
Marine Litter in the Danube and the Black Sea region: concrete proposals from the regions

Hosted by **MEP Carmen AVRAM**, **SEArICA Vice-Chair responsible for the Danube and the Black Sea**, and co-organised by the **Balkan and Black Sea Commission of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR BBSC)** and the **International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS)**

Thursday 4 November 2021 from 11:00 to 13:30 (CET)

The online conference, hosted and chaired by **MEP Carmen AVRAM**, will take the form of a moderated exchange with key regional, political, and private stakeholders from the Danube and Black Sea regions. The online meeting will also seek to promote inter-basin and knowledge exchange by presenting key takeaways and best practice from other sea basins of Europe. The aim of the event is to discuss and come up with tailored and concrete proposals to tackle marine litter in the region.

The event will offer different stakeholders from the wider Black Sea region and beyond the opportunity to share their experience and exchange ideas with representatives from the European institutions and encourage multilateral cooperation in the framework of different EU initiatives and programmes implemented in the area.

The conference will aim at providing a dialogue platform amongst EU, regional and national policy-makers and key stakeholders, to encourage a debate that will allow for the better understanding of the challenges, as faced by stakeholders on the ground, and the different opportunities that derive from the various EU policies, strategies and initiatives in this diverse but fragile region.

Draft Agenda

*The online conference will be chaired and moderated by **Ms Carmen AVRAM**, SEArICA Vice-Chair responsible for the Danube and the Black Sea*

Welcome by **Ms Carmen AVRAM**, Member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chair of the SEArICA Intergroup, responsible for the Danube and the Black Sea

1. **Danube Day**, by **Mr Ivan ZAVADSKY**, Executive Secretary of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)
2. **International Black Sea Action Day**, by **Ms Irina MAKARENKO**, Pollution Monitoring and Assessment Officer, Permanent Secretariat, Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Black Sea Commission)
3. **CMA for the Black Sea 2021 Turkish Coordination & Black Sea CONNECT Project** *(tbd)*
4. **CPMR Balkan and Black Sea Commission** *(tbd)*
5. Tech solutions from the private sector, by **Mr Bernard MERKX**, Co-founder, Waste Free Oceans
6. Inter-basin best practice exchange: **CleanAtlantic Project**, co-funded under the Interreg Atlantic Area Programme, by **Mr António CUNHA**, President of the Commission for Regional Coordination and Development, Norte Region (Portugal), Member of the CPMR Atlantic Arc Commission *(tbc)*
7. Inter-basin best practice exchange: Reflections and future steps based on the results of the **CPMR North Sea Commission's "Waste Free Rivers" event**, by **Ms Zita PELS**, Regional Minister from Noord-Holland (The Netherlands), Member of the CPMR North Sea Commission
8. Inter-basin best practice exchange: **representative from "Plastic Pirates – Go Europe!"** Europe-wide citizen science campaign, a joint initiative by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the Portuguese Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education, and the Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science and Sport *(tbd)*
9. Skills for prevention of marine litter, by **Professor Dr Taner ALBAYRAK**, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences Department of Maritime Business Management, Piri Reis University (Turkey), **Black Sea Association of Maritime Institutions (BSAMI)**

Regional projects:

10. **Blueing the Black Sea (BBSEA) Project**, by **Ms Berengere P. C. PRINCE**, Lead Natural Resources Management Specialist, World Bank *(tbc)*
11. **BLACK SEA REACT! Project**, by **Ms Rositsa STOEVA**, Executive Manager, Permanent International Secretariat (PERMIS), Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)
12. **EU/UNDP Project 'EU4EMBLAS'**, by **Dr Jaroslav SLOBODNIK**, Team Leader

13. **Black Sea Young Ambassadors** represented by **Ms Gizem AKKUS**, Ph.D. Candidate at Middle East Technical University, Institute of Marine Sciences (METU-IMS) (Turkey)

**Format: Round of targeted questions by the Moderator to the panellists (1-2 questions per panellist). Panellists' intervention: 3-4 minutes max. PowerPoint presentations NOT to be included!*

Reaction by:

- **DG MARE, HORIZON Ocean, Seas and Waters Mission and lighthouse projects** *(tbd)*
- **DG ENVI** *(tbd)*
- **DG NEAR** *(tbd)*
- **Ms Laura BOBARNAC**, Head of Unit of the Directorate MA European Territorial Cooperation Programmes, Managing Authority, ENI CBC Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Programme 2014-2020

Reaction by (5-7 minutes per MEP):

- **MEP Ivo HRISTOV**, Member of the European Parliament, Member of SEARica Intergroup, Member of the ITRE Committee *(tbc)*
- **MEP Catherine CHABAUD**, Member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chair of SEARica Intergroup for Climate & Governance and European Parliament rapporteur on the impact on fisheries of marine litter *(tbc)*

Open discussion

- Intervention by BBC journalist Mr Jonah FISHER (**Black Sea Blues**) *(tbc)*

Closing remarks by:

- **Ms Carmen AVRAM**, Member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chair of the SEARica Intergroup, responsible for the Danube and the Black Sea

INTERGROUP SEAS, RIVERS, ISLANDS AND COASTAL AREAS



Seas, Rivers, Islands
&
Coastal Areas



CPMR **BALKAN & BLACK
SEA COMMISSION**
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