

# **EVENT FOLLOW-UP REPORT**

## Participation to the ADRIATIC SEA FORUM in Dubrovnik on 4th and 5th May 2023





## Event summary

Type of event	physical
Location	Dubrovnik
Date of the event	4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
Time/Duration	2 days forum
Purpose of the event (What was the objective?)	Ensuring cruise and ferry traffic growth, optimising sea passenger handling and pinpointing fresh initiatives in order to curb environmental impacts. These and other issues were the focus of the first Summit of Adriatic Port Presidents, an unprecedented gathering of top figures from ports and national trade associations during the ADRIATIC SEA FORUM. This unique and never-before held meeting in the Adriatic area ended with the signing of a declaration of intent on future initiatives and activities that can be implemented in the tourist ports of call of the countries flanking the Adriatic Sea.
Short description of the event (what happened during the event?)	The international, itinerant forum organised by Risposte Turismo and dedicated to maritime tourism in the Adriatic Sea, was held in Dubrovnik after five previous editions held in Trieste, Dubrovnik, Budva, Ancona and Bari. The 2023 edition of the forum has been hosted in Dubrovnik in partnership with Dubrovnik Port Authority and City of Dubrovnik. The sixth edition of the Adriatic Sea Forum began with opening speeches by Blaž Pezo, General Manager of Dubrovnik Port Authority, Mato Franković, Mayor of Dubrovnik, Joško Cebalo, Deputy Prefect of the DubrovnikNeretva Region and Josip Bilaver, State Secretary of the Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructures of Croatia. The forum hosted more than 15 encounters and debates on the tourism potential and the challenges facing the Adriatic area. It was attended by over 50 international speakers and more than 250 operators representing the various professional categories involved in maritime tourism in the Adriatic. At the end of the first day of the forum, the first Summit of the



	Presidents of the Adriatic Ports took place behind closed doors. The summit - the result of a joint effort on the part of Risposte Turismo, Assoporti and the Croatian Port Authorities Association - offered a new opportunity for dialogue between the heads of the ports and the national trade associations. In this framework the results of SUSPORT project were also discussed, highlighting the importance of the sustainability in the ports and maritime sector.
Results/Outcomes of the event (What are the takeaways from the event?)	The presence of SUSPORT at Adriatic Sea Forum allowed to widen the scope of target groups to professionals and experts in the domain of freight, cruise and passenger transport sector.
Number of attendees	<ol> <li>Over 5,000 recipients for Adriatic Sea Forum / Tourism Answers promotional mailings.</li> <li>Over 250 accredited attendees over the two days of the forum</li> <li>Social profiles Risposte Turismo: 1,800+ followers on Linkedin, 560+ on Twitter</li> <li>Adriatic Sea Forum social profiles: 4,600 followers on Linkedin, 530+ on Twitter</li> </ol>
Type of stakeholders/target groups that were represented	policy makers, national, regional and local institutions, port authorities, research, scientific institution and academia, private companies



### Programme:

## Adriatic Sea Forum 2023 (May 4-5)

Venue: Royal Princess Conference Center - Royal Resorts & Hotels

May 4

from 8.30

Opening and registrations from 8.30

#### 09.30 Welcome speeches

- Blaž Pezo, General Manager Dubrovnik Port Authority
- Mato Franković, Mayor City of Dubrovnik
- Joško Cebalo, Deputy Prefect Dubrovnik-Neretva County
- Josip Bilaver, State Secretary at the Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure Republic of Croatia

#### 10.00 The European Commission's outlook on tourism and maritime tourism in the Adriatic area

· Valentina Superti, Director - Tourism, proximity and digitalisation - European Commission

#### 10.15 Adriatic Sea Tourism Report Presentation

Francesco di Cesare, President – Risposte Turismo

#### 10.30 Dubrovnik Host City Presentation

Jelka Tepšlć, Deputy Mayor - City of Dubrovnik

#### Coffee break

## 11.15 Will the Adriatic finally be able to establish itself as a brand? The point of view of tour operators

Known in the whole world for its coasts, its landmarks and having numerous nautical marinas and many facilities, the Adriatic is an important maritime tourist destination, even if in the last ten years no strong branding action seems to have been undertaken. What is preventing it? This session will offer the point of view of tourism operators.

Introduces and moderates: Francesco di Cesare, President - Risposte Turismo

- Dragan Kostadinović, Owner Shuttle Travel Agency DMC
- Srdan Kristic, Managing Director Adriatic DMC
- Maro Saulovic, General Manager Gulliver DMC
- Kristijan Švajnzger, General Manager East Europe, Iceland and Caucasus Intrepid DMC

#### 12.00 What's new in Adriatic?

Presentations - part 1

Sea traffic in the Adriatic means a plurality of differentiated sectors. Each year new ships are built, new marinos are opened, new routes and itineraries are created. What's new and interesting in the Adriatic?

