

OCEAN STATE REPORT. COPERNICUS MARINE SERVICE 2018

The oceans regulate our weather and climate from global to regional scales. They absorb over 90% of accumulated heat in the climate system (IPCC 2013) and over a quarter of the anthropogenic carbon dioxide. They provide nearly half of the world's oxygen. Most of our rain and drinking water is ultimately regulated by the sea. The oceans provide food and energy and are an important source of the planet's biodiversity and ecosystem services. They are vital conduits for trade and transportation and many economic activities depend on them (OECD 2016). Our oceans are, however, under threat due to climate change and other human induced activities and it is vital to develop much better, sustainable and science-based reporting and management approaches (UN 2017). Better management of our oceans requires long-term, continuous and state-of-the art monitoring of the oceans from physics to ecosystems and global to local scales.

The Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Services (CMEMS) has been set up to address these challenges at European level. The CMEMS now provides regular and systematic reference information on the physical state, variability and dynamics of the ocean, ice and marine ecosystems for the global ocean and the European regional seas. This capacity encompasses the description of the current situation (analysis), the prediction of the situation ten days ahead (forecast), and the provision of consistent retrospective data records for recent years (reprocessing and reanalysis). CMEMS provides a sustainable response to European user needs in four areas of benefits: a) maritime safety, b) marine resources, c) coastal and marine environment and d) weather, seasonal forecast and climate.

All CMEMS products are highly dependent on satellite and in-situ observations that are used to develop high level data products, validate models and constrain them through data assimilation. The development of the Copernicus Sentinel missions has already had a major impact on CMEMS and this will increase as it is fully developed.

A EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR LOW- EMISSION MOBILITY

Transport represents almost a quarter of Europe's greenhouse gas emissions and is the main cause of air pollution in cities. The transport sector has not seen the same gradual decline in emissions as other sectors: emissions only started to decrease in 2007 and still remain higher than in 1990. Within this sector, road transport is by far the biggest emitter accounting for more than 70% of all GHG emissions from transport in 2014.

With the global shift towards a low-carbon, circular economy already underway, the Commission's low-emission mobility strategy, adopted in July 2016, aims to ensure Europe stays competitive and able to respond to the increasing mobility needs of people and goods.

Europe's answer to the emission reduction challenge in the transport sector is an irreversible shift to low-emission mobility. By midcentury, greenhouse gas emission from transport will need to be at least 60% lower than 1990 and be firmly on the path towards zero. Emissions of air pollutants from transport that harm our health need to be drastically reduced without delay.

Speech by President D. Tusk at the ceremony of the 60th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome

I was born exactly 60 years ago, so I am the same age as the European Community. For this reason, please allow me for a more personal reflection today. As you know, sometimes the place of birth is even more important than the date of birth. In my case, it is the city of Gdansk. In 1945, incidentally also in the month of March, within a few days Hitler and Stalin destroyed my hometown. It was burnt to the ground.

I was 8 years old when the Community established a single council and a single commission through the Merger Treaty; the road I then took to school every day still led through the ruins of the burnt city. For me, the Second World War is not an abstraction.

In 1980, a year after the first elections to the European Parliament, in Gdansk, the "Solidarity Movement" was born. I was there at the time, in the Gdansk shipyard, among the workers, together with Lech Walesa, who had the courage to shout out the truth about our dreams in the face of the communist regime. They were simple dreams: about human dignity, about freedom and democracy. At that time we all looked to the West, towards a free and unifying Europe, instinctively feeling that this was the very future we were dreaming about. And although tanks and troops were sent against us, those dreams lived on.

When in 1987 the Single European Act (the beginning of the Single Market) entered into force, we in Poland were preparing ourselves for the final battle. "Solidarnosc" won, and soon after, the Berlin Wall also fell: the road to Europe opened up for us. And some 20 years later, already as Polish Prime Minister, I was opening the most modern stadium in Europe, of course in my hometown of Gdansk. The city, that was then completely rebuilt and beautiful as never before. My country had already been in the European Union for 8 years.

NOTA: Los errores tipográficos, ortográficos o de cualquier índole del texto original, deberán ser resueltos por el aspirante.