

Navigating Success



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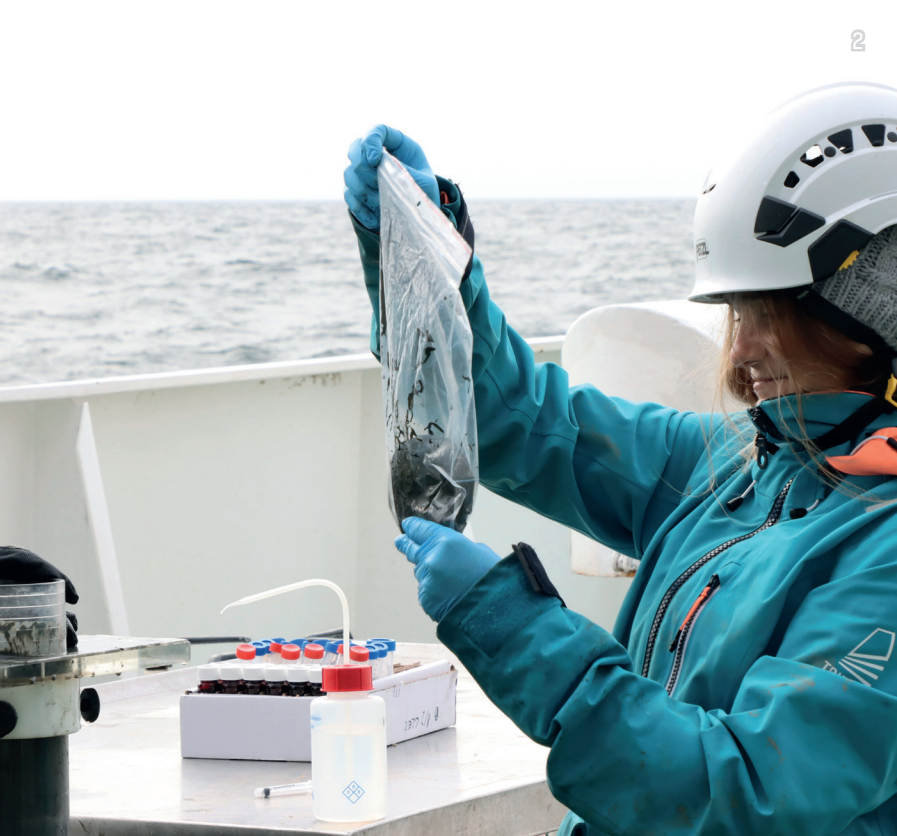
Eurofleets⁺

An alliance of European marine research infrastructure
to meet the evolving needs of the research and industrial communities

Exploring Oceans Together: Unlocking European Research Vessels through Transnational Access Funding

Evolution of EUROFLEETS

EUROFLEETS	2009–2013	18 European research vessels (5 global, 13 regional)	176 ship-time funded days
EUROFLEETS2	2013–2017	22 European research vessels (8 global, 14 regional)	233 ship-time funded days
EUROFLEETS+	2019–2023	27 European and international research vessels	268 ship-time funded day



The Eurofleets+ project facilitated open access to an integrated and advanced research vessel fleet, designed to meet the evolving and challenging needs of the user community:

THREE ACCESS PROGRAMS WERE LAUNCHED IN EUROFLEETS+

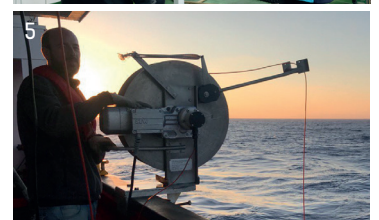
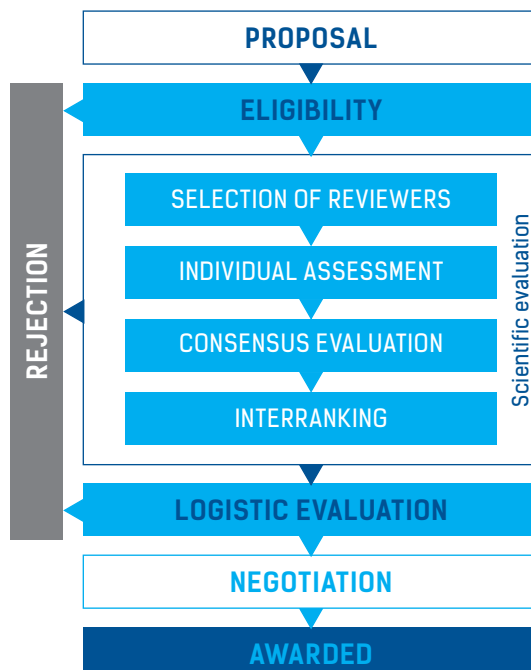
- 1) Ship-time and Marine Equipment Application (SEA Programme) for access to vessels and marine equipment through a full competitive ship-time application process for which there was two calls, to access Ocean and Regional Vessels.
- 2) Co-PI programme specifically aimed at early career researchers to implement their own research together with experienced scientists during Eurofleets+ scheduled cruises.
- 3) Remote Transnational Access (RTA programme) to provide researchers with remote access to samples or data from a Eurofleets + fleet vessel.

