



1st EU4Ocean event “Designing Ocean Literacy actions in Europe”

### The EU4Ocean coalition: what, what for, how?

24/09/2020 - 09:30 to 10:30

## Main outcome & key messages

### The workshop in a nutshell

The opening workshop set the scene for the 11 workshops and stressed the **importance of collective actions for all, across all levels** – building on the experience and vision of decision makers from local to European scales. It brought together around 400 participants from all European countries, of different ages and backgrounds.

The opening workshop:

- Raised the political profile of the overall event, giving visibility to the EU4Ocean coalition initiative supported by the European Commission
- Illustrated the main principles guiding the event and the EU4Ocean coalition: collective, co-built, and action-oriented
- Presented the focus, organisation of and key contributors to the two-day event.

How to further support ocean literacy in general, and support the collective initiatives emerging from the EU4Ocean coalition – giving international, European and national perspectives? The answers were given by three panellist, building on the ocean connections and inspiration of the panellists **Francesca Santoro**, Ocean Literacy Programme Specialist IOC/UNESCO, **Tonino Picula**, chair of the Searica Intergroup, European Parliament, **Ricardo Serrão Santos**, Minister of Maritime Affairs, Portugal.

### Key messages

Pre-conditions for success of the EU4Ocean coalition:

Making sure the Ocean doesn't get 'lost in translation' anymore
Contributing to the collective efforts of EU4Ocean Coalition
Making the Ocean part of everyone's political agenda
Being inclusive, sustainable and creative
Ensuring that the blue community for oceans is not kept separate from society but instead embedded in society
Removing the barriers to ocean action via the European Green Deal, by creating a link between green and blue with good incentives
Leading promotion for the inclusion of ocean issues in formal education
Adding a human factor to the ocean by working at sea-basin level

### What is next?

This workshop was the 'opening door' to the other workshops that followed in the next two days.. Now it is your turn: explore what EU4ocean communities can offer you, get inspired, become a member, and start co-create with others, take part in advocacy campaigns - be part of the change!

Contact us : [info@eu4ocean-coalition.eu](mailto:info@eu4ocean-coalition.eu)

