

The EU4Ocean Platform: Co-designing Ocean Literacy for society

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Speaker Profiles



Professor Paula Kankaanpää is the Director of the Marine Research Centre of Finnish Environment Institute, SYKE. SYKE operates the Finnish ice strengthened Research Vessel Aranda and hosts the Finnish Marine Ecology Laboratory. Currently she is also leading a multi-sectoral project on Finnish Marine Knowledge and Data Portal. www.MarineFinland.fi. Kankaanpää is Chair of Protection of Arctic Marine Environment, PAME -Working Group of the Arctic Council, and Vice President of the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), a Finnish Delegate of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), a member of the Arctic Team of the Ministry of the Environment and chair of the Finnish National Committee of Arctic and Antarctic Research. Earlier, she acted as the Director of the Arctic

Centre of the University of Lapland for 15 years since 2000. She was a research fellow at the Dartmouth College in 2010. Kankaanpää worked as a Senior Advisor for the Arctic, Barents and Antarctic cooperation in the Ministry of the Environment in 1991 - 99. She acted as the Deputy Executive Secretary of Arctic Council's CAFF Working Group in Iceland 1998. Kankaanpää made her PhD at the Geography Department of the University of Helsinki while working as a scientist in Finnish Marine Research Institute. She also studied in the University of Alaska Fairbanks. SYKE is a founding member of the EU4Ocean Platform and Paula Kankaanpää is a Chair of the EU4Ocean Platform.



James Nikitine is the Director of Manaia Productions. James is a French and British marine scientist, filmmaker and consultant, originally from the French Alps near Geneva. He holds a MSc in Marine Systems and Policies from the University of Edinburgh and a Bachelor of Arts in Film from the University of Exeter. For nearly a decade, he has worked globally as a consultant in ocean science and policy communications, on issues of high seas governance, microplastics pollution, climate change impacts on the ocean, deep reef research, ocean risk and marine protected area management. He is the co-founder and CEO of Manaia Productions, a strategic communications and film production agency specialized in nature conservation, science and livelihoods. James has been working for several years as project

manager and producer with the International Union for Conservation of Nature, and has worked with WWF, Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy, the Ocean Acidification Alliance and the UK government. In 2019, he worked as Media Advisor for the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, in the context of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for sustainable Development. Since 2015 he has been a member of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas, contributing to its marine task force. He lives in Christchurch, New Zealand and is a Fellow with the Edmund Hillary Fellowship. Recently he founded Blue Cradle, a non-profit working in New Zealand promoting ocean conservation and literacy. Manaia Productions is a founding member of the EU4Ocean Platform and James Nikitine is a Chair of the EU4Ocean Platform.

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Paul Rose. A man at the front line of exploration and one of the world's most experienced science expedition leaders, Paul Rose helps scientists unlock and communicate global mysteries in the most remote and challenging regions of the planet.

Former Vice President of the Royal Geographical Society, Paul is Expedition Leader for the *National Geographic Pristine Seas Expeditions*. The Royal Geographical Society has awarded Paul the *Ness Award* and the *Founders Gold Medal*.

Paul is a broadcaster, published author and journalist, Rose presents BBC television programs on current affairs, science and the environment.

He is Ambassador for the UN Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions.

Paul was the Base Commander of Rothera Research Station, Antarctica, for the British Antarctic Survey for ten years and was awarded *HM The Queen's Polar Medal*. For his work with NASA and the Mars Lander project on Mt Erebus, Antarctica, he was awarded the *US Polar Medal*.

A mountain in Antarctica is named after him.

Website: www.paulrose.org



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Elisa Baldrihi is a member of Ocean Literacy Italia (OLI). She graduated in Marine Biology in 2007, with a PhD in Marine Biology and Ecology (2013). She has a broad experience in deep-sea benthic ecology, biology, biodiversity, assessment of water quality and benthic environmental status. In the period 2014-2016, she worked as a post-doc at CNR (Ancona, Italy) and she was also responsible for Communication and Dissemination. In 2016-2018, she worked as post-doc at the University of Brittany and Ifremer, France, where she was involved in ocean literacy activities with students and citizens. At present, she works as post-doc at CNR-IRBIM (Ancona). Since 2020, Elisa is part of the OLI Steering Committee. She coordinates the project of Citizen Science '[Walking on the sea traces](#)'. Ocean Literacy Italia is a founding member of the EU4Ocean Platform, and Elisa is the Chair of EU4Ocean Platform Working Group Healthy and Clean Ocean.



Tymon Zielinski is a leader of the Climate and Ocean Research and Education Unit at the Institute of Oceanology of the Policy Academy of Sciences (IO PAN), where he has a position of an associate professor. Since 2016, Tymon is a member of the UN group of experts of the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment. Since 2019, Tymon is a member of the Steering Committee of the European Marine Board Communication Panel. Tymon has been involved in numerous projects focused on climate change and marine environment, organized numerous meetings and has been a PI in both national and international projects. IO PAN is a founding member of the EU4Ocean Platform, and Tymon is the Chair of EU4Ocean Platform Working Group Climate and Ocean.