- The incoming EUSAIR HR Presidency &short info about the EUSAIR Strategy in Pillar 2 and 4 Lidija Pansegrau Hadrović, Deputy National Coordinator- EUSAIR
- The new digital portal for small ports in Adriatic
   Pierpaolo Campostrini, Director CORILA LP Interreg IT-HR Framesport
- The new cruise terminal of Ravenna port Mario Petrosino, Chief Operating Officer – Port of Ravenna



#### Networking lunch

14.00 From infrastructure growth & source markets' marketing to sustainable growth & non-mainstream destinations' marketing. How Posidonia Sea Tourism Forum discussion topics have shifted over the years to reflect market trends & needs

Maria Photou, Marketing & Events Coordinator - Posidonia Exhibitions S.A.

#### 14.15 Adriatic tourism destinations

A debate on balancing the needs of tourism destinations as maritime tourists grow in Adriatic.

Introduces and moderates: Anthony La Salandra, Managing Director - Risposte Turismo

- Alberto Cappato, Secretary of the Board of Directors AIVP (Association Internationale Villes et Ports)
- Mato Franković, Mayor City of Dubrovnik
- Mateja Hrvatin Kozlovič, Deputy Mayor City of Koper
- Dritan Leli, Mayor City of Viore
- Rikardo Novac, Mayor City of Hvar
- . Massimo Seri, President FAIC (Forum of Adriatic and Ionian Cities), Mayor City of Fano

#### 15.15 concurrent sessions

#### Offer vs Demand in nautical tourism in Adriatic: where lies the balance?

The offer of nautical tourism in the Adriatic is wide and differentiated to meet the needs and preferences of its nautical tourists. Is it possible and sustainable to further widen the number of marinas and berths, or the Adriatic may face a risk of overcapacity?

#### ROOM: ADRIATIC

Introduces and moderates: Roberto Perocchio, President - ASSOMARINAS

- Roddy Blair, Marina Director Porto Montenegro
- Dorijan Dujmic, Managing Partner BWA Croatia
- Paško Klisović, President Nautical Tourism Association of Croatian Chamber of Economy
- Sergej Mazur, CEO Simple Sail

#### Relaunching holidays via ferries: new strategies, products, markets

Ferry business is vital for tourism in Adriatic and its traffic had been particularly resilient during the pandemic. Apart from being a way of transportation, how can ferry really be more and more a constitutive element of the Adriatic tourism offer?

Introduces and moderates: Anthony La Salandra, Managing Director - Risposte Turismo

- Davide Chiesi, Passenger Dept. Manager Adria Ferries
- Massimo Di Giacomo, Sole Director Anek Lines Italia
- Athanasios Porfyris, CEO Port of Igoumenitsa
- David Sopta, CEO Jadrolinija
- Fablo Sibilio, Marketing Manager Grandi Navi Veloci
- Paula Vidović, Director Croatian Agency for Coastal Line Maritime Transport



#### May 5

from 9.00

Opening from 9.00

#### 09.15 Is Adriatic losing its momentum in global cruise tourism?

Analysing some data on cruise tourism and considering those risky factors which could discourage cruise traffic in some territories, what could bring the cruise traffic back to that seen in the past years? Which new actions should be undertaken? is there something missing to reach this goal?

Opening remarks: Wybcke Meler, CEO – TUI Cruises

- Introduces and moderates: Anthony La Salandra, Managing Director Risposte Turismo
- Spyros Almpertis, VP Port Ops, Itinerary Planning & Fuel Management Crystal
- Daniel Caprile, Vice President Pricing and Revenue Management, Itinerary & Transportation Costa Cruises
- Elisabetta De Nardo, Vice President Port Development MSC Cruises
- Liubo Radović, Marketing & development Port of Kotor
- Fabrizio Spagna, President Venezia Terminal Passeggeri

#### 10.30 How to improve the Adriatic competitiveness in superyacht business?

Starting from some data about mega yachts, the debate will provide an overview of yacht sector in Adriatic; which are the strong and weak points? What to expect from the very next future?

Introduces and moderates: Braslav Karlic, Editor In Chief - MORE Magazine

- Maja Ban Director, MYS Yachting
- Nikola Banović Director, Portonovi Marina
- Ajka Matijevic, Founder A+ Yachting
- Stefano Tositti, CEO Acquera Yachting

#### Coffee break

#### 11.45 What's new in Adriatic?

Presentations - part 2

Sea traffic in the Adriatic means a plurality of differentiated sectors. Each year new ships are built, new marinos are opened, new routes and itineraries are created. What's new and interesting in the Adriatic?

