



EUROPEAN UNION

EU protects the Ocean

EU contribution to the One Ocean Summit, Brest, 9–11 February

February 2022
#EUGreenDeal

HEALTHIER, CLEANER AND SAFER OCEANS ARE AT THE HEART OF THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL AIMING TO BUILD A CLIMATE-NEUTRAL EU ECONOMY BY 2050 AND HALTING BIODIVERSITY LOSS.

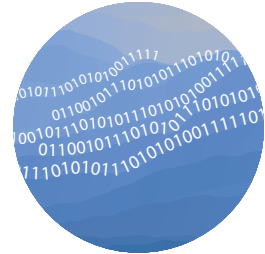
KEY INITIATIVES FOR JOINT COOPERATION ANNOUNCED AT THE SUMMIT



High Ambition Coalition on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)



Research Mission 'Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030'



European Digital Twin Ocean platform

EU'S ACTIONS AND INITIATIVES CONTRIBUTING TO GLOBAL OCEAN CONSERVATION

PRESERVING BIODIVERSITY

EU LAUNCHES HIGH-AMBITION COALITION ON HIGH SEAS

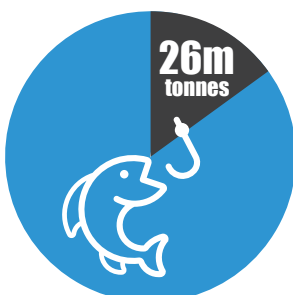
Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) areas constitute 95% of the ocean but are under threat by pollution, overexploitation, and climate change.

The Coalition brings together those who, like the EU and its Member States, strive for an ambitious UN Treaty on BBNJ conservation.



ZERO-TOLERANCE TOWARDS ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING

Up to 26 million tonnes of fish are caught illegally every year, corresponding to at least 15% of world catches and causing a threat to the ocean's biodiversity.



The EU:

- ensures compliance of its own fleet, relying on the support of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)
- prevents IUU products from entering its market
- works with countries worldwide to ensure compliance with international obligations against IUU fishing
- supports sustainable fisheries through funding programmes in West Africa, Indian Ocean and the Pacific

FIGHTING MARINE POLLUTION

DECREASING PLASTIC POLLUTION AND ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY



25m tonnes
plastic waste
per year



The EU:

- phases out plastic items most frequently found on European beaches
- works to increase recycling capacity, reduce waste and plastic litter at sea by 50% and reduce release of microplastics into nature by 30%
- aims to secure an international agreement on plastics
- raises awareness with #EUBeachCleanup, a joint EU-UN ocean-activism campaign

AN OCEAN OF SOLUTIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Maritime transport is the backbone of global trade and supply chains, but the sector still relies on highly polluting and carbon-intensive fuels.

The EU:

- introduces a fuel standard limiting their greenhouse gas intensity
- mandates the electrification of major EU ports (TEN-T network)
- extends EU Emission Trading System (ETS) to cover emissions from shipping
- leads negotiations at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for zero-emission shipping by 2050



OCEAN GOVERNANCE

PUTTING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AT THE HEART OF OCEAN PRESERVATION

The Mission 'Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030' aims to deliver on the European Green Deal by restoring ecosystems and biodiversity, eliminating pollution, and making the blue economy carbon-neutral and circular.

The EU:

- supports 'lighthouse' research projects that aim at: protecting 30% of the EU's sea area; restoring marine ecosystem; halving sea plastic litter; halving the use of chemical pesticides; and reducing nutrient losses
- launches the European Digital Twin Ocean platform. The platform will develop an advanced computing environment, based on observations, models and the latest technology to allow for better understanding of the marine environment and assessment of situation scenarios, providing knowledge-based input available to all.

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2022

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ISBN 978-92-76-47522-4 doi:10.2771/409897 KL-07-22-053-EN-N

