

I SUPPORT

The six principles on which the Blue Society is based



Common responsibility

A Blue Society that is based on a sustainable and equitable management of the Ocean's biodiversity and resources, especially those of the high seas, by all nations through collective responsibility.



Integrated policies

A Blue Society that supports a sustainable and global development, through the implementation of cross-disciplinary approaches and an integrated "Land and Ocean" policy-making process.



Knowledge-based and innovative approach

A Blue Society that adopts an ecosystem-based approach to managing maritime spaces and coastlines and precautionary approach, in a spirit of cooperation between researchers and decision-makers, but also with entrepreneurs to develop social and technological solutions from the immense potential of the Ocean.



Effective enforcement

A Blue Society that preserves the natural ecosystems of the Ocean, while developing economic strategies for sustainable and equitable development, through the full enforcement and extension of existing policies.



Education and outreach

A Blue Society that is informed through marine environmental actions and educational initiatives for all types of audiences.



Partnership and collaboration

A Blue Society that is engaged through the active participation of various institutions, stakeholders and citizens, at a global and local level.

I ASK

The heads of the European Commission, especially those of Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries ("DG Mare") and Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, MEPs and competent national bodies,

Regarding Marine Research and Development, to:

- Promote marine science research by developing cooperative and multidisciplinary research, encouraging knowledge exchange between the natural and social sciences, and fostering tools and funding mechanisms such as collaborative calls for projects, international exchanges platforms, etc.
- Galvanize the process of innovation by developing regional facilitating bodies that will develop and refine strategies for responsible research and innovation, based on dialogue and long-term collaboration between the scientific community, private sector, policymakers and engaged citizens.

Regarding Ocean Management, to:

- Support cross-cutting, consistent and integrated management approaches for maritime areas and coastlines, including stakeholders and citizens in every step of the decision-making, implementation and evaluation processes, at all geographical levels, in order to help overcome sector based thinking and management.
- Develop ecosystem-based and precautionary management by creating a targeted European marine science-policy interface platform, building on successful initiatives, promoting interdisciplinary training in environmental science and policy, and appointing Ocean advisers who could act as knowledge brokers for marine themes at European, regional and national levels.

Regarding Political and Institutional Ocean Governance, to:

- Promote sustainable management of marine ecosystems, in particular by developing a global legally binding instrument for conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity on the high seas.
- Improve the efficiency of European and national governance by streamlining administrative procedures, coordinating existing decision-making bodies, developing regional bodies where they are needed; and mobilizing the necessary means for the reinforcement of maritime policies.

Regarding Economic Governance, to:

- Support the emergence of a blue economy, at national and European levels, by assessing marine natural capital and incorporating the costs of restoration and maintenance of ecosystems into operating costs, while taking care to ensure equitable access to resources, vital services and opportunities provided by the Ocean.
- Support ecological and socially responsible companies through rewards or other incentives.

And regarding Ocean Culture and Education, to:

- Engage with all audiences by implementing European and national plans for marine education, promoting awareness-raising campaigns emphasizing marine ecosystem services, and presenting the best way to achieve sustainable use of the Ocean through the Blue Society principles.
- Protect and enhance marine natural and cultural heritage by developing marine protected areas and coordinating networks to preserve marine biodiversity at regional level, but also promoting their role for education and leisure.

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sea for
SOCIETY EU
TOWARDS A BLUE SOCIETY



SUPPORT THE BLUE SOCIETY

Central to the Blue Society is an understanding of the Ocean as a source of opportunities for increase the human well-being.

Blue Society is an innovative vision for a new governance model of the Ocean that takes into account the different aspects of the sustainable development.

Blue Society promotes innovation, through a close collaboration between researchers, entrepreneurs and decision-makers, in order to find solutions to meet society's present and future needs.

The Ocean is our life support system on Earth. The Ocean:

- provides us 50% of the oxygen we breathe via phytoplankton
- gives us water, through its key role in the water cycle
- regulates the climate, absorbing, storing and carrying large quantities of heat around the globe including 93% of the heat caused by human activities (enhanced greenhouse effect)
- feeds us, providing an essential source of proteins
- supplies us with raw materials, minerals and other substances we use daily
- revitalizes us offering physical and psychological benefits
- inspires us and enriches our cultures
- unites us, as the vehicle of trade and telecommunication exchanges

Blue Society recognizes the essential role of the Ocean in our lives and our need to maintain it through environmental stewardship.

The Ocean holds tremendous opportunities for present and future generations. It can feed and care for more people, provide renewable and clean energy, create jobs, generate more equity, etc. By sharing knowledge and involving citizens and stakeholders, the Blue Society can initiate technological, ecological and social solutions and positive actions.

Blue Society relies on the potential of the Ocean for a better and desirable future based on a sustainable development that will benefit the planet and the human populations.