

OCTOBER 23–25, 2025

BARCELONA

FINAL PROGRAMME

23-OCT

SECTION I:

Humanism & Conservation

SECTION II:

Oceans in Transition

24-OCT

SECTION III a:

Marine Rewilding

SECTION III b:

No-Take Marine Reserves & Ocean Ecosystem Services

SECTION IV:

Ocean livelihoods

SECTION V:

Activism, Communication and Engagement

25-OCT

SECTION VI:

Governance & Environment Rights

#SEAWILDING2025



THU 23 – OCTOBER, 2025

SECTION I: HUMANISM AND CONSERVATION - RETHINKING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE OCEANS

Aula Magna – Faculty of Biology – University of Barcelona

10:00 - OPENING

10:15 - WELCOME

Olivia Mandle

Young environmental activist and animal rights advocate.

Presenter: Mónica Navarro (Blue Planet Advocate)

10:30 - CONFERENCE:

Regener-action

Carlos Mallo Molina

Founder of **Innoceana** | **Goldman Environmental Prize 2025**

10:45 - KEYNOTE:

Science & Ethics synergies for responsible research & innovative activities.

Michèle Barbier

Marine biologist and ethics expert
(Inria center – U. Côte d'Azur)

Moderator: María González Lacabex (Animalex)

11:45 - ROUND TABLE:

The Disconnect Between Humanity and Nature – Contemporary Philosophical Perspectives

Cristian Moyano

Philosopher and researcher in environmental ethics, rewilding and ecological justice
(CSIC)

Fabiola Leyton

Moral philosopher and bioethicist specialized in animal ethics and non-human animal rights
(U. de Barcelona)

12:30 - CONFERENCE:

Animal welfare as a lever for ocean restoration

Giulia Malerbi

Head of Global Policy
(Aquatic Life Institute)

Moderator: Borja Nogué (U. Autònoma de Barcelona)

12:50 - KEYNOTE:

IPBES 2024: From Diagnosis to Transformation – Scientific Frameworks for Social Change

Sebastián Villasante

Environmental economist and researcher specialized in transformations of marine social-ecological systems and ocean equity.
(U.Stgo de Compostela)

THU 23 - OCTOBER, 2025

SECTION II: OCEANS IN TRANSITION

Auditorium - Vertex Building. North Campus - U. Politècnica de Catalunya

Moderator: Purificació Canals (Underwater Gardens)

15:00 - KEYNOTE:

Past, Present and Future of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation

Josep L. Pelegrí

Physical oceanographer specialized in ocean circulation and climate change.
(Institute of Marine Sciences - CSIC)

15:25 - 16:30 CONFERENCES:

Plastic Oceans: Global Crisis

Salud Deudero

Dtor. of Balearic Oceanographic Center, specialized in conservation and plastic pollution.
(IEO - CSIC)

Ocean Highways: Evolution of the Ecological Impact of Maritime Transport

Aurore Morin

Marine Conservation Campaign Officer
(IFAW)

Overfishing and the Transition of the Fishing Industry: An Environmental, Social and Economic Urgency

Nils Courcy

Senior lawyer specializing in fisheries compliance and marine environmental litigation.
(ClienEarth)

Moderator: Josep L. Pelegrí (ICM-CSIC)

17:00 - KEYNOTE:

Current State of Global Marine Biodiversity: Scientific Assessment and Urgency for Action

Stelios Katsanevakis

Marine ecologist expert in conservation and the impacts of biological invasions on biodiversity and ecosystem services.
(U. of Aegean)

17:30 - CONFERENCE:

Conservation or Restoration of Marine Ecosystems?

Purificació Canals

Marine biologist specialist in MPA management.
(Underwater Gardens)

17:55 - KEYNOTE:

Co-Creating a Climate-Resilient Ocean Future

Ana Queirós

Leading marine climate change ecologist and climate-smart ocean management expert
(Plymouth Marine Lab)

18:20 - 19:00 CONFERENCES:

Blue Finance for the Blue Economy: The Future of Public and Private Engagement for Ocean Health

Stewart Sarkozy-Banoczy

Expert in ocean resilience, focused on investments & impact for oceans.
(CEO (a.i.) World Ocean Council)

The MSC Theory of Change in practice: driving improvements on the water

Julio Agujetas

Marine biologist and fisheries sustainability expert
(Marine Stewardship Council)

FRI 24 – OCTOBER, 2025

SECTION III_d: MARINE REWILDING

Aula Magna – Faculty of Biology – University of Barcelona

Moderator: Mara Zamora (Rewilding Spain)

09:00 - KEYNOTE:

The Global Rewilding Movement and where it's headed in the next 5-10 years

Alister Scott
Global catalyst of the growing
rewilding movement.
(Exec. Dtor. – Global Rewilding Alliance)

09:30 - 10:15 CONFERENCES:

Rewilding: conceptual framework and applicability to the marine realm

Jordi Palau
Director of Rewilding
(Rewilding Spain)

Rewilding Europe's approach to marine-coastal rewilding

Carolina Soto
Director of Wilder Nature
(Rewilding Europe)

Experience in Bazaruto Archipelago National Park: transitioning from conservation to rewilding in a marine ecosystem

Pablo Schapira
Director of the Sistema Ibérico
Sur Initiative
(Rewilding Spain)

Presenter: María González Lacabex (Animalex)

10:15 - 10:35 CONFERENCE:

Ministry for Ecological Transition: Marine Ecosystems within the Framework of the National Nature Restoration Plan

Silvia García Higuera
Senior Technician in Terrestrial
and Marine Biodiversity,
(Ministry for the Ecological
Transition and the
Demographic Challenge)

Presenter: Mara Zamora (Rewilding Spain)

10:35 - KEYNOTE:

Oceans in Transition: Towards a Restoration of Marine Ecosystems in the Climate Change Era

Carlos Duarte
Distinguished Professor of
Marine Science
(King Abdullah University of
Science and Technology)

FRI 24 – OCTOBER, 2025

SECTION III_b: NO-TAKE MARINE RESERVES & OCEAN ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Aula Magna – Faculty of Biology – University of Barcelona

Moderator:

11:45 - 12:20 KEYNOTES:

The rewards of nature restoration: From Collapse to Abundance.