Dr. Gesche Krause is a social scientist, who works at the Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Center for Polar and Marine Research (AWI), Germany. She was trained at the Universities of Kiel and Greifswald (Germany) and completed her PhD in Philosophy at the Department of Systems Ecology, Stockholm University (Sweden). Next to working for several years with various companies in the private sector, she worked for 10 years in Brazil along the Amazon as well as several years on ornamental trade dynamics and coastal governance issues in Indonesia. The socio-economic prospects of aquaculture, especially in combination with offshore renewable energy systems, have been a further research avenue since 2000. In 2013 she affiliated with the AWI and is responsible for the development and coordination of an Earth System Knowledge Platform (ESKP), which is a combined initiative of the 8 Earth and Environment Centres of the German Helmholtz foundation. In this context, her current research centers around the assessment of impact of science to societal processes. Additionally, she has been working for the WBGU, the German Advisory Council on Global Change, the Research Council of Norway (RCN) and the EU. For the latter, she acted in 2017 as expert on the topic Food from the Oceans, in support of the European Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) via SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies). Since 2011, she founded and chairs the International Commission of the Exploration of



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the Seas (ICES) expert working group on social and economic dimensions of aquaculture (WGSEDA). Since 2016, Gesche is part of the executive board of the global Oceans Past Initiative (OPI). AWI is a founding member of the EU4Ocean Platform and Gesche is member of the EU4Ocean Working Group (WG) Food from the Ocean, as well as WG Climate and Ocean.



Rosa Rodríguez is coordinator of the Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) communication and Ocean literacy service at the Balearic Islands Coastal Observing and Forecasting System (SOCIB). Being passionate about science and the ocean, Rosa notes she is very fortunate to live in Mallorca, a wonderful island in the Mediterranean Sea, and to work at SOCIB. SOCIB works intensively to promote Ocean Literacy and to disseminate the activity of ocean observatories, which facilitate our understanding of the ocean and the sustainable management of marine and coastal resources by providing knowledge, data and products. SOCIB programmes outreach events and designs resources addressed to all audiences. Close contact with the education community allows SOCIB to promote scientific vocations in the marine sciences and the daily work of oceanographers, providing educational and training materials to introduce the ocean in the classroom as an educational resource. In short, SOCIB collaborates with all the agents involved (Research Institutes, Media, families, schools, cultural entities, NGO's, etc.) to make them aware that science and ocean observatories are the great allies to know, preserve and manage our oceans for sustainable development. SOCIB is a founding member of the EU4Ocean Platform.



Philip Easthill is the Secretary-General of European Boating Industry (EBI), the Brussels-based association representing the European recreational boating industry at EU level. He also has a strong personal connection to boating, having grown up as an avid sailor and worked as a sailing instructor and skipper. The European Boating Industry is a founding member of the EU4Ocean Platform.



Andy Kontoudakis is currently a policy officer in DG MARE, in the unit for Maritime Innovation, Marine Knowledge and Investment (A1). She is a shipping and maritime economist and an energy economist with a Masters' degree in European and International Studies; prior to her post in DG MARE she has held office as a special scientist in the Greek Energy Regulator (RAE – until 2006), as a European Commission policy officer in various DGs (DG Education and Culture and DG Energy – from 2006) and as the Greek energy attaché and an Atomic Questions attaché on behalf of the Greek Permanent Representation to the EU in the Council of the European Union (period 2009 -2013), negotiating relevant legislation. She is currently in charge of the files of skills and training in the blue economy, of blue investments under InvestEU, of Ocean Literacy and of ocean and decarbonisation in her Unit.



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Dr. Kate Larkin is Head of Research and Marine Knowledge at Seascope Belgium and Deputy Head of Secretariat of the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet), a long-term marine data management and sharing initiative supported by the European Commission Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries.). A deep-sea biogeochemist by training, she has worked for more than 10 years at the interface between marine science, policy and wider society. She has a passion for connecting people across the marine and maritime sectors to unlock data, information and knowledge to serve marine stakeholder needs and solve societal challenges. Kate is motivated by a deep appreciation for the

natural world and the global Ocean, together with the need for collective change towards more sustainable living. Seascope Belgium is a founding member of the EU4Ocean Platform and Kate is lead facilitator for the EU4Ocean Platform.



Ángel E. Muñoz Piniella is Science Officer at the European Marine Board (EMB) secretariat in Ostend, Belgium since 2017. EMB is the leading European think tank in marine science policy, and founding member of the EU4Ocean Platform. Ángel currently facilitates the EU4Ocean Platform Working Groups, together with fellow EU4Ocean facilitators. He obtained his marine science degree from the University of Vigo, Spain with specialization on biogeochemistry and marine pollution. He has, in addition, a Masters in Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management with specialization on environmental impacts and remediation from the Free University of Brussels, University of Ghent and University

of Antwerp in Belgium. After conducting an internship at EMB in 2012, he has held positions at the Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ), the Research Council of Norway (RCN) and the Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO), as member of the secretariats of the Joint Programming Initiatives on Oceans (JPI Oceans) and Climate Knowledge (JPI Climate).



Andreea Ionascu is a psychologist and the Coordinator of the Education & Volunteering Department in Mare Nostrum NGO, one of the oldest NGOs in Constanta, Romania. She has developed over time a passion for the environment, and especially the sea, which are so interconnected with the health and welfare of human beings. Mare Nostrum opened for her new horizons related to the fascinating world of education for sustainable development, but also to environmental psychology. Andreea has been a part of Mare Nostrum NGO since 2007, dedicating her time and efforts to engaging young people, teachers, students, public authorities' representatives and the general public in taking action for the environment. She loves what she does and she strongly believes that education is the base of society and of change, for a better world.

