SEA-EU

The latest news from the European University of the Seas and its Associated Partners

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Editorial.

It's almost Christmas, and almost the end of the year 2020. And what a year it has been. Lockdowns, frustrations, dashed projects and cancelled trips... It is a strange time to be welcoming readers to the SEA-EU Alliance - The European University of the Seas. I am delighted and honoured to be writing these few words of welcome in this, our first Newsletter. I warmly invite you to read its contents and gather some inspiration for your ideas, some insights into our activities, and some sense of our joint optimism and hope for what should be a better new year 2021! The SEA-EU competitive advantage lies at least in two main departments. The first is the connection to the sea. The aquatic medium that girdles our blue planet deserves ever stronger recognition: it holds the keys to our sustainable future; its health is our health; its resources the futures of our diets and industries; its medium a space for our leisure and entertainment, and a draw for tourism. SEA-EU is an alliance of coastal universities - Cadiz (Spain), Western Brittany (France), Kiel (Germany), Gdansk (Poland), Split (Croatia) and Malta (Malta) - each of which is nested in coastal communities and regions. So: we are using our natural disposition to work in, by, with and alongside the sea to cascade knowledge, expertise, skills and initiatives throughout the alliance. The second is our understanding that the soft and human side of communicating and reaching out is just as powerful as academic scholarship and research work. We are focusing on building value added in the usual ways that a university is expected to: study units, courses, programmes, funded research projects, publications in peer reviewed journals . . . But we are also going beyond, creatively thinking up myriad ways of interacting with multiple audiences. Starting with our fantastic students, who give purpose to our mission as educators; but extending to our communities, our industrial stakeholders, to civil society and to local, regional and central government beyond. SEA-EU is active, dynamic, entrepreneurial. Covid-19 will not stop us; indeed, it has forced us to be even more imaginative and smart in how we disseminate our messages and news. Hence our photo contests, our engagement with popular science events, our outreach with key players in the marine and maritime sectors, and now this, the first in a series of newsletters that will keep you updated on what is going on. On behalf of SEA-EU, I welcome you to read on; and let us know what you think about this Newsletter and its contents by contacting our indefatigable Irene in Cadiz on: localmanager.seaeu@uca.es
Gracias / Merci / Danke / Dziękuję Ci / Hvala vam /Grazzi - THANK YOU
Professor Godfrey Baldacchino Chair, Identity Subcommittee, SEA-EU Alliance

SEA-EU DOC & reSEArchEU, nested success.

Long-term sustainability is strengthened thanks to two successes in European calls. ReSEArchEU is a H2020 project that aims to reinforce the research and innovation strategy of the SEA-EU alliance, linked to the territories and from a sustainable perspective. Over the next three years, ReSEArch-EU will develop a series of tasks aimed, among other things, at the development of a joint research plan, the generation of open science platforms and joint databases. SEA-EU-DOC is an Erasmus + strategic partnerships project for higher education, focused on doctoral studies in marine, maritime and coastal sciences. This project aims to expand employment opportunities for doctors in the particular context of marine-maritime disciplines.

SEA-EU DOC Kick-off

A kick-off meeting for the SEA-EU DOC was held virtually on 12 November 2020, where key individuals from the six participating universities convened to discuss the next steps for the 3-year project funded by the European Commission (Erasmus+) and led by the University of Western Brittany. The meeting looked at the suitability of the training of doctoral students with research topics that delve into marine and maritime issues: from archaeology to engineering. Skill competence, industry alignment, job prospects and entrepreneurship of these eventual graduates are some of the key benchmarks being explored. The focus is timely because many graduates with a PhD these days do not necessarily find themselves employed with universities – as used to be more common in the recent past. [read more]

Álvaro Burgos

A currency as old as time, which keeps connecting people together in new ways.

Salt: a word which carries many, and mainly positive, connotations. Read the article prepared in collaboration between the SEA-EU Identity sub-committee, UM SEA-EU team and UM Communication's Office. Read it here.