STREAMLINING SUCCESS: The Proven Model of EUROFLEETS' Integrated Proposal Evaluation System

By leveraging successful practices from existing systems, Eurofleets ensures that only excellent proposals are awarded valuable time on-board research vessels.

Tailored Evaluation Criteria: Our refined approach ensures fairness, accuracy, and efficiency in assessing research proposals.

Multinational review panels: providing diverse perspectives, expertise, and unbiased assessment, ensuring a fair and comprehensive evaluation of proposals.



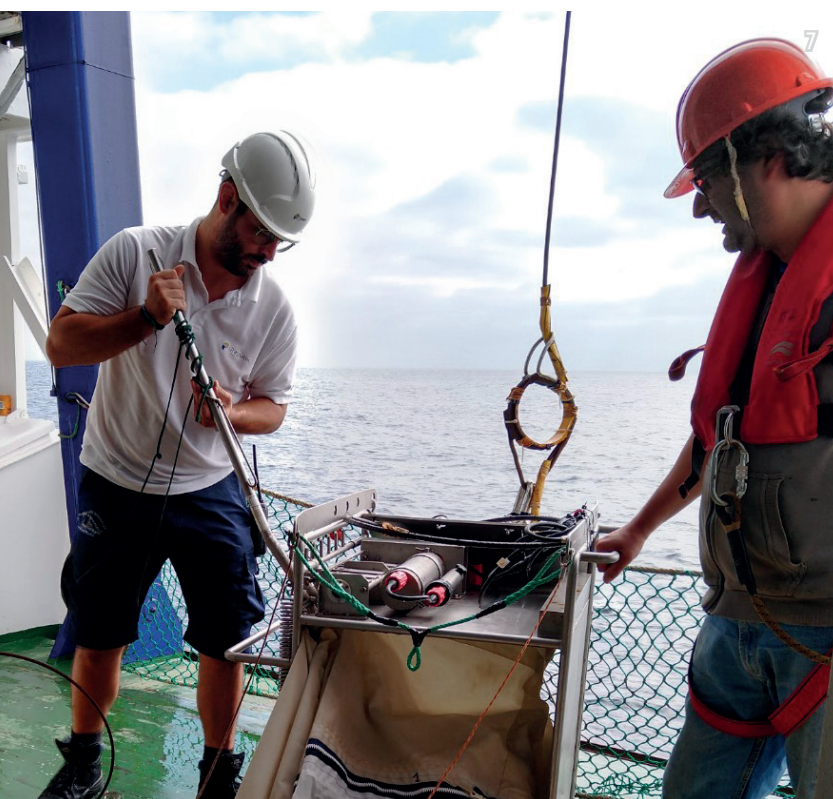
Nurturing the Future of Marine Science: Successfully Training the Next Generation of Marine Scientists

The Eurofleets+ Education and Training program offered training activities to early career technicians, marine scientists and (future) Research Infrastructure managers and contributed towards the objective of Building a Career in Blue Growth.

- **Six Floating Universities:** A series of ship-based training initiatives in marine-related sciences areas such as scientific instrumentation, the collection, and processing of samples, data analysis, quality control, and processing.
- **Seven Blue Skill LABS:** dedicated training courses to enable the next generation of marine researchers to fully utilize the possibilities offered by scientific instrumentation onboard European research vessels
- **Marine Internship Program:** offered seagoing placements for students or technicians of marine related sciences and technologies on the Eurofleets+ partner research vessels, utilising spare berths.



The project's outstanding efforts have resulted in providing training opportunities to 86 individuals from 28 different nationalities, fostering a diverse and thriving community of marine scientists and researchers. Together, we strive to build a brighter and sustainable future in the realm of marine exploration and innovation.



