
SEArice event on Ports as hubs of the Blue Economy

Hosted by **MEP Deirdre Clune**, SEArice Vice-Chair for the Atlantic

Organised with the support of the [Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions](#)

Tuesday 27 June 2023 – 15.00-17.00

European Parliament, ANTALL 6Q1, Brussels

In 2021, the European Commission published its Communication on the Sustainable Blue Economy and its TEN-T proposal, which established both the funding priorities and the transport infrastructure standards within the European Union for the years to come. Both pieces of legislation have the merit of supporting ports as prominent infrastructure for the sustainable future of the EU, both in terms of greening maritime transport and having a role as hubs of the sustainable blue economy.

In this context, the seminar will assess how the two pieces of legislation are sufficient to support ports of all sizes to engage in the green transition and become hubs of the sustainable blue economy.

With this event, SEArice aims to discuss the role of ports beyond transshipment, taking the example of the “[Atlantic Smart Port Blue Acceleration Network](#)” project (AspBAN), considered as the Atlantic Strategy flagship project to support a change for ports as hubs of the sustainable blue economy. An interactive debate session will identify possible support at EU level to help ports in their green transition and diversification of activities.

The event is hosted and moderated by **MEP Deirdre Clune**, SEArice Vice-Chair for the Atlantic.

DRAFT AGENDA

Presential event

15:00 – 15:15 Welcome coffee

15:15 – 15:25 Opening by **MEP Deirdre Clune**, SEARica Vice-Chair for the Atlantic

15:25 – 15:35 **Ana Pinela, Coordinator of the AspBAN project, Beta-I**: Result of the AspBAN project to boost ports as hubs of the blue economy

15:35 – 16:15 Panel discussion

- **Urban Pettersson**, Global Sales Director of AllRead
- **Jesús Medina Blanco**, Chief Information & Innovation Officer, Algeciras Port Authority
- **Marta Marin**, Delegate of Basque Country Government to the EU, Presidency of the CPMR Atlantic Arc Commission
- **Julia Coppla**, Innovation Ecosystem Builder, Bilbao Port Lab

Q&A session

16.15 – 16.50 - Reactions from EU Institutions

- **Christos Economou**, Head of Unit for Sea Basin Strategies, Maritime Regional Cooperation and Maritime Security, DG MARE
- **Eddy Liegeois**, Head of Unit for Transport Networks, DG MOVE
- **MEP Josianne Cutajar**, SEARica Vice-Chair for SMEs and Digitalisation

Q&A session

16:50 – 17:00 Concluding remarks by **MEP Deirdre Clune**, Vice-Chair for the Atlantic

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