

Interreg
Mediterranean



 **PROteuS**

**PROMoting security
and safety by crEating
a MED clUster on
Maritime Suirveillance**

Project co-financed
by the European Regional
Development Fund

PROteuS Maritime Surveillance Cluster enters the testing Phase

PROteuS project enters a new phase: the launch and animation of National Nodes (NN) dedicated to Maritime Surveillance in each country and the testing of pilot activities and services offered by National Nodes to its members. There will be six NN, one in each participating country - Italy, Cyprus, France, Greece, Portugal and Spain.

Also, a transnational MED cluster dedicated to Maritime Surveillance, gathering together the National Nodes, is being setting-up. The purpose of establishing a cluster is to create "economic value", allying institutional support from public authorities, and approaches and resources of private actors.

In the previous phase of the project (WP3 - Studying Phase), a methodology for designing and implementing the National Nodes and the MED cluster were created, along with operational tools for their animation and activity.

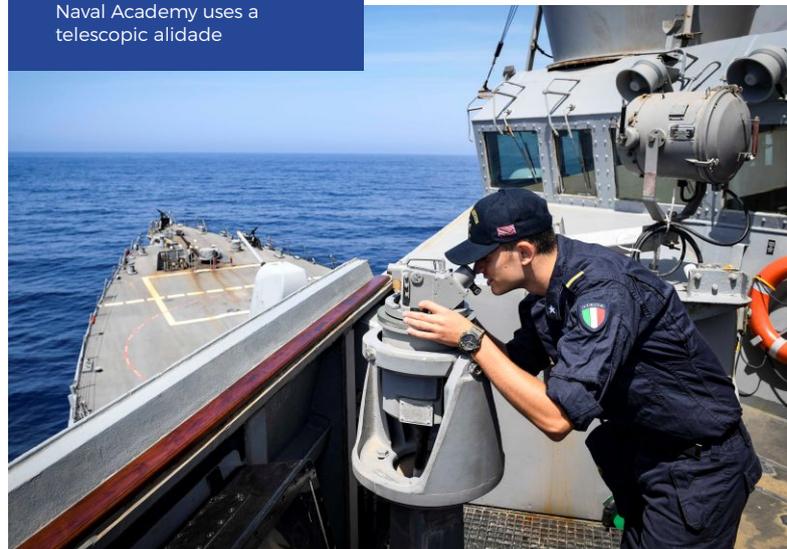
The methodological framework for the NN and the MED cluster provides guidelines for the establishment and functioning of the Nodes but each one will work according to each region's specificities. Aspects like the subsectors covered, specific services to be provided,

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composition of the Nodes and its legal status, way of functioning, among others, are decided by each Node. The application of the methodology will be experimented during the pilot activities of the testing phase (from January 2018 to July 2019).

Midshipman from the Italian Naval Academy uses a telescopic alidade





The cluster will consist of six national Nodes in the Mediterranean



National Nodes of PROteuS Regions

Cyprus

The most appropriate legal option regarding the legal status of the national Node is the one of a **non-profit company, limited by guarantee, which allows the participation of public institutions in a private entity**. However, a complementary legal element that needs to be explored and taken into great consideration for the legal constitution of the Node, is obtaining accreditation that it is a public equivalent government body. This latter component, will allow directly absorb and manage European funds, but it entails the following restriction: 50% of the entity's Board of Directors should be appointed by a public authority. It is also worth noting that this type of entity does not entail shareholders. In other words, profits that are generated by the entity are not distributed among the members of the entity but stay within the cluster.

The sectors identified as most prominent one for the Cypriot National MS Node in PROteuS, are the Maritime Security and Safety, Maritime Environment and Pollution in addition with the Fisheries Control.

Membership fees are an option but, due to the limited size of the market in Cyprus, other options might be more effective i.e. sponsorships for the organization of annual events, conferences and technical presentation.

Services that will be provided from the national Node: 1) Demonstration events (I&C), 2) technical workshops, seminars, presentations, conferences (I&C), 3) Provisions of funding opportunities (under the legal status of the Node as a public equivalent government body the Node will be able to manage directly EU funds) (I&C), 4) B2B / Networking events (I&C), 5) Dissemination activities (monthly newsletters) (C), 6) Inter-nationalisation (funding the participation in international conferences, workshops etc.)(C).

