

THE PORT OF TRIESTE HOSTS THE “DESIGNING THE PORT OF THE FUTURE: HORIZON 2030” CONFERENCE

The conference related to the “DocksTheFuture” European project to analyze future outlooks, challenges, and technologies at the global and local levels will be held on Thursday, April 4

Trieste, 1 April 2019 – Ports and the future: maritime traffic flow projections, the development of transport and logistics, the use of renewable energy, and the new frontiers of technological innovation. These are just a few of the many global and local issues that will be discussed on Thursday, April 4 at Trieste’s Pier IV starting at 9 a.m. on the occasion of “Designing the port of the future: Horizon 2030”, the mid-term conference of the “DocksTheFuture” European project.

This event - promoted by Circle and the “Magellan - EU Affairs Consultancy” Portuguese association in collaboration with the Port System Authority of the Eastern Adriatic Sea - aims at taking stock of the results achieved so far by “DocksTheFuture”. This project is designed to define the concept of the port of the future and the challenges it will have to face: process simplification and digitalization, reduction of emissions, the energy transition, city-port relations, and management of renewable energies. In particular, the conference aims at focusing on the main issues that will affect the design of European ports in the next 10 years, identifying key performance indicators (KPI), drawing a coherent "Port of the Future Road Map" and a network of ports working within the synergy dubbed "Port of the Future Network of Excellence".

“Hosting this conference as part of the celebrations for the 300th anniversary of the Free Port - explains the President of the Port System Authority Zeno D’Agostino – is a way to build upon the successes of the past by integrating them into concrete scenarios for the near future. What ports must become, which technologies will be at our disposal, which new solutions are already in our possession and which will we instead have to come up with to respond to the major challenges that loom ahead. These are some of the issues that elevate our everyday work, placing them within a global framework where time becomes a strategic factor”.

After greetings and opening remarks by Zeno D’Agostino and the Italian coordinator of the “DocksTheFuture” project Alexio Picco, the conference will continue with presentations by representatives of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (GD MOVE). These will be followed by a series of panel discussions on the future competitiveness of European ports, such as the global strategy for mitigating climate change and the new opportunities created by the recent expansion of the Suez Canal. There will then be roundtables focusing on general projections for maritime traffic flows by 2030, the development of the transport and logistics sector in the Baltic Sea, and the main shipping trends in the next ten years. The afternoon will be devoted to technical workshops on technology, processes, and capacity-building actions, with the participation of leading experts in the port sector, including the specialists participating in the “Port of The Future Network”. The conference will end with the regionally-oriented "Ports of Trieste Vision 2030", a close-up look at the main European projects for the development of the region’s ports, such as "Smart Port" and the ICT strategy adopted by the Port System Authority of the Eastern Adriatic Sea.

“DocksTheFuture” is part of the bill of events organized by the Port Authority to celebrate the institution of the Free Port of Trieste by Emperor Charles VI in 1719. The conference, along with the many other events on schedule, is described in the dedicated website <https://portoftrieste300.com>.