Unveiling the Eurofleets+ Ocean Classroom Portal

The Eurofleets+ Ocean Classroom Portal is an enriching online ocean literacy resource developed and launched in May 2020. This dynamic platform hosts a range of innovative multimedia and digital resources specially curated for training activities.

Experience the interactive and engaging content by visiting our integrated project website at:

<https://www.eurofleets.eu/classroom>

Enhancing Capacity through On-Board Collaboration: Eurofleets+’ Impact on Marine Science

Eurofleets+’ Calls attracted great interest from the scientific community, resulting in 69 proposals involving 473 partners from 64 nationalities

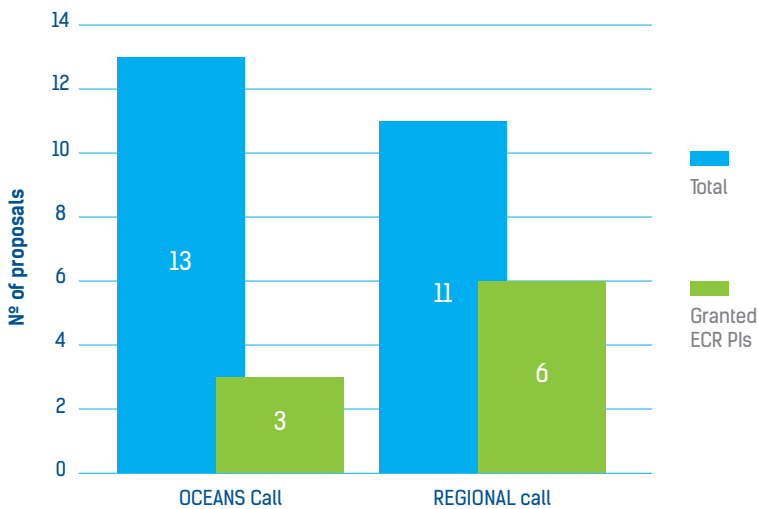
THE 28 FUNDED SCIENTIFIC CAMPAIGNS GATHERED

- 3 to 4 nationalities per cruise, 33 nationalities in total
- 315 participants
- Embarked scientific parties included 144 early career scientists and included 9 early career PIs

MAIN SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES



ON BOARD TEAMS COMPOSITIONS



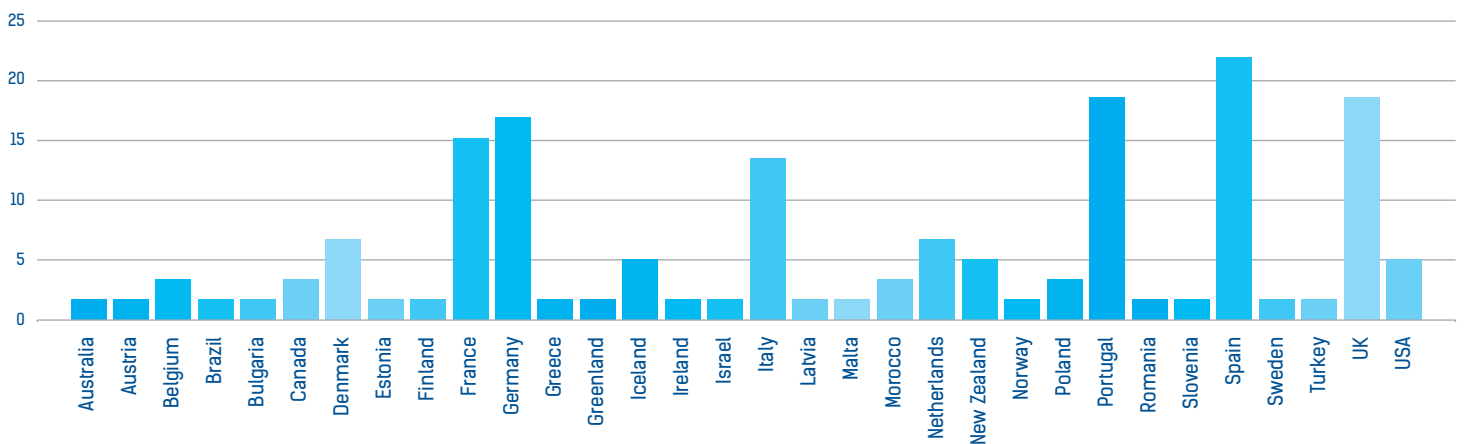
Connecting with the World: Live Ship-to-Shore Broadcasts

Eurofleets+ embraced the power of live ship-to-shore broadcasts to engage with a global audience and share the wonders of marine research. Our interactive sessions facilitated direct communication between scientists on board and viewers from around the world, fostering knowledge exchange and sparking curiosity.

