

## The new Atlantic Action Plan 2.0: opportunities and perspectives of cooperation in the Atlantic Area

Wednesday 26 May 2021, 10.00 – 12.00 CEST  
Videoconference

At a time of social and economic uncertainty and preparation of the next generation of EU-funded programmes to foster economic recovery, the Atlantic Strategy Committee (ASC) have worked to develop a revamped **Atlantic Action Plan** to give new impetus to the Atlantic maritime strategy. Based on four pillars (Ports as hub of Blue economy, skills and ocean literacy, marine renewable energies and resilient coasts), the Action Plan aims at reinforcing cooperation in this area and contributing to the European Green Deal, a socially inclusive model of sustainable development and job creation, while safeguarding marine and coastal environments and securing a healthy ocean. This event aims to highlight the lessons learnt from the past Atlantic Action Plan and other experiences of intergovernmental strategies and identify opportunities and challenges for an ambitious future for the Atlantic cooperation.

*Participants are kindly requested to register [HERE](#) to guarantee the access to the online meeting. The day of the conference, participants are kindly requested to connect at **9:50** to avoid delays.*

**9.50 - 10.00:** Connections and house rules – CPMR, Secretariat of the SEArca Intergroup

### **10:00 - 10:15: Opening speech**

- **MEP Manuel Pizarro**, SEArca Vice-Chair responsible for the Atlantic, member of PECH, S&D rapporteur of the PECH opinion on the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0
- **Dymphna Keogh**, Chair of the Atlantic Strategy Committee (ASC)
- **Charlina Vitcheva**, Director-General, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MARE), European Commission

### **10.20 – 10.45: Enhancing the Atlantic Research Alliance**

*Moderation by **MEP Grace O’Sullivan**, Member of the SEArca Intergroup, Greens/EFA rapporteur of the PECH opinion on the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0*

- The international dimension of Atlantic Strategy - **Elizabetta Balzi**, Head of the Healthy Oceans and Seas Unit, DG Research & Innovation
- A presentation of Atlantic Ambassadors
- Going further to foster Atlantic research – **Gesine Meissner**, Member of the Mission Starfish Board for Healthy Ocean, Seas, Coastal and Inland Waters

- **Respondent: MEP Pierre Karleskind**, Chair of the PECH Committee, SEArca Vice-Chair responsible for Marine and Maritime Research, rapporteur of the PECH opinion on the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0

## **10.50 – 11.20: The Atlantic sectors' perspectives on the Atlantic Strategy**

*Moderated by MEP Claudia Monteiro de Aguiar, SEArca Vice-Chair responsible for Outermost Regions*

- **Rémi Gruet**, CEO of **Ocean Energy Europe** – perspectives of the Atlantic Marine Renewable Energy sector
- **Liam Lacey**, Director of **IMDO** – presentation of AspBAN project on Atlantic Port Acceleration
- **CRPMEM Bretagne**, Regional Committee for Maritime fisheries in Brittany - **tbc**
- **Carlos Sainz Concha**, Director of Bahía de Santander - Ecotourism and Environmental Education
  - **Respondent: MEP Caroline Roose**, SEArca member

## **11.20 - 11.40: Governance models - Comparison and lessons learnt from other similar initiatives**

*Moderation by MEP Izaskun Bilbao, rapporteur of the TRAN opinion on the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0 - tbc*

- **Helena Vieira**, member of the **Atlantic Strategy Committee**: comparison of practices with the West Med Initiative
- **A (French) representative of the Alpine Macro-Region**: comparison of practices (governance involving regions, monitoring of projects) - **tbc**
- **Marian Elorza**, Secretary General for Foreign Affairs for Basque Country, Presidency of the CPMR Atlantic Arc Commission

## **11.45 - 12.00: Conclusions**

- **MEP Younous Omarjee**, President of the REGI Committee and SEArca member, rapporteur on the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0
- **Ricardo Serrão Santos**, Portuguese Minister of the Sea, Presidency of the EU Council, developing Atlantic projects in the field of Blue Economy