

# AZORES

## DEEPER THAN BLUE UNVEILING THE INNER OCEAN

### BRIEF

The deep ocean is the last frontier on Earth. Only a very small part has been directly and effectively observed from the scientific point of view. Mapping of the seafloor is also far behind the resolution that is required.

However, it must be acknowledged that scientific and technological progress in deep-sea studies has been very relevant during the last decades in these fields where international cooperation is fundamental.

In the Atlantic Ocean, one of the best-studied deep-sea regions is the Azores Triple Junction and surrounding platform. This area is considered a hotspot of biodiversity, biogeochemical and oceanographic processes.

The Azores Sea has been along the years, the focus of interest and involvement of scientists and institutions. This enabled the development of international multidisciplinary partnerships to study geology, ecology, biology, biotechnology, engineering and associated technology. The Azores Academy has itself a well-established body of scientists, technicians and laboratories that enable and cultivate national and international cooperation.

The Government of the Azores has been creating laws and guidelines based on the scientific advice, especially in what regards the protection of deep-sea habitats and biodiversity. The Azores Outermost Region of Europe became a pioneer at world level.

This event intends to introduce the work carried out in different areas of knowledge in the study of the deep-sea in the Azores by scientists and engineers during the last decades.



**EXHIBITION**  
June 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> / Bar Area 3D

**WORKSHOP**  
June 7<sup>th</sup> / Room ASP 3E2  
14:00 - 16:30

Hosted and Organised by  
**MEP Ricardo SERRÃO SANTOS**



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## DEEPER THAN BLUE

### UNVEILING THE INNER OCEAN



## Workshop Agenda

### 14:00 - Welcome and Introductory remarks

MEP Ricardo Serrão Santos

### 14:05 - Panel 1 - The Deep-sea environment (moderator: Filipe Mora Porteiro, *Director for Sea Affairs - Government of the Azores*)

14:05 - Azores deep-sea

Ana Colaço, *University of the Azores*

14:15 - Deep-sea Biodiversity - the sedimentary realm

Ann Vanreusel, *University of Gent*

14:25 - The great largeness of the seafloor

Pedro Madureira, *Portuguese Task Group for the Extension of the Continental Shelf*

14:35 - Geodiversity of the deep-sea

Fernando Barriga, *University of Lisbon*

14:45 - Are we contaminating the deep-sea?

Maria João Bebianno, *University of Algarve*

14:55 - Deep-sea Research

Kate Larkin, *European Marine Board*

15:05 - Comments by MEP Gesine Meissner

### 15:15 - Panel 2 - Deep-sea technology and the Law (moderator: Ana Teresa Caetano, *General-Directorate of Research*)

15:15 - Deep-sea Observatories

Miguel Miranda, *Portuguese Institute for Sea and Atmosphere*

15:25 - Science and Research Platforms

Luís Menezes Pinheiro, *University of Aveiro*

15:35 - The Azores Marine Environment: hotspot of engineering advances

António Pascoal, *Superior Technical Institute*

15:45 - Deep-blue biotechnology

Raul Bettencourt, *University of Minho*

15:55 - Deep-sea and the Law of the Sea

Marta Chantal Ribeiro, *University of Porto*

16:05 - Comments by MEP Marisa Matias

### 16:15 - Key Note Advice

Gui Menezes, *Secretary for Sea, Science and Technology - Government of the Azores*



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