



Co-funded by the COSME programme
of the European Union

2nd International Conference
DIVE IN BLUE GROWTH
12th – 14th of May, 2021



Under the Auspices of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports

Thessaloniki May 19th 2021

EVENT REPORT

Successful Completion of the 2nd International Conference "Dive in Blue Growth" on the Promotion of The Accessible Underwater Cultural Heritage Sites held under the Auspices of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports

The "2nd International Conference "Dive in Blue Growth", which was held online between the 12th and the 14th of May 2021 under the European Project [MeDryDive](#), COSME Programme, was completed with great success and a positive feedback from all of our attendees.

The Conference focused on the Promotion of the Accessible Underwater Cultural Heritage Sites and was held under the auspices of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports. The organization of the conference was supported by the National Superintendence of Underwater Cultural Heritage and the Central Conservation Institute of the Italian Ministry of Culture, the University of Calabria, as well as the Region of Thessaly.

During the official opening of the Conference held on May 12, 2021, Mr. Angelos Manglis ,on behalf of the Steering Committee, welcomed the distinguished guests, participants and the audience, while opening statements were addressed by the Minister of Culture and Sports, Dr. Lina Mendoni, the Minister of National Defense, Mr. Nikolaos Panagiotopoulos, the Senator of the Italian Republic and Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Culture Mrs. Lucia Borgonzoni, the Regional Governor of Thessaly Mr. Kostas Agorastos and the President of the Greek National Tourism Organization Mrs. Angela Gerekou.

The three-day Conference began each morning at 10:30 CET having 4 overall keynote speeches. On the first day, Mr. Igor Kalinic and Mr. Alan Vella, representing the European Union, elaborated on the COSME Programme and MeDryDive project, accordingly. On the second day, Prof. Dimitrios Skarlatos of the University of Cyprus, presented iMAREculture project, while on the third and last day of the Conference, Commander Panagiotis Tripontikas referred to the policy and the initiatives of the Hellenic Ministry of National Defense regarding the environment and the underwater cultural heritage.

The agenda included 3 sessions daily with interesting presentations focusing on issues regarding the protection and responsible promotion of the underwater cultural heritage. Amongst the other interesting discussions, the attendees had the opportunity to watch presentations focused on the significant role of modern and innovative technologies and their contribution to the promotion of the Accessible Underwater Cultural Heritage Sites not only in the Mediterranean region but also in other European countries and outside Europe, such as in South Korea.



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The discussions were so vivid and interesting that participants and speakers discussed further not only in the context of the sessions but also during the lunch and coffee breaks via a special zoom link, designed as a networking lobby.

A total of 43 speakers including researchers, representatives of the competent management bodies of the Accessible Underwater Cultural Heritage Sites as well as relevant stakeholders from 10 countries, namely Spain, Italy, Malta, Croatia, Greece, Norway, Turkey, Russia, South Korea and Australia participated in the 2nd International Conference Dive in Blue Growth.

From the 489 online registrants, the audience maintained its interest throughout the conference, as 300 of them attended the 1st day, 211 the second, and 201 the third, gathering a total of 712 attendances. By the end of the conference there were over 16.000 views of the official conference weblink. Until May 17th, the 52 videos of speeches, greetings and presentations gathered 956 views.

available on the official conference link <https://www.livemedia.gr/diveinbluegrowth> requesting only your online registration.

For more information you may contact the Conference Secretariat:
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2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**DIVE IN
 BLUE
 GROWTH**

12–14 May 2021
Virtual Conference

The Conference draws attention to the operation of Accessible Underwater Cultural Heritage Sites (AUCHS) and their promotion as a means for their sustainable protection.

More info:
www.medrydive.eu