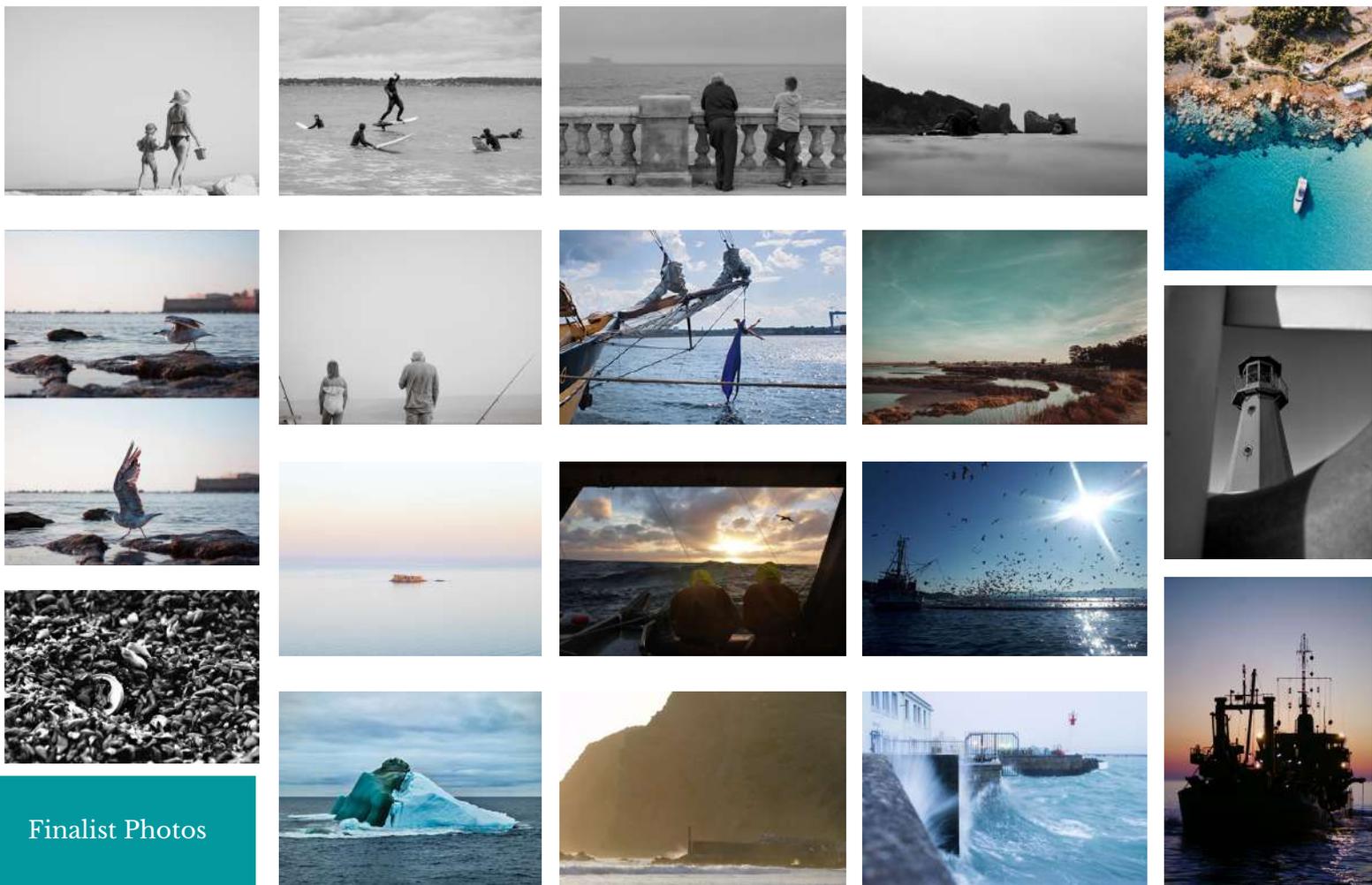Photo of the salt bags prepared by UM as promotional material

SEA-EU photo competition: "The Sea and Us"

During the past month of November the local voting of the photographic contest organized by SEA-EU took place. Of more than 200 participating images, 18 have passed to a European phase that will take place during December. The public vote will be made through Instagram (@seaeualliance) and will count 40%, while 60% will correspond to an international professional jury.

The 17 student authors of the photographs have received their corresponding awards at their home universities and will be eligible for a final prize, which will consist of an Interrail pass to travel through Europe.

The photographs and the names of their authors are published on our website and social networks.

Photo: Ceremony at the University of Malta

Finalist Photos

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