

# Marine Research Infrastructures Workshop

## The Eurofleets experience - EF RI Proposal

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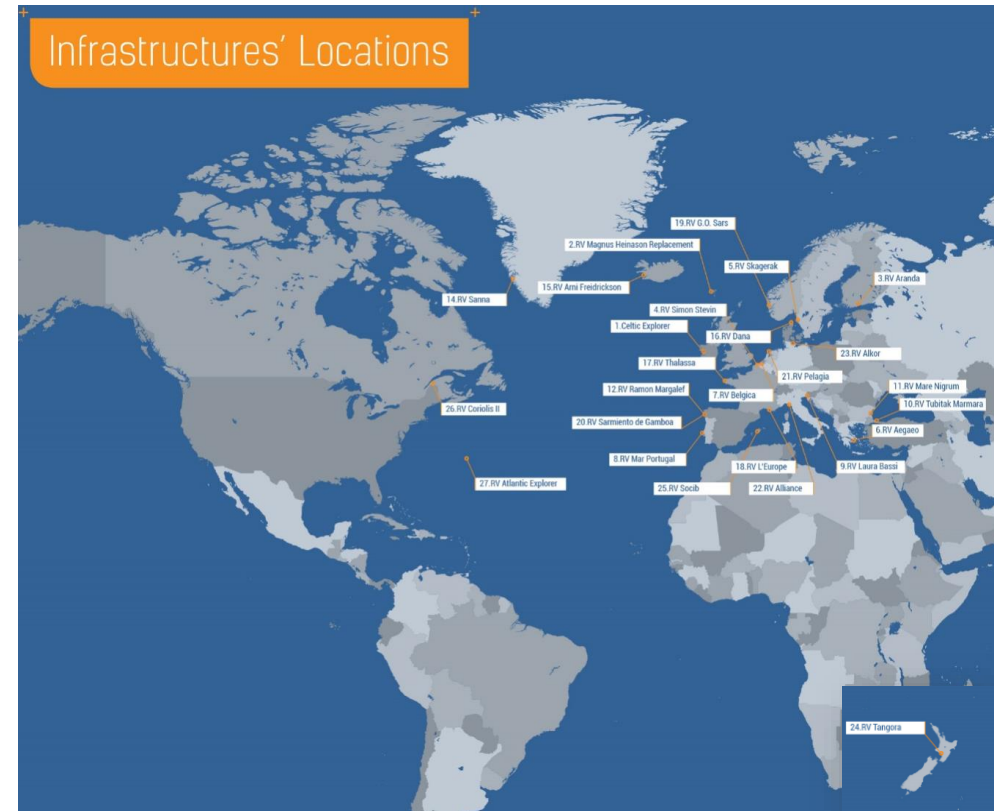
This project has received funding from the EU H2020 research and  
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- 42 Partners
- Budget of 9.9m €
- Access to:
- 27 Research Vessels, 8 ROV's & 5 AUV's

**Areas of Operation:**  
North Sea, Black Sea, North Atlantic, Mediterranean Sea, Baltic Sea, Pacific Southern Ocean and Ross Sea







# EUROPEAN RESEARCH VESSEL FLEET COOPERATION DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES 1986 - 2022



IRSO

OFEG

ERVO

EurOcean

OFWG

EMB PP 10

Eurofleets

Eurofleets2

EMB PP 25

Eurofleets+

1986

1996

1999

2002

2003

2007

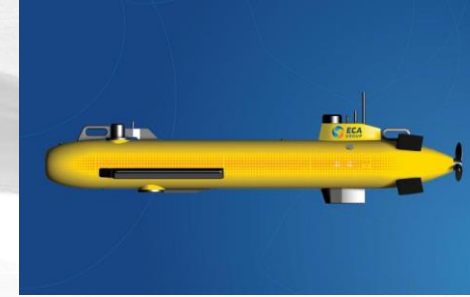
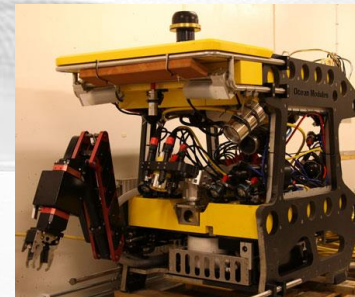
2009-2013

