- **Antonio Canellas**, CCI Majorca, Spain
- **Silvia Delgado**, CCI Majorca, Spain
- **Olivier Lemerle**, ACFCI (European Service) - Brussels
- **Asonitis George**, Union of Hellenic Chambers of Commerce
- **Flavio Burlizzi**, Unioncamere, Brussels

Representation at the EU

- **Anna Corlay**, Brussels

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