28 Funded Scientific Campaigns: Unleashing Innovation During 268 Days at Sea with Eurofleets+



NATIONALITIES OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE EUROFLEETS+ CRUISES





Vessel/ Infrastructure	Cruise Name	Funded Days	Scientific Disciplines	Geographical Area	Principal Investigator Country
UGOT Hugin AUV	Focus-AUV	29	Geology, Marine Biology, Sedimentology	Kaikōura Canyon, New Zealand	New Zealand
Celtic Explorer	PORO-CLIM	13	Climate dynamics, Geophysics, Sedimentology, Training	NE Atlantic (S Rockall Plateau; Eriador Seamount; Porcupine Basin & Ridge; East Thulean Rise)	United Kingdom
Pelagia	iMAR	17	Biological Oceanography, Geology, New technologies	Mid-Atlantic Ridge inside the Portuguese EEZ of the Azores	Portugal
DANA	GSHARK	7	Marine Biology	Bredefjord, Greenland. Easily accessible (embark/disembark) from Narsaq, Greenland	United States of America
GO Sars_ROV Aegir	BENCHMARK	10	Marine Biology, Physical Oceanography	Denmark Strait, between 64 and 68.5°N	Iceland
Tubitak Marmara	PHYCOB	7	Biological Oceanography	Western Black Sea	Germany
Aegeo	MYRTOON	10	Climate dynamics	Eastern Mediterranean, SW Aegean Sea, Myrtoon Basin	Germany
SOCIB	GRASSMAP	7	New technologies, Marine Biology	Mallorca and Cabrera islands	United Kingdom
Pelagia	CALYPSO	17	Physical Oceanography	Alboran or Balearic sea	United States of America
Aranda	CABLE	8	Biological Oceanography	Gulf of Finland, Baltic Proper	Estonia
Aranda	DOMUSe (Co-PI on CABLE)	1	Biogeochemistry, biological oceanography	Gotland Deep Baltic Sea	Poland
Belgica_AUV Barabas	GRACE	11	Geology Geophysics Physical Oceanography Sedimentology	Ceuta Canyon and adjacent areas (West Moroccan Mediterranean margin)	Spain
Belgica_AUV Barabas	SEAQUAKE (Co-PI on GRACE)	3	Geology, Geophysics, New Technologies, Sedimentology	Ceuta Canyon and adjacent areas (West Moroccan Mediterranean margin)	Spain
Belgica	TAIPro2022	10	Physical Oceanography	Algero-Provencal Basin, Sicily Channel, Tyrrhenian Sea, Ligurian Sea	Italy
Belgica	IsoMed (RTA TAIPro2022)	RTA	Biological Oceanography	Tyrrhenian Sea	Italy
Arni Friedrikson	SENERGY	8	Marine Biology	North Western Iceland	United Kingdom
Sanna	IOPD	12	Biogeochemistry, Climate dynamics, New technologies, Marine Biology Polar Biology, Training	Godhabfjord, Ameralik (fjord and the shelf area connecting these fjords in Nuuk, Greenland)	Belgium
Atlantic Explorer	FIGURE	8	Biological Oceanography, Biogeochemistry, Microbiology, Physical Oceanography	Gulf Stream (NW Atlantic)	France
Atlantic Explorer	CARING (Co-PI on FIGURE)	2	Biological Oceanography, Biogeochemistry, Microbiology, Physical Oceanography	Gulf Stream (NW Atlantic)	France
Ramon Margalef	CARBO-ACID	10	Biogeochemistry, Marine Chemistry, Physical Oceanography	Iberian margin	Portugal
Sanna	GLICE	14	Biological Oceanography, Biogeochemistry, Physical Oceanography	Disco Bay, West Greenland coastline	Germany
Sarmiento de Gamboa	SINES	9	Biogeochemistry	Northeast Atlantic, Western Iberian Margin	Portugal
RV Tangaroa	HYDEE-OBS	8	Geophysics	Hikurangi Margin, North Island, New Zealand	Germany
RV Tangaroa	VISIT	12	Geophysics	East coast of North Island, New Zealand	United Kingdom
RV Pelagia_ROV MAX Rover	OASIS	12	Geology New technologies, Marine Biology, Physical Oceanography	SE Alboran Sea (W Mediterranean)	Spain
RV Pelagia_ROV MAX Rover	UNSEEN (Co-PI on OASIS cruise)	1	Biological Oceanography, Pollutants or aerosols, Sedimentology	SE Alboran Sea (W Mediterranean)	Italy
RV Laura Bassi	POSEIDON	10	Geophysics	Ionian Islands	Spain
RV Aegeo_ROV Max Rover_AUV Barabas	ERODOTO	12	Deep Sea Research, Geology, Geophysics	Squillace Canyon, Italy	Italy