2013-2017

2018-2022

2019

2019-2023



# EUROFLEETS PROJECTS 2009 TO 2023

- FP7
- 19 Research Vessels
  - 5 Ocean Vessels
  - 14 Regional Vessels
- 24 Partners
- Funding of €7.2 m

Eurofleets  
2009-2013



- FP7
- 22 Research Vessels
  - 8 Ocean Vessels
  - 14 Regional Vessels
- 31 Partners
- Funding of €9m

Eurofleets2  
2013-2017



- H2020
- **27 research vessels** (
  - 13 Global/Ocean and
  - 14 Regional),
- **8 ROVs & 5 AUVs**
- 42 Partners
- Funding of €9.9 m

Eurofleets+  
2019-2023



- Develop Eurofleets as a Legal Entity
- Established full time central coordination office
- Horizon Europe

Eurofleets RI  
2023...



# EUROFLEETS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES 2009 TO 2023



1

## Research Vessel Access

- Provide single point access to new more advanced research infrastructures
- Transnational Access inc. e-access
- Open Access to data



2

## Education and Training

- Education of the next generation of researchers
- Transfer of knowledge and technology through exchange of staff
- Promote Ocean Literacy



3

## Better coordination of European Research Vessel Fleets

- Development of synergies and complementary capabilities
- Promoting greener and sustainable research vessel
- Fostered innovation through reinforced partnerships with industry and stakeholders





# EUROFLEETS RI BUSINESS IDEA

**EUROFLEETS RI aims at uniting world-class RVs and associated equipment among European partners to facilitate access to multipurpose marine infrastructure for a wide user community, enabling excellent research, increased cooperation in technical development and sharing of knowledge in RV operations & management.**

**EUROFLEETS RI will play a central role in delivering the European Union Missions by the provision of access to our Seas and Oceans through facilitation of multidisciplinary science teams tackling changing climate, supporting biomedical research, ocean monitoring, sustainable fisheries and advancing the European Green Deal.**

Collaboration in **EUROFLEETS RI** will help to **optimise integration, develop a European approach to address common challenges** through the provision of **single point transnational access to our Seas and Oceans.**

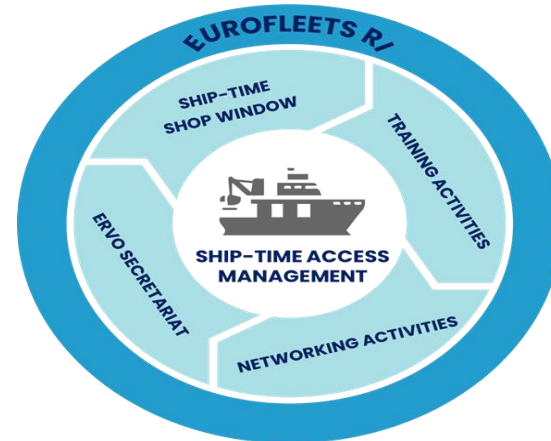


## EUROFLEETS RI VISION

Provide single point open access to research vessels  
to deepen our knowledge of our seas and oceans



# Eurofleets RI Mission



<b>Be</b>	the central coordination point for RV and LEXI TA funded by the EC and/or as in-kind contributions from RV owners.
<b>Provide</b>	a "market-place" for those offering access to RVs and/or LEXIs, and those seeking research vessel access, charter, barter or in-kind contributions to research projects, monitoring activities, logistical functions etc. involving RVs and/or LEXIs.
<b>Harmonize</b>	sharing or pooling of sophisticated/expensive facilities to optimise their use.
<b>Coordinate</b>	permanent or temporary expert groups dedicated to exchange of best practices and shared developments such as operational standards for vessels and equipment, acquisition methods and associated software.
<b>Build and pilot</b>	the pre-configuration processes of future common infrastructures, the realisation of which can no longer in each and every case be the responsibility of a single country (e.g. inhabited diving, large shared seismic systems...).
<b>Support</b>	research and development projects for eco-designed and eco-responsible European RV fleets of the 21st century.



