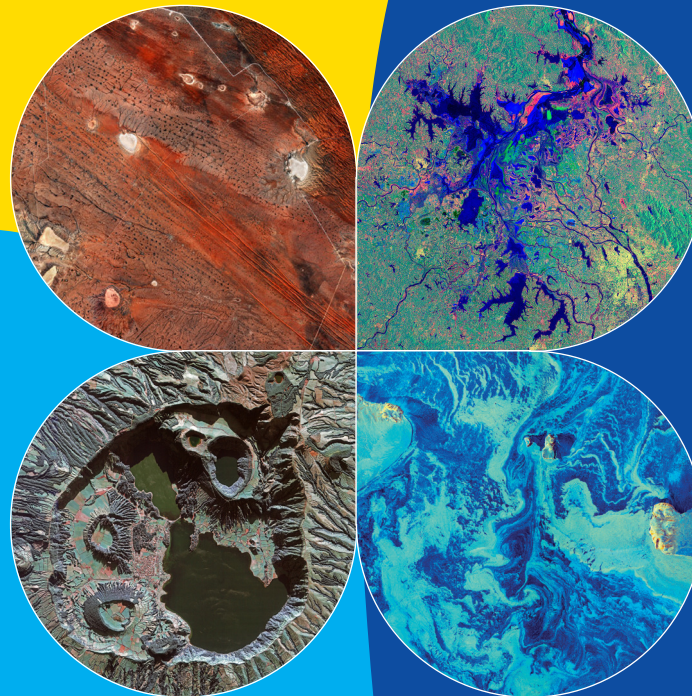


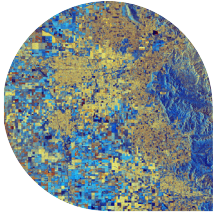
# ANNUAL REPORT 2018





# Contents

04	What is Nereus ?
05	Greetings from the Presidency
06	NEREUS Story 2018
11	Political dialogue/Advocacy
13	Interregional collaboration
15	Regional anchorage/Interregional collaboration
17	NEREUS involvement in EU-funded projects
18	Governance



# What is NEREUS

## **AN ADVOCATE**

for the regional dimension of European space policy and programs

## **A VALUABLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION**

monitoring the most recent developments on space topics of members' interest, striving to guarantee awareness and understanding of space solutions for all public users

## **A DISPLAY WINDOW**

making regional space activities and needs more transparent, awareness raising and promotion of regional space uses

## **A DYNAMIC PLATFORM**

facilitating and promoting the benefits of space uses for all European Regions and their citizens, defining joint positions and views for regional stakeholder, mobilising EU/ESA-funded projects



# Greetings from the President

Dear NEREUS Community,

2018 marked a decisive year for EU-space policy and related programs as well as for the three pillars of the NEREUS cooperation<sup>1</sup>. In both respects we were able to experience first-hand the growing impact of the expanded and more mature use of space.

We welcomed the move by the European Commission (EC) to transform its political vision of a “European Space Strategy” into the delivery of an ambitious EU-space policy. Its budget proposal within the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and its legislative proposal for a new EU-space program 2021 - 2027, both of which were released in 2018, reflect the importance the Union attaches to EU-space policy serving its citizens. To that end I engaged together with the Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Management Board as well as our broader network community in a political dialogue to emphasize the regional dimension in policy debates and to highlight the societal utility and the value of space as a common good.

NEREUS is about sharing - sharing experiences, sharing information and knowledge and sharing common goals. With over 10 years’ of experience as a network of European regions, NEREUS shaped individual public user testimonies and brings them to the attention of politicians and decision-makers. Those regional user stories from across our continent are an important part of our advocacy since they show how space feeds into nearly all public domains and illustrate its value as an important source

of information. On two notable occasions, namely during a working breakfast and during the “Copernicus4Regions”-event, we brought authentic user experiences to the floor at the European Parliament and that allowed to debate with institutional and civil society representatives.

The tangible benefits of Europe’s space endeavors for citizen’s quality of life and regional ecosystems became more and more evident. Copernicus and Galileo/EGNOS are striking examples of the achievements of European cooperation and serve as a lighthouse for European integration. As regions we are privileged to have two excellent space systems at our disposal that have grown fully operational and provide vast data availability and improved data access. Being the closest level to the citizens, we need to spread the word and ensure that this European success story is growing lively.

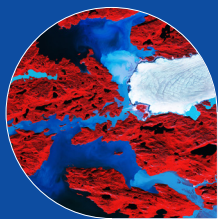
Last but not least I would like to thank the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and my fellow board members, all Member Regions and our Associate Members for their precious support and cooperation. Also I like to thank the NEREUS-secretariat and the many volunteers who advance the activities of our network.