Suggested services provided by the MED Cluster potential can be the services that will be provide to the stakeholders during the implementation of the project.

France

The National Node in France will be supported and fully integrated to the Pôle Mer Méditerranée (PMM), a cluster established since 2005 and dedicated to the Blue Economy. The thematic of Maritime surveillance is covered under one specific strategic axis of the cluster and will be reinforced. In the frame of PROteuS, the Node will mainly focus on two domains: **Defence and Safety & Security** which have been identified of high interest in the Mediterranean context.

The launching event of the Node is planned on June 15, 2018 in PMM premises, where companies (large and SMEs), laboratories, universities and public actors will be invited to join officially the Node. A presentation of the large range of services available and opportunities in terms of knowledge, networking and visibility will be presented at this occasion. A presentation of EU calls dedicated to Maritime Surveillance is also planned with the participation of the National Contact Point official.

Greece

“In the framework of the PROteuS project, the Piraeus Port Authority SA will be implementing the Greek Node for Maritime Surveillance. **The Node will be centralized around Piraeus, location of PPA SA, but will cover the whole area of Greece.** The Node will be coordinated by PPA SA and will be under the scientific guidance of the University of the Aegean. Both organizations will be involved in the selection of the members and in the provision of the innovative services that are foreseen by PROteuS.

The vision of the Greek Node is to constitute a milestone network, eventually engaging all key players of the country, in order to boost the competitiveness of the national innovation ecosystem of the maritime sector and make an impact in Maritime Surveillance around the Mediterranean waters.”

Italy

Camera di Commercio Venezia Rovigo Delta-Lagunare and Liguria Ricerche have designed the original core of the Italian Node to create an environment for clustering **quadruple helix actors and fostering their innovation capacities in the domain of the Maritime Surveillance (MS) at transnational level,** by means of the participation to the MED MS Cluster.

During the launch phase the Node will have a supraregional coverage including the territories of Veneto and Liguria but is expected that it will gradually reach the national dimension. **The Italian Partners will share the Node coordination and involve Regione Liguria and Federazione del Mare, as Associated Partners, and thirty quadruple helix actors from public, research, and business sectors, with special attention to SMEs and large firms.**

To participate to the Node these actors have to be active in the MS: maritime safety and security, marine environment, border control, customs, fisheries control, general law enforcement and defence.

A rigid hull inflatable boat conducts search and rescue training along the coast of Spain



Portugal

The Division of Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer (CRIA) of the University of Algarve acts in the promotion of applied research and the development of innovative collaborative projects and products, allying University and Industry.

Crossing the University's anchor areas with the RIS3 Algarve priority sectors and the modus operandi of CRIA, Innovation Communities on Sea, Energy, and Technologies & Digital Applications were created, among others.

With the PROTEUS project, some of the work developed in the Innovation Communities, specifically on the Sea, and Technologies and Digital Applications will be continued and improved, through the National Node, which will also be connected to the Portuguese Sea cluster.

In a logic of optimization of synergies the Node Proteus will work together with other poles energized by two other INTERREG MED projects in the area of Marine Renewable Energies - PELAGOS and MAESTRALE, under the designation Blue Hub.

Initially, the Node will be essentially a non-formal working group, including researchers

Cyprian 460-SAR SQ Search and Rescue helicopter during Exercise

from UAlg, companies of the sector and representatives of regional entities, aimed at concrete results. Subsequently, and depending on the results achieved, a more formal structure could be considered. The launching event will be on June 2018.

Spain

The Spanish National Node of the PROteuS Project will be covering the Spanish Mediterranean area of Spain. The Node will encompass the regions of Andalusia, Murcia, Valencia, the Balearic Islands and Catalonia.

The Node will formally be enacted after signing a Partnership Agreement by the Chamber of Commerce of Seville, as coordinator of the Spanish Node, The Valenciaport Foundation, as the co-coordinator of the Node, the Maritime and Marine Cluster of Andalusia (CMMA) and the Murcia Maritime Cluster (Centro Tecnológico Naval y de Mar - CTN). All of them will contribute to the Node by attracting and recruiting potential members, as well as by promoting and disseminating the activities carried out by the Node.

Thus, the various companies from the Maritime Surveillance Sector will have the opportunity to be represented by the signing partners from their regions; all coordinated by the Chamber of Commerce of Seville, where the Node will be established officially ■



PROteuS Steering Committee meeting in Seville

PROteus Project partners gathered for the fourth Steering meeting Committee, on 1, 2 March 2018, in Seville, Spain.

