



*3rd MEDMEP Session
October 2019 - Nicosia, Cyprus*

Preparation Module | ECON (ENVI) Committee

Honourable delegates of the Model European Parliament 2019,

Congratulations on being selected to represent your assigned country during the MED MEP REGIONAL SESSION / NICOSIA 2019 and welcome to the Committee on Economic Affairs! From now on, you are part and parcel of a huge network of great people. It is our great pleasure to have the feasibility to be working with you as a member of our Committee.

Greater things are awaiting you!

As a member of the ECON, you are facing the question of the development of the Blue Economy. To ensure that you are fully read in on the subject, we will provide a brief summary of the topic at hand, some knowledge points concerning background information about the issue and some useful links. We strongly recommend you to not limit your investigation to this given information and to take any other documents that you think can be of value, as long as you are sure of their reliability. Try to get as comprehensive an understanding of the subject as possible.

The sea as an opportunity for the EU

The sea is considered an opportunity of economic growth for the EU since it provides millions of jobs and added value worth hundreds of billions of euros. What are possible instruments and actions for further development of the Blue Economy concerning sustainable economy, transport, trade, tourism, ports and fishing?

Brief Topic Summary

According to OECD projections, by 2030, the 'Blue Economy' — defined as all economic sectors which have a direct or indirect link to the ocean — could outperform the growth of the global economy as a whole, both in terms of value added and employment. In the coming decade, marine energy, marine biotechnology, coastal tourism, transport and food production sectors could offer unprecedented development and investment opportunities. However, there is increasing evidence that losses in the ocean's natural capital resulting from unsustainable economic activity are eroding the resource base on which such growth depends. The ocean economy's long-term potential in terms of growth and job creation cannot be fully realised unless more effective steps are taken to improve integrated ocean management -- including ecosystem preservation -- at local, regional, national and international level. That, in turn, will require significant progress in innovation and new thinking in many areas – in science, technology, R&D, manufacturing, infrastructural design, consultation and decision-making processes, institutional co-operation, and last but not



least, in the policy mix that governments implement to support and encourage innovative capacity in the ocean economy more broadly.

Knowledge points

The following are some general knowledge points that you should know and investigate about (where possible from the frame of reference of your country) before the debate sessions begin (some of the information is provided in the separate fact sheet document or in the links):

- Current EU policy on the blue economy
- Main stakeholders involved and their goals
- The three components of the current EU Blue Growth strategy
- Previous actions concerning the blue economy taken by the European Union, since, but not limited to, the point where they adopted the Joint Communication on international ocean governance
- The international ocean governance agenda for the future
- Recent development of underlying issues and threats

Moreover, you should prepare the following more specific points regarding each of the countries you are representing:

- Your position on the development of the blue economy
- Recent action taken by your country
- Relations with other countries and the EU
- The political and economic situation of your country
- General information on the history of your country (especially in matters related to the blue economy)

Preparation links

Homepage of the European Commission's Maritime Affairs

- https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/home_en

Homepage of The Blue Economy

- <https://www.theblueeconomy.org/>

Introducing the sustainable blue economy finance principles

- https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/sites/maritimeaffairs/files/introducing-sustainable-blue-economy-finance-principles_en.pdf

Declaration of the sustainable blue economy finance principles

- https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/sites/maritimeaffairs/files/declaration-sustainable-blue-economy-finance-principles_en.pdf

Summary of 'The Ocean Economy in 2030'

- <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/16e4aefb-en.pdf?expires=1543753332&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=480252F4108DEE6E75F1134CC997D87F>



The Potential of the Blue Economy - United Nations

- https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15434Blue_EconomyJun1.pdf

Blue Economy Development Framework

- <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/446441473349079068/AMCOECC-Blue-Economy-Development-Framework.pdf>

Europe 2020 strategy

- https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/economic-and-fiscal-policy-coordination/eu-economic-governance-monitoring-prevention-correction/european-semester/framework/europe-2020-strategy_en

Sustainable blue economy reports

- http://wwf.panda.org/our_work/oceans/publications/sustainable_blue_economy_reports.cfm

Catch shares

- <https://www.edf.org/oceans/how-catch-shares-work-promising-solution>