Advancing Marine Research Through Eurofleets+ Joint Activities

Eurofleets+ is at the forefront of advancing marine research through a series of dynamic joint activities, driving innovation and collaboration in the scientific community. Our key endeavors include:

1) Advancing Data Management Processes:

Implementing an active open data management strategy and adopting SeaDataNet standards, we ensure seamless capture, transmission, and publication of crucial information about cruises, data collection, and involved researchers. The EVIOR portal, a vital part of the Eurofleets+ website, along with larger community SeaDataNet and EMODnet portals, facilitate comprehensive data dissemination. Enhancing shipboard data management systems, real-time data transfer, and the EVIOR portal's functionalities empower researchers with unique cloud computing and analytical technologies.

2) Investigating Deep Sea Operations Equipment and Rigs:

The exploration of the deep sea is an exciting frontier in marine research, and Eurofleets+ takes on the challenge by investigating and developing equipment and rigs for deep sea operations from vessels. Ensuring interoperability of rigs to deploy different equipment, facilitating sharing and installation of equipment across ships, and enabling installation of mobile equipment are all crucial components of our efforts.

3) Developing Intelligent Exploration and Mapping Strategies:

Eurofleets+ delves into innovative methods and strategies for intelligent exploration, mapping, and control through cooperative navigation. We focus on the development of cutting-edge technologies for Autonomous Surface Vehicles (ASVs) and Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (ASVs). By validating these innovations before field testing during operational cruises, we ensure efficient and effective exploration and mapping efforts.

Through these joint activities, Eurofleets+ propels marine research to new heights, driving progress and discoveries that contribute to the sustainable development of our oceanic realm.



Explore the EVIOR Platform: Your Gateway to Marine Research Insights



The EVIOR platform stands as a pioneering hub for marine research, continuously evolving to provide up-to-date and comprehensive information about research vessels (RV), cruise programs, completed expeditions, and cruise tracks. By granting e-access to underway and operational data from sailing research vessels, Eurofleets+ ensures transparency and real-time insights of Eurofleets+ funded cruises.

Key Features of the EVIOR Platform:

- **Dynamic Information Repository:** Discover a wealth of knowledge about research vessels, cruise programs, and completed expeditions, all conveniently accessible in one centralized platform.
- **Real-time Operational Data:** Gain a firsthand understanding of research vessels' underway operations and obtain valuable insights from sailing research expeditions, where possible.
- **Public Access to Research Data Sets:** As research teams collect and process data during Eurofleets+ funded cruises, the platform ensures later discovery and public access to these invaluable research datasets, fostering open collaboration and scientific advancements.

Visit the platform at: <https://evior.eurofleets.eu/>

The Future of Eurofleets+: Navigating New Horizons

Eurofleets' remarkable impact in marine research continues to resonate, igniting a passion for exploration and discovery. Building upon the achievements of Eurofleets projects, the consortium envisions a new era of sustainable collaboration beyond the project's lifetime. The ambitious goal is to establish EUROFLEETS Research Infrastructure, an AISBL (Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif), to formalize and enhance the coordination and utilization of European-funded research vessel activities on a pan-European level.

EUROFLEETS RI will serve as the gateway to world-class marine infrastructures, facilitating excellent research for the benefit of healthy oceans and fostering cooperation in technical development and knowledge sharing in RV operations and management. A roadmap will guide the continued integration and advancement of the European RV fleet.

The exciting design phase of EUROFLEETS RI will continue after the EUROFLEETS+ project (October 2023), setting its sights on operational readiness and launching the first EUROFLEETS RI Transnational Access call program by January 2025.

EUROFLEETS RI is steadfast in its commitment to providing essential Transnational Access programs, extending access to its members' infrastructures for researchers and scientists into the future through funding initiatives like Horizon Europe. Collaborating with the European Commission, EUROFLEETS RI seeks to develop long-term sustainable funding support programs, ensuring planned access to our precious seas and oceans, encompassing access, training, and data provision. Together, we embark on a transformative journey, unlocking the potential of marine research and embracing the boundless opportunities that lie ahead in the pursuit of knowledge and a thriving Blue Planet.



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