The meeting took place at the Chamber of Commerce of Seville, and focused on the testing phase of the Mediterranean Maritime Surveillance cluster. This cluster intends to foster business opportunities and exploit the

market potential of the Maritime Surveillance industry in the Mediterranean.

The implementation of the cluster, consisting of six "national Nodes" (Cyprus, Spain, France, Greece, Italy and Portugal), will vary from Node to Node and will assume different forms of implementation, such as Partnership Agreements, Not for profit organizations and Specialized Workgroups ■



The meeting took place at the Chamber of Commerce of Seville, Spain

European Defense Fund: Call for projects 2018

Within the Research strand of the European Defence Fund, the Commission has earmarked 90 M€ for the Preparatory Action on Defence Research (PADR).

The PADR activities are run by the European Defence Agency (EDA) following the mandate of a Delegation Agreement between the Commission and EDA signed on 31st May 2017. By this agreement the Commission entrusts EDA with the management and implementation of the research projects to be launched within the PADR.

The total amount of the PADR 2018 calls for projects will be 39.9M € and will be used to finance three calls for projects on (i) the development of a system on a chip or a reconfigurable box for military purposes (12 € million); (ii) research on a high-power laser (5.4M €) and (iii) a coordination and support action for strategic technological forecasting (1.9M €). The closing date for applications is 26 June 2018 ■

More information about PADR [↗](#)
Call for project [↗](#)

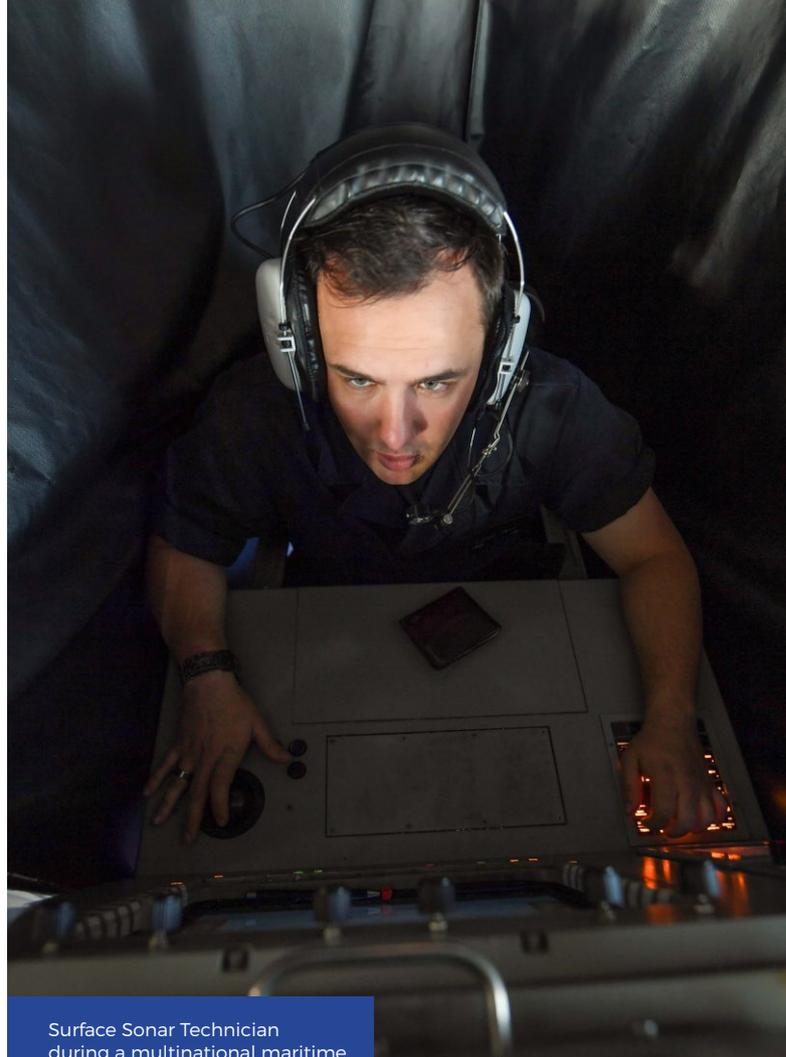
European Union Kicks off Maritime Defence Research Project

OCEAN2020's main objective is to support maritime surveillance and interdiction missions at sea. In this regard the project will integrate enhanced air, naval surface and underwater unmanned systems into fleet operations to build up a recognised maritime picture of developing situations for military commanders.

