



The uniqueness of Monaco Ocean Week is that it brings together in a unity of time and place multiple initiatives, emanating from various players and uniting various talent, for the benefit of one single cause: the oceans. It is also the uniqueness of Monaco to be able to get forces from different worlds (States and NGOs, national and international institutions, companies and scientists) to work together. And this is the purpose of this appeal: to show the need for a union of all energies for the benefit of the ocean, a unique reality establishing the link between countries, activities and humankind.

MONACO MANIFESTO FOR THE OCEAN

Over the Earth's entire surface, a single ocean connects us to each other, ensures the life of this Planet and of its inhabitants.

Reaching beyond the borders of States and crossing continents, it covers two thirds of the globe's surface and represents 97% of its biosphere. It plays a key role in its climatic and meteorological balance. It produces 50% of our oxygen according to the IPCC and absorbs 25% of our CO₂. It is home to a biodiversity and wealth essential to the life of Planet Earth and of humanity.

Today, over one billion of our contemporaries find their main source of animal protein in fish. Coastal areas are home to close to half of all humans. Over 80% of our commercial trade is conducted using maritime transport. Tomorrow, much of our energy, our food and our raw materials will come from the seas.

- Provided that we are able to preserve them.
- Provided that we are able to join forces to do so.
- Provided that we are able to create a new alliance between humanity and the sea.
- This alliance is the concern of each one of us.
- It is the concern of international organisations, which need to address the various issues which determine the future of the oceans, in the wake of SDG 14 announced by the UN: the development of marine protected areas, the protection of the High Seas and its biodiversity and the implementation of binding international standards.
- It is the concern of States, which need to protect the seas for which they are responsible more effectively, and counter more efficiently the damage that our development paradigm inflicts on them, through for example water pollution and global warming.
- It is the concern of scientific institutions which need to continue to explore these little-known areas of the Planet which our ignorance often prevents us from protecting effectively.
- It is the concern of NGOs which need to coordinate their efforts, for the sake of the oceans, their preservation and the sound development of the coastal populations.

- It is the concern of businesses which need to make their capacity for innovation available for the benefit of a responsible marine economy, capable of generating growth without depleting the seas.
- It is especially the concern of all the players involved in the sea, who need to understand that their future cannot be assured by short term calculations but involves the sustainable management of the seas and their resources.
- Finally, it is the concern of citizens and consumers who need to take action in their everyday lives and exercise increasing caution, be increasingly demanding, because we are all, at our own level and with our own means, responsible for this common heritage.

It is together, through dialogue and cooperation that we will succeed in creating a new alliance between humanity and the ocean, alone capable of guaranteeing our future and that of Planet Earth.

Monaco, April 3rd 2017

H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco

Mrs Ségolène Royal

*French Minister of the Environment,
Energy and Marine Affairs, responsible
for International Climate Relations*

Mr Gian Luca Galletti

*Italian Minister of the Environment and the
Protection of the Territory and the Sea*