



# BlueMedPLUS International Conference on the Accessibility of Underwater Cultural Heritage

A hybrid event with both virtual and physical attendance at

**Domotel Xenia Volos Hotel, Volos, Greece**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022**



## Conference Aims

The conference is organized in the frame of the BlueMed PLUS Project, financed by the Interreg MED 5<sup>th</sup> call for modular projects (2<sup>nd</sup> call for transfer and mainstreaming projects) and aiming at transferring the BlueMed model for the development of sustainable tourism through the responsible promotion of Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH).

The conference invites researchers, policy makers, stakeholders and experts in the various fields related to UCH to present their work and proposals for the protection, sustainable management, and responsible promotion of UCH. The program will cover a range of issues regarding the implementation of management strategies and the use of innovative technologies as good practices that enhance accessibility of UCH and raise public awareness, thus enhancing sustainable tourism development for islands and coastal areas.

## Session Topics

### 1. Management strategies and policies for improving the in-situ accessibility of Underwater Cultural Heritage.

The session focuses on issues related to the management of UCH in terms of its protection and promotion. It includes examples of management strategies and national or regional policies, that were introduced and applied over the past years, and aim at the responsible in-situ accessibility of the UCH sites. The session focuses on the operational issues, the implementation of specific legislation and the cooperation frameworks for the involvement of stakeholders.

It also brings to light the difficulties and obstacles met during the operation of the sites (e.g., financial sustainability, flow of visitors and the design of the diving trails) and highlights the ways and methods to overcome them. The session welcomes policy makers and all relevant stakeholders to exchange experiences and discuss solutions about the abovementioned and other related issues.



## 2. Initiatives for the protection and responsible promotion of Underwater Cultural Heritage through in-situ physical and digital accessibility

The session presents efforts for the in-situ accessibility of UCH, including examples of integrating innovative technologies for its protection and responsible touristic promotion. The digitalization of UCH combines scientific, educational and entertainment use, while ensuring protection of the cultural remnants and the marine environment thus raising public awareness. The initiatives included in the session can be national or international projects, completed or ongoing, that present their goals, methodology and expected or achieved results. Proposals and ideas for future interventions can also be presented.

### Call for Abstracts

Those who wish to participate are invited to submit an abstract of their paper proposal in English of up to 300 words and 5 keywords, related to the Conference session topics. You can download the template [here](#) and submit your abstract to the email [bluemedplus.conference@gmail.com](mailto:bluemedplus.conference@gmail.com)

All abstracts will be reviewed by the Conference Committee and the author(s) of the accepted submissions will deliver an oral (online or physical) presentation and submit a paper of max. 10 pages. Detailed full paper guidelines will be given in time. Please consider the following information and important dates:

**Extended deadline for abstract submission!**

Abstract submission deadline: ~~10 April 2022~~ 10 May 2022

Results of abstract review: 15 May 2022

Full paper submission deadline: 3 June 2022

Conference Language: English

Online free Conference registration: to be announced soon

BlueMed PLUS web site: <https://bluemed.interreg-med.eu/what-we-do/>

Contact email for information: [bluemedplus.conference@gmail.com](mailto:bluemedplus.conference@gmail.com)



## The Organizing Committee

### **Barbara Davidde Petriaggi**

Superintendent of the National Superintendence for Underwater Cultural Heritage of Italy

### **Pari Kalamara**

Director of the Byzantine and Christian Museum of Athens

### **Fabio Bruno**

Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical, Energy and Management Engineering (DIMEG), University of Calabria (UNICAL)

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