The project is run by a consortium led by Leonardo S.p.A, bringing together 42 partners from 15 EU countries. The total amount of the grant is €35.5 million funded by the European Union. During his opening address, Jorge Domecq, EDA Chief Executive stressed the importance of the project to demonstrate the importance of cooperative defence research for Europe.

"OCEAN2020 will make it possible to promote technological research in a sector of great interest and relevance for Europe and for the Mediterranean area in particular, such as maritime safety," said Alessandro Profumo, CEO of Leonardo.

The European Commission's proposal is aimed at providing the European Defence Fund with a budget of EUR 1.5 billion a year to develop cutting-edge defence technology and reduce dependence upon the United States for acquiring the latest weaponry.



Surface Sonar Technician during a multinational maritime exercise in the Mediterranean

The initiative is funded by the European Union and implemented by the European Defence Agency, the latter acting as contracting authority, under the 'Preparatory Action on Defence Research' programme ■

For more information visit www.eda.europa.eu

Call for proposals : "Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Call for proposals are open (closing June 20, 2018) for the second cycle of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

This second cycle is entitled 'Implementation of the new GES Decision and Programmes of Measures'. With a total amount of €5.2 million available for funding, there are hopes of several proposals receiving sufficient funding to further the significant research being carried out across Europe ■

For more information visit http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/msfd_2018.htm

Source: European Commission



European Forum on Defence and Dual Technologies for the protection of the maritime domain

The forum will take place in Toulon (France) on September 20-21, 2018

Toulon, France



The European Forum on Defence and Dual Technologies for the protection of the maritime domain is jointly organised by the European Commission and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region on May September 20-21, 2018 in Toulon (France). This high level event aims at promoting defence and dual use technologies in the maritime field. It will bring together high-level European defence and dual-use experts, public authorities, clusters, and companies (from primes to SMEs).

Mr. Roberto Sandrini who will represent the Chamber of Commerce of Venice, lead partner of PROTEUS project, has been invited to present the overall approach of the project and the implementation of the Mediterranean Cluster dedicated to Maritime Surveillance with panellist representing organisations as Frontex, The European Defence Agency and Thales Alenia Space.

The objectives of the event will be to:

- Raise awareness among public and private economic stakeholders about the potential of dual-use technologies for the European maritime sector;
- Present the opportunities for EU funding in the area of dual use and defence as well as cooperation between civil and military stakeholders;
- Foster development of interregional and European collaboration between maritime stakeholders, in particular between primes, clusters and SMEs ■

For more information visit <https://endrpaca2018.b2match.io>

World Ocean Summit: Sustainable Finance Principles launched to guide investments in the maritime economy

At the World Ocean Summit, that took place in Mexico, the European Commission launched a partnership with the European Investment Bank, the Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit and WWF Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles.

These are voluntary principles that will guide responsible investments to counter the many stresses that oceans are subject to, from overfishing and rising sea levels to plastic pollution.

Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Karmenu Vella said: "I am delighted to see the progress in the delivery of this important commitment made at the 2017 Our Ocean Conference hosted by the EU. The importance of having clear guidelines supporting the sustainable development of the blue economy is now widely recognised, and this is encouraging."

Today's launch is in line with the Commission's Sustainable Finance Action Plan, presented yesterday as part of the Capital Markets Union's efforts to connect

finance with the specific needs of the European economy to the benefit of the planet and our society. It is also one of the key steps towards implementing the historic Paris Agreement and the EU's agenda for sustainable development.

Earlier this year, the EU High-Level Expert Group on Sustainable Finance had recommended in its final report that the Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles be

adopted and implemented by the finance community. As a result, initial commitments have already been made by Althelia Ecosphere, Aviva Investors, the BPCE Group, Seventure Partners, Willis Towers Watson and the World Bank. In signing up, investors and organisations commit to mainstream these principles in all new investment decisions ■

Source: European Commission Maritime Affairs

President Enrique Peña Nieto shared four public policy recommendations to achieve better management of the seas and oceans



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<https://proteus.interreg-med.eu>

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