 IPA ADRION Programme perspective Giulia Frattini, Communications Officer – IPA ADRION Programme

## 11.55 The new Maritime Domain and Seaports Act – opportunities and challenges for port authorities

 Nina Perko, PhD, Director of Directorate for Maritime Affairs at the Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure – Republic of Croatia

#### 12.05 Key outcomes of the first Summit of the Adriatic Ports' Presidents

Tomislay Batur, President - Croatian Association of Port Authorities

## 12.15 The Adriatic's future we wish: sustainable, prosperous, smart... is all that possible?

To which aspects should be given priority? Is it possible to respect the whole range of sustainability aspects or should a choice be necessarily made? How can we balance the theme of sustainability with other important goals?

Introduces and moderates: Francesco di Cesare, President - Risposte Turismo



- Josep Canals-Molina, Secretary General Med Cities
- Zeno D'Agostino, President European Sea Ports Organization, President Ports of Trieste and Monfalcone
- Rodolfo Giampieri, President Italian Ports Association
- Marie-Caroline Laurent, Director General CLIA Europe
- Kristijan Pavic, President ACI Marinas
- Joze Tomaš, President CCE Split County Chamber and Forum AIC

#### Networking lunch

#### 14.15 New challenges for Croatia as leading maritime tourism destination

A debate and discussion among stakeholders focused on the future of Croatia in the maritime taurism in the Adriatic, between launched projects' presentations and identification of future goals.

Opening remarks: Tonči Glavina, State Secretary - Ministry of Tourism and Sport - Republic of Croatia

Introduces and moderates: Sandra Lacković - journalist at Croatian Radiotelevision

- Miro Drašković, Director Dubrovnik Tourist Board
- Tonči Glavina, State Secretary Ministry of Tourism and Sport Republic of Croatia
- Ivo Klaić, Head of Administrative Department for Tourism, Entrepreneurship and the Sea of Dubrovnik-Neretva
  County
- Ivan Maslać, Commercial Director Dubrovnik Airport
- Zrinka Raguž, Head of the Administrative Department for EU Funds, Regional and International Cooperation –
  City of Dubrownik
- Nebojša Stojčić, PhD, Vice rector for business affairs University of Dubrovnik

Introduces and moderates: Jadran Kapor - journalist and editor in chief, Slobodna Dalmacija

- Mario Knego, Founder Euromarine
- Blaž Pezo, General Manager Dubrovnik Port Authority
- Željko Knežević; General Manager Zadar Port Authority
- Zeljko Raguž, President of Management Board Luka Dubrovnik
- Zeljko Dadić, General Manager County Port Authority of Dubrovnik



## Photos















### **ADRIATIC SEA FORUM – Dossier**



A seguire i materiali che sono stati realizzati in occasione di Adriatic Sea Forum e in cui compare il vostro logo.

- Qualche indicatore: 1. Oltre 5.000 destinatari per i mailing promozionali di Adriatic Sea Forum / Risposte Turismo

  - Ohre 250 accreditati nei due giorni di forum
     Profili social Risposte Turismo: 1.800+ follower su Linkedin, 560+ su Twitter
     Profili social Adriatic Sea Forum: 4.600 follower su Linkedin, 530+ su Twitter

Il materiale realizzato è stato raggruppato in tre sezioni:

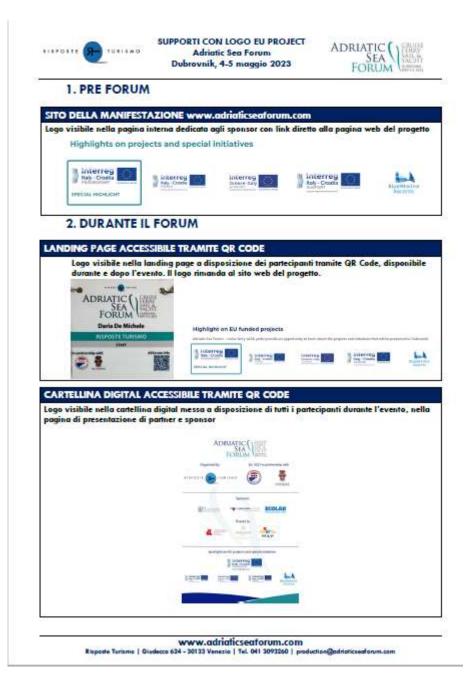
- 1. Pre forum
- 2. Durante il forum 3. Post forum





www.adriaticseaforum.com Bispose Tartame | Gladacco 624 - 30133 Venezia | Tel. 041 3093260 | productios@odriaticseaforum.com











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#### 3. POST FORUM

MAILING POST EVENTO DEDICATO AI PROGETTI EUROPEI Da realizzare entro la fine dell'anno un mailing dedicato alla presentazione dei progetti europei con collegamento ipertestuale verso i siti internet o altra landing page da concordare.