

COLUMBUS European Parliament Event 2018

“Accelerating Blue Growth through Marine and Maritime Knowledge Transfer”

Hosted by

Ricardo Serrão Santos MEP

**Chair of the “Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services” Working Group of the EP Intergroup on
“Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development”**

Wednesday 22 February 2018

13:00 – 16:00

Room A3H1, European Parliament

DRAFT AGENDA

The [COLUMBUS project](#), funded by Horizon2020, demonstrates how it is possible to capitalise on the European Commission’s significant investment in marine and maritime research by ensuring accessibility and uptake of research Knowledge Outputs by end-users such as policy, industry, science and wider society. The project began in March 2015 and will come to an end in February 2018 by organising its final event in the Parliament.

The objective is to reflect on the lessons learned in the H2020 COLUMBUS project in relation to stepping up Knowledge Transfer from European funded research and innovation projects in the marine and maritime sphere. This will be achieved by demonstrating, through a number of showcases, all the steps required for successful Knowledge Transfer. Moreover, examples of bodies implementing successful Knowledge Transfer systems will be provided. In addition, the event will underline the advantages of a more proactive approach for Knowledge Transfer, supported by the appropriate resources throughout the process from funding and proposal evaluation to the research implementation and industry involvement.

The event will gather involved partners such as the European Commission, Member States, industry, the scientific community, NGOs, and civil society to share their views and further discuss with policy-makers the results and guidelines moving forward.



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13:00 – 13:20 *Sandwich Lunch*

Welcome and Introduction

A high-level overview on exploitation of results and on the COLUMBUS project activities and outcomes to date.

13:20 Welcome and opening

MEP Ricardo Serrão Santos, Member of the PECH Committee, Vice-Chair of the EP Intergroup on CCBSD

13:30 Dissemination and Exploitation of Results in Horizon 2020

Sigi Gruber, Head of Marine Resources Unit, European Commission DG RTD, Belgium

13:40 Introduction to COLUMBUS and Overview of COLUMBUS' Knowledge Transfer Activities

David Murphy; COLUMBUS Strategic and Operational Leader, Manager, AquaTT, Ireland

Session 1: COLUMBUS Project Achievements

Flash presentations of a number of COLUMBUS Knowledge Transfer success stories, and relevance of facilitating access to information on project results.

Chaired by MEP Gesine Meissner

Member of the TRAN Committee and Substitute of the ITRE Committee, Chair of the Intergroup SEARICA

13:50 DEVOTES – Innovative Tools to Support Quality Environmental Impacts Assessments in Marine Environments

Ángel Borja, DEVOTES project Coordinator, AZTI-Technalia, Spain and Winner of the COLUMBUS Blue Society Award for Impactful knowledge Transfer

Rosa Fernandez, COLUMBUS Knowledge Analysis WP Leader and Representative of the Marine Governance & Management Node, CETMAR, Spain

14:00 SEABIOPLAS – Exploring the Use of Seaweed-Derived Biopolymers in Biomedical Technology

Julie Maguire, SEABIOPLAS project Coordinator, Bantry Marine Research Station, Ireland - TBC
Cliona Ni Cheallacháin, COLUMBUS Operational Leader, AquaTT, Ireland

14:10 LEANWIND – Reference Turbine Overcomes Bottleneck in Offshore Wind Development

Jennifer Fox, COLUMBUS Marine Physical Resources Node Fellow, Aquatera, Scotland

14:20 Making Publicly Funded Research Results Widely Accessible

Ned Dwyer, COLUMBUS Knowledge Collection WP Leader, Executive-Director, EurOcean, Portugal

Session 2: COLUMBUS Project – Lessons Learned and Possible Ways Forward

A number of COLUMBUS' insights and lessons learned regarding Knowledge Transfer to achieving impact in the research system will be presented. Perspectives of a Funding Agency and a Research Institution underlining the advantages of a more proactive approach will be presented to support discussions on possible way forward.

Chaired by MEP Miapetra Kumpula-Natri

Member of the ITRE Committee, Vice-Chair of the EP Intergroup CCBSD

14:30 COLUMBUS Knowledge Transfer Experience and Insights

David Murphy; COLUMBUS Strategic and Operational Leader, Manager, AquaTT, Ireland

14:40 The "BONUS" Case

Kaisa Kononen; Executive-Director, BONUS Baltic Organisations Network for Funding Science EEIG, Finland

14:50 Promoting Excellence through enhancing links between researchers and external organisation (provisional title)

Simon Gerrard, Industry Liaison Manager, Southampton Marine and Maritime Institute, University of Southampton; United Kingdom

Session 3: Towards an Action Plan for Embedding Knowledge Transfer - Round Table Discussion

COLUMBUS is one of many strategic actions supported by the European Commission to help achieve impact from its research investments. Reflecting on the day and their own experiences, the high-level Panel will discuss what potential actions should be carried out going forward.

15:00 Panel: What strategic actions are needed to further optimise the research system?

Facilitator - Tina Mertens, Assistant Director, VLIZ

Jacky Wood, Acting Executive Director, JPI Oceans

Damien Périssé; Director for Maritime Affairs, CPMR Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, Belgium

Patrizio Mariani; Steering Committee Chair, Euromarine Network

Sheila Heymans, Executive Director, European Marine Board

Niels Rytter, Associated Professor at Department of Materials and Manufacturing Aalborg University Copenhagen; Director of LinerGame

15:45 Commitments and Closing Remarks

An opportunity for participants to voice their commitment to taking action towards adopting Knowledge Transfer in their own activities.

16:00 Close of Meeting