# LEGAL ENTITY:

## Why a Legal Personality and not a Consortium Agreement or MoU based cooperation?

### A Legal Entity allows for:

- Strategy agreed at European level
- Long-term support of activities, not necessarily time limited
- Pooling of resources from the members
- Being a legal counterpart in international cooperation activities
- Capacity of acting outside the framework of the project/after the end of the project
- Development of strong relationship and cooperation with other RIs in the ENVRI domain
- Creation of a central management structure at European level
- Employment of staff





# EUROFLEETS RI KEY ACTIVITIES

## **Ship-time access management (Sea, Co-PI and Remote Access Programs)**

On behalf of the EC, to provide researchers with TA to RVs and Large EXchangeable Instruments (LEXIs) not available in their home countries or not supported by national funding already available to the researcher, and to continuously improve the Eurofleets TA proposal-submission system.

**Eurofleets RI wish to continue providing vital necessary EU-funded Transnational Access programmes utilizing its member's infrastructures to researchers and scientists into the future through funding programmers such as Horizon Europe. Eurofleets RI will work together with the European Commission in developing other long term sustainable funding support programmes to facilitate planned access to our Seas and Oceans through access, training and data provision.**

## **Ship-time “shop window”**

To maintain a dedicated “information and opportunity platform”:

- Providing easy access to up-to-date information on the European RV Fleet and LEXIs,
- Function as a "market-place" for those offering access to RVs and/or LEXIs, and those looking for charter, barter or in-kind contribution to research projects, monitoring activities, logistical functions etc.,
- Advertising education and training opportunities,
- Developing new interactive tools to support collaborative activities,
- Implementing new facilities based on gaps identified,
- Providing a transparent cost/pricing system for EF+ vessels compatible with EC infrastructure costing rules.

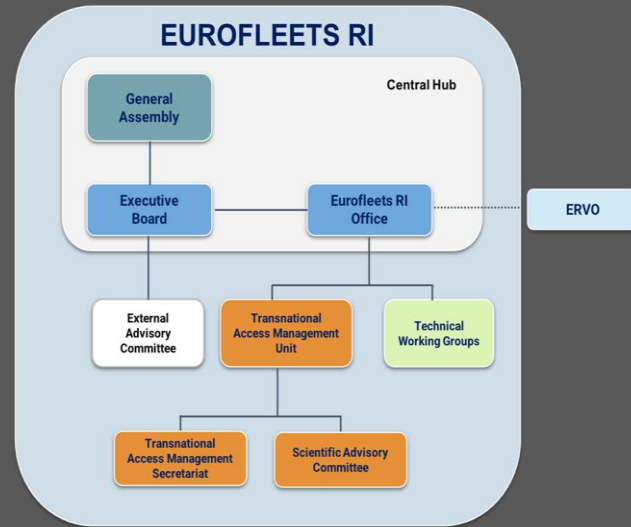
**Networking Activities**

**Training Activities**

**ERVO Secretariat**



# Eurofleets RI



## Roadmap

- Eurofleets RI will **consolidate** activities to better **coordinate** and optimize European research fleets into the future.
- The continuation of the TA Programme and its extension to annual calls will improve **sustainable** access to our seas and oceans through **better coordination** to achieve **maximum impact** for each expedition thus delivering better **return on investment** for all.
- **Enhanced** training and education programmes will identify and deliver key **skills & capacities** needed to meet emerging challenges of the blue economy along with informing the public of the key role that RV's play in the observation and monitoring of our seas and oceans through participation in Ocean Literacy activities.
- Additionally, Eurofleets RI will represent its members **collectively**, with **one voice** to government research ministries, EC Directorates, EU and International Funding Agencies, and many other marine-related groups to **facilitate new links** with related initiatives and infrastructures worldwide



# EUROFLEETS RI: Roadmap for Implementation



## 02 Design Phase

- Develop and sign a MoA between confirmed members of the Eurofleets RI consortium as a basis for the establishment of an office for the Eurofleets RI

or

- Develop the necessary formal documents to establish an AISBL as the Eurofleets RI legal entity.

