

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

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## 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)

**12:15 - 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)

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## 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)

### 15:30 - 16:40 CONFERENCES:

Plastic Oceans: Global Crisis and the Urgency of the Global Treaty on Plastic Pollution

**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 Coursy**

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

Moderator: Josep L. Pelegrí (ICM-CSIC)

### 17:10 - 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)

### 17:50 - CONFERENCE:

Conservation or Restoration of Marine Ecosystems?

**Purificació Canals**

Marine biologist specialist in MPA management.  
(Underwater Gardens)

### 18:20 - KEYNOTE:

Co-Creating a Climate-Resilient Ocean Future

**Ana Queirós**

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

### 18:50 - 19:30 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<sub>d</sub>: 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 Restoration  
(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)

### 10:30 - 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)

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## SECTION III<sub>b</sub>: 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) & Gokova 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. Autònoma 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

**Valérie Pimentel**

Legal Officer and Environmental Policy Consultant  
(OceanCare)

Giving the ocean a voice: ocean  
advocacy & litigation

**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)

Neurological, Cognitive and Ethical Evidence of  
Sentience in Fish and Invertebrates

**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

#SEAWILDING2025

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your place at the  
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**[www.SeaWilding2025.org](http://www.SeaWilding2025.org)**



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