Lessons from Cabo Pulmo (MX) & Gökova Bay (TK) on How Fully Protected Areas Transform Ocean Ecosystems and Coastal Communities

Maricarmen García

Marine biologist and conservationist, Director of Puerto Morelos Reef National Park and specialist in protected area management.
(Dtra. General de Conservación – CONANP)

Zafer Kizilkaya

Marine conservationist, Goldman Environmental Prize
(co-founder – Akdeniz Koruma Derneği / Mediterranean Conservation Society)

12:20 - CONFERENCE:

Towards a 30x30 Mediterranean Sea

Pablo Rodríguez Ros

Environmental scientist and 30x30 Mediterranean Program Lead
(Med Sea Alliance)

12:40 - KEYNOTE:

Do MPAs contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation?

Juliette Jacquemont

Postdoctoral researcher specializing in conservation science, impact assessments, and applied ecology
(NCEAS – U. California)

13:10 - CONFERENCE:

MPAs & their regulations in the European Union

Juliette Aminian

Interdisciplinary Marine Policy Researcher

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SECTION IV: OCEAN LIVELIHOODS

Aula Magna - Faculty of Biology - University of Barcelona

Moderator: Elena Ojea (Future Oceans Lab - U. de Vigo)

15:00 - 16:45 CONFERENCES:

Navigating change in small-scale fisheries

Illuminating Hidden Harvests

Coastal Communities and the role of globalization

Moderator:

Towards the Transformation of the Seafood Food System in Spain

Marine corridors in the Eastern Tropical Pacific

Xochitl Elías
Postdoctoral researcher specializing in marine socio-ecological systems resilience

Alba Aguión
FAO consultant, postdoc at Duke University. Starting postdoc at U. Autónoma de Barcelona

Sara Miñarro
Interdisciplinary marine ecologist bridging science and society
(Climate Resilience Center, Eurecat)

Pablo Saralegui-Díez
Researcher specializing in sustainable food transition and socio-cultural change in food systems (Alimentta)

Viviana Páez
Biologist specialized in marine conservation of the Eastern Tropical Pacific with a focus on migratory species (Migramar)

SECTION V: ACTIVISM, COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

17:00 - 18:15 ROUND TABLES:

Moderator: Lucía Arana (Intercids)

The role of science journalism and the media

Moderator: Mireia Sánchez (BlueWave Alliance)

Listening to Young Ocean Advocates

Ana Tuñas (EFE Verde)
Magda Bandera (La Marea)
Laura Secorun (Meridian)

Olivia Mandle, Ona Santisteban

18:15 - 19:00 CONFERENCES:

CMAS Science: How Volunteers Perform Professionally

Strategies, legislation and legal action for creating an effective network of MPAs in Europe

John Geurts
President of the CMAS Scientific Committee (CMAS)

Michael Sealey
Marine biologist expert in marine conservation, MPA protection and European fisheries policies.
(Oceana in Europe)

SAT 25 - OCTOBER, 2025

SECTION VI: GOVERNANCE & ENVIRONMENT RIGHTS

Aula Magna - Faculty of Biology - University of Barcelona

Moderator: María González Lacabex (Animalex)

09:00 - INTRODUCTION (ON-LINE):

The role of law in ocean literacy

Michelle Bender

Lawyer and leading expert in Ocean Rights
(Ocean Vision Legal)

09:15 - 10:30 CONFERENCES:

Advancing the Protection Principle: Making Ocean Protection the Norm, Not the Exception

Isabel Leal

Senior advisor and communications lead expert in ocean governance and biodiversity policy

Evolving Marine Protection Law and the Protection Principle: Pathways for Shipping and Deep-Sea Mining

Valérie Pimentel

Legal Officer and Environmental Policy Consultant
(OceanCare)

Giving the ocean a voice: the role of law and Strategic Litigation in Advancing Marine Protection

Soledad Gallego

Head of ClientEarth Spain, environmental law attorney specializing in biodiversity protection
(ClientEarth)

Francesco Maletto

Environmental law attorney specializing in marine habitats and biodiversity protection
(ClientEarth)

Youna Lyons

Marine Policy Analyst & Ocean Governance Expert
(Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea - ACOPS)

10:30 - KEYNOTE:

The BBNJ Agreement is coming into force: What next?

Moderator: María González Lacabex (Animalex)

11:30 - 12:30 CONFERENCES:

Sentience, Welfare, and Ocean Resilience: Legal and Ethical Imperatives for Preventing Cephalopod and Other New Carnivorous Aquaculture

Keri Tietge

Aquatic Animals Project Officer
(Eurogroup for Animals)

Sentience and Welfare in Fish and Invertebrates: A Paradigm Shift

Rubén Bermejo-Poza

PhD in Veterinary Medicine specializing in aquaculture and animal welfare
(U. Complutense de Madrid)

12:30 - KEYNOTE:

Legal Personhood: The Mar Menor Case

Eduardo Salazar Ortuño

Legal expert specializing in environmental law and legal collaborator of the Mar Menor Law
(U. de Murcia)

13:15 - CLOSING

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your place at the
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