I am glad you contribute to linking your regions with NEREUS and wish you a pleasant read,

Yours,

Michele Emiliano  
NEREUS President

<sup>1</sup> Advocacy and Political Dialogue, II. Interregional Collaboration and Partnerships, III.) Trends and Outreach



# NEREUS Story 2018

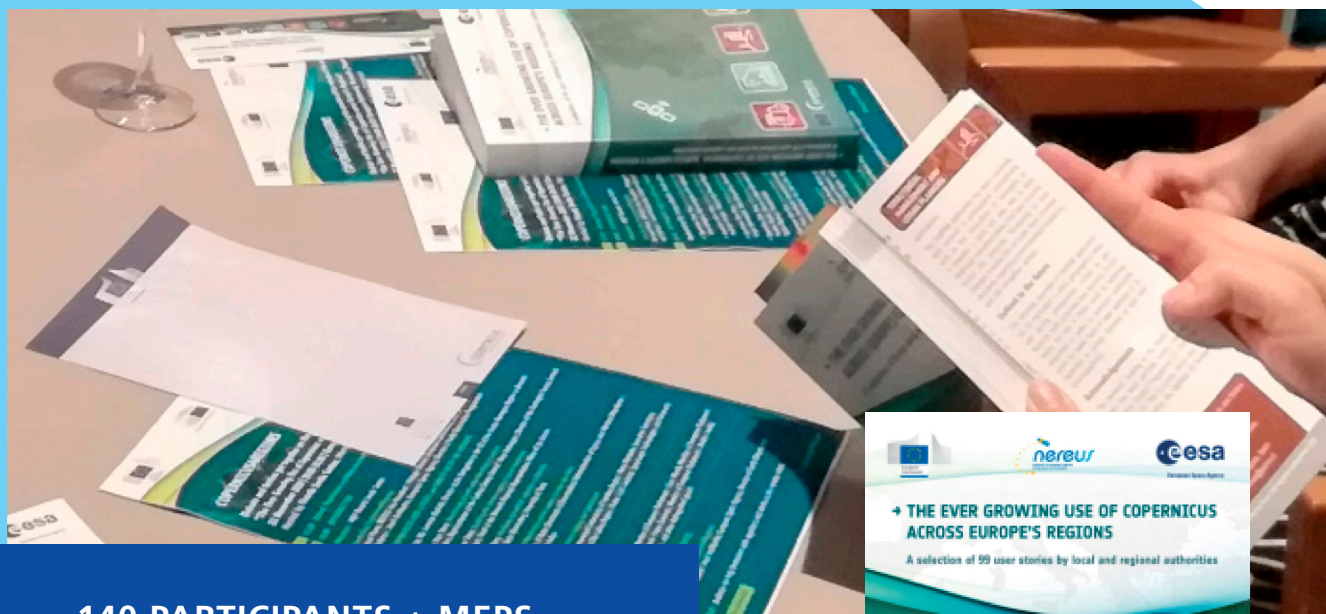
## Copernicus4Regions: 'THE E EUROPE'S REGIONS'- How Eu

99 COPERNICUS USERS STORIES



5 SELECTED ON-STAGE

# EVER GROWING USE OF COPERNICUS ACROSS Europeans benefit from the Copernicus programme

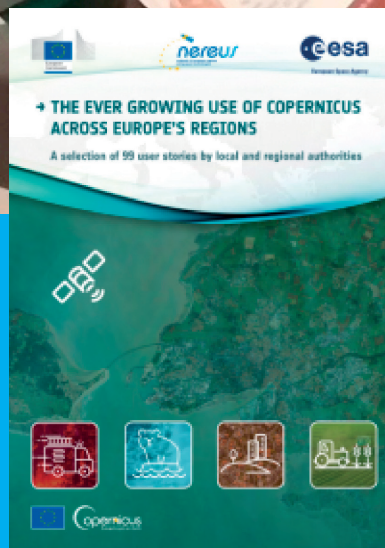


140 PARTICIPANTS + MEPS

## NEREUS PRESENTS USER STORIES TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

As part of the joint initiative titled “The Ever Growing Use of Copernicus across Europe’s Regions” NEREUS, the European Commission and the European Space Agency held a dedicated launch event at the European Parliament in Brussels on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018 to bring the collection of Copernicus user stories to the attention of European policy-makers, regional representatives and the general public.

Due to its closeness to the regional level, NEREUS was tasked with coordinating user testimonies with a focus on local and regional authorities.



**WATCH THE EVENT!**

<http://bit.ly/2GUTLZN>



## THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ILLUSTRATE THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF THE REGIONAL DIMENSION OF EU SPACE PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES:

Member of European Parliament (MEP) Ricardo Serrão Santos (Azores, Portugal) embraced this collaborative effort by hosting and participating in the event: "In Portugal, where I'm from, each year we have a major crisis with forest fires. Copernicus is already being used to address this issue and will be used by our regions in the future", he said. (He even promoted the event through his social media accounts - especially on Twitter). Other MEPs who engaged in the debate were Clare Moody (United Kingdom) and Davor Škrlec (Croatia).



Bernard