



**European Economic and Social Committee**



## **EUROPEAN POLICIES TO SUPPORT EUROPEAN ISLANDS AS SUSTAINABLE TOURIST DESTINATIONS**

**A Public Hearing organized by the  
Network of the Insular Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the EU (INSULEUR)  
and the Observatory on Tourism in the European Islands (OTIE)  
in partnership with the European Economic and Social Committee**

**And the support of  
The CPMR Island Commission and  
The European Small Islands Federation**

**14 December 2018 | Room TRE 7701 | 10:00-13:00 | Trèves Building | 7th floor,  
74 rue de Trèves | European Economic and Social Committee**

**Working languages: English, Greek**



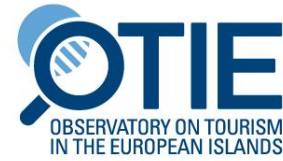
**CPMR ISLANDS  
COMMISSION**



Project co-financed by the European  
Regional Development Fund



European Economic and Social Committee



Sustainable tourism is tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities. Sustainable tourism should thus make optimal use of environmental resources, respect host communities and ensure viable, long-term economic operations, providing benefits that are distributed fairly among all stakeholders.

The most widely used tourism development model in islands is based on seaside summer holidays (“sun and sea”), and the attainment of quantitative goals.

Islands, as touristic destinations feature a high pressure from tourism and need to provide the high quality, sustainable environments desired by tourists.

During the Public Hearing, insular business and citizens will present their positions regarding new trends in the tourism sector (low- cost carriers, sharing economy –Airbnb-, overtourism etc) and request the European Institutions to help and support islands, through different European Policies – transport, energy, tourism, and environment, circular economy – to preserve the sustainability of their tourism product.

The implementation of such policies will help and assist destination managers and tourism stakeholders in islands to identify and implement innovative and relevant planning, development and marketing processes for managing tourism in their islands.

## Preliminary program

### 10.00-10.20 Opening Session

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- **Prof. Gaetano Armao**, Vice-President, Sicilian Region and Vice-President Islands Committee, CRPM
- **INSULEUR** Presidency
- **Giovanni Ruggieri**, President OTIE
- **Eleftherios KECHAGIOGLOU**, Vice-Chair, European Small Islands Federation (ESIN) – President of Hellenic Small Islands Network (HSIN)



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## 10.20 – 11.30 The voice of insular communities and businesses

**Moderator:** George ASSONITIS (Member, Technical Committee, INSULEUR)

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### (8 minutes per speaker)

- **Gianni Chianetta**, President, Greening The Islands,
- **Michael Galea**, Vice-President GBC and INSULEUR/**Sylvia Gauci**, Executive Secretary, Malta Council For Economic and Social Development (MCESD)
- **Nicolas Brookes**, Director for Cohesion Policy, CPMR and *Post-2020 Cohesion Policy package, with the new opportunities to support sustainable tourism in islands.*
- **Patrick VIAL-COLLET**, 1st Vice-President of INSULEUR, President CCI de Région des Iles de Guadeloupe
- **Giovanni Ruggieri**, ALTER ECO project, *Research results for over-tourism policies*
- **Giacoma Brancato**, SOCLIMPACT project, *Impacts of climate changes on tourism*
- **Francesco Lembo**, BLUEISLANDS project, *Seasonal variation of waste as effect of tourism*
- **Stamatina Dilaveri**, Hellenic Small Islands Network, *Hydra Island: A case study*

Discussion

## 11.30-12.45 European Policies - EU Institutions responses

**Moderator:** Representative EESC

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### (10 minutes per speaker)

- **George-Stavros Kremlis**, Hon. Director, Environmental Policy-Circular Economy, DG Environment (DG ENV), European Commission
- **Linos Voskarides**, DG MARE “Blue Economy Sectors, Aquaculture and maritime Spatial Planning” Unit, European Commission
- **Jeppe Mikel Jensen**, Clean Energy for EU Islands Secretariat
- **Helmut Morsi**, DG MOVE, Advisor to the Director, European Commission
- **Joanna Mouliou-Niessler**, DG REGIO, European Commission, *EUSAIR and Sustainable Tourism*

Discussion

## 12.45-13.00 Closing Session

**Rapporteur:** Alicia Bueno, Member, Technical Committee of INSULEUR

**Conclusions:** Giovanni Ruggieri, OTIE



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PROGRAMME

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## ISLANDS MEETING

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### PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT

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#### 14.30-15.00 Opening Session

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- Giovanni Ruggieri, OTIE President
- Representative, CRPM
- President INSULEUR

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#### 15.00 – 16.30 Projects for Island Development

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**Moderator:** Giacoma Brancato, OTIE Project Manager

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- EU PROJECTS CALL FOR ISLANDS (Horizon, Med, Erasmus, etc.)
- ISLANDS FUTURE CHALLENGES THEMES: Clean Energy For Tourism Industry, Overtourism, Nautical Tourism, Volcanoes Tourism, Unesco For Islands, Climate Change, further proposals)
- **Discussion**

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#### 16.30 – 17.00 OTIE Annual General Assembly

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- Approval of the agenda
- Approval of minutes for OTIE Assembly 2017
- OTIE activities 2018
- Institutional Issues
- Nomination of honorary president and executive committee
- 2019 Agenda and next meetings
- AOB