EMD
European Maritime Day
IN MY COUNTRY

BLACK SEA BEYWATCH

Black Sea Blue Economy Youth and Women Watch

Tuesday, 20 October 2026 | 10:00 - 16:30 EEST

Virtual event co-organised by

UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
DEPARTMENT OF SHIPPING TRADE AND TRANSPORT

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR BLACK SEA STUDIES
ICBSS
BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Working language: English

The Draft Agenda is in Eastern European Summer Time (EEST)

Organised within the framework of the Hellenic Chairmanship-in-Office ***of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC).***

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DRAFT AGENDA

10:00-10:20 EEST | OPENING SESSION

- Welcome address by **Dr Maria B. LEKAKOU**, Professor in Maritime Economics, Department of Shipping, Trade and Transport, School of Business, University of the Aegean (Greece)
- Welcome address by **Mr Georgios MITRAKOS**, Director General, International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS)

10:20-11:30 EEST | THE IMPORTANCE OF CITY DIPLOMACY IN BLUE ECONOMY AND THE ADDED VALUE OF WOMEN IN MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE

*Moderated by **Ms Elpida BESI**, Junior Project Manager, International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS)*

Keynote speaker: Ms Teona DZNELADZE, Head of International Relations and Students Services Center, Batumi State Maritime Academy (Georgia), representing Women in Maritime Association (WIMA) Europe

- Women on Board Project, under the Interreg Europe Programme, by **Dr Eudokia BALAMOU**, Lead Partner, Larnaca and Famagusta Districts Development Agency (Cyprus), and **Dr Madalina DAVIDESCU**, Professor at the "Ion Ionescu de la Brad" University of Life Sciences (IULS), Iasi (Romania)
- **Ms Io CHATZIVARYTI**, Senior EU Project Expert for the Mayor of Kavala (Greece) URBACT Lead Expert | Urban Development & Territorial Cooperation Specialist Founder of URBAN SPARK Consulting Firm
- **Ms Laurence MARTIN**, Secretary General, Federazione del Mare, Lead Partner of the WINBLUE Project

Open discussion with participants

11:30-12:00 EEST Comfort break

12:00-13:00 EEST | EMERGING SKILLS FOR STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS INTERESTED IN BLUE ECONOMY SECTORS IN THE PORT CITIES OF THE WIDER BLACK SEA REGION

*Moderated by **Mr Stavros KALOGNOMOS**, PhD Candidate, Researcher, Research in Shipping and Ports Laboratory (RE.SHI.P.), Department of Shipping, Trade and Transport, School of Business, University of the Aegean (Greece)*

Keynote speaker: Ms Andreea STRACHINESCU-OLTEANU, Head of Unit, Maritime innovation, Marine Knowledge and Investment (MARE.A.1), Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), European Commission

- BLUE PORTS Project, under the EMFAF Programme 2021–2027, by **Prof Dr Theocharis TSOUTSOS**, Project Coordinator, Renewable and Sustainable Energy Systems Lab, Technical University of Crete (Greece)
- **Dr Natasa VAIDIANU**, Associate Professor, Ovidius University of Constanta/University of Bucharest (Romania), Co-leader of WG3 (Port cities and coastal communities), RethinkBlue COST Action

- **Ms Alexandra PETROVA**, PhD Student, New Bulgarian University, Department of Administration and management, Tourism section, Student Board member, European Reform University Alliance (ERUA)
- **Ms Eirini APAZOGLOU**, Executive Officer at European Marine Research Network (EuroMarine)

Open discussion with participants

Break until 15:00 EEST

15:00-16:30 EEST | NEW TECHNOLOGIES AT THE SERVICE OF THE PORT CITIES ECOSYSTEMS: HOW TO EMBRACE TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT?

*Moderated by **Mr Stavros KALOGNOMOS**, PhD Candidate, Researcher, Research in Shipping and Ports Laboratory (RE.SHI.P.), Department of Shipping, Trade and Transport, School of Business, University of the Aegean (Greece)*

Keynote speaker: Prof. Carola HEIN, PACT COST Action Chair, Delft University of Technology (The Netherlands)

- **Ms Irina KIRCHEVA,** Project Expert at Marine Cluster Bulgaria
- "Blue Port Index for BSEC Countries" (BLUE FOR BLACK Project), by **Prof Dr Gökçe Çiçek CEYHUN**, Project Lead Partner, Bursa Technical University (Türkiye)
- **Dr Delia DIMITRIU**, Smarter Mobility Solutions Ltd. (United Kingdom)
- **Ms Irina COZMA,** Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration (Romania), Co-Coordinator of Priority Area 3 of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)

Open discussion with participants

Conclusions of the EMD event by Mr Stavros KALOGNOMOS, PhD Candidate, Researcher, Research in Shipping and Ports Laboratory (RE.SHI.P.), Department of Shipping, Trade and Transport, School of Business, University of the Aegean (Greece)

End of the EMD virtual event