## 04 Implementation

- Develop and publish a call for TA
- Select and allocate TNA cruises for execution

## 01 Concept Development

- Secure members from RV community
- Establish commitment for funding for TA from European Commission
- Determine costs for EurofleetsRI support office set up including establishing a Scientific Review Board and Logistics Committee

## 03 Preparation Phase

- Confirm members and infrastructures
- Recruit staff
- Set up steering committee
- Establish virtual office and technical support
- Develop and implement service contracts for services provided
- Develop cooperation agreements
- Establish a Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and Technical Working Groups (TWGs)



EurofleetsRI

## Impact Pathways

01

### SCIENTIFIC IMPACT

- Providing **access** to our oceans, and as yet unexplored ecosystems to **create new knowledge**.
- Coming together as an RI to **consolidate** human capital and resources.
- Working with other RI's in **sharing** knowledge and providing **open data**.

02

### SOCIETAL IMPACT

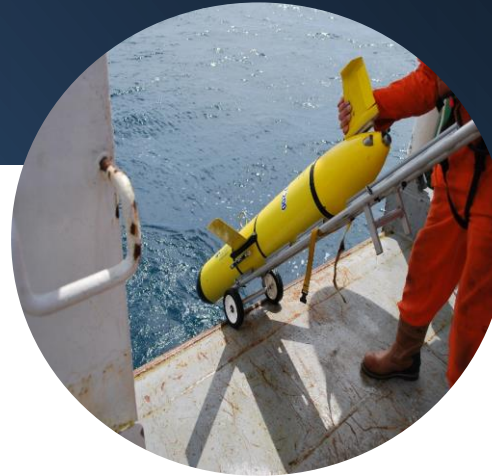
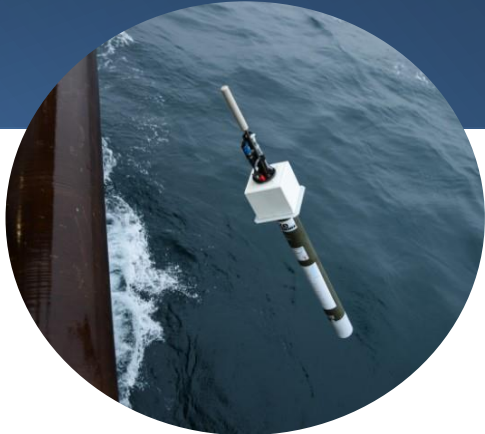
- Through participation in “Horizon Europe” projects **addressing** key EU **policy priorities** and **global challenges** through Research & Innovation (R&I).
- Working towards the “Horizon Europe Missions” via **R&I**.
- **Collaborating** with industry and all social actors to **strengthen** ties with R&I

03

### ECONOMIC IMPACT

- **Collaboration** and **co-creation** with industry to **accelerate** innovation growth.
- **Increase** employment **opportunities** through **training** and **new role** development.
- Ensure that EU and National **investments** in infrastructure **deliver** increased **return** on investment.

# Eurofleets RI OPERATION AND GROWTH (6-10Yrs) 2026 - 2030



- Manage annual TA calls and their implementation
- Expansion of Members - Attract and secure new members
- Maintenance and improvement of Ship Time Shop Window to expand functionality
- Develop and implement Training Activity (Floating Universities, Technology Workshops, Marine Technician Training and Infrastructure Management courses)
- Develop Crowdfunding activity
- Participation in European funded programmes such as Horizon Europe
- Development of new services across Networking activities such as Working Groups
- Representation of the European Research Vessel community at European and Global level



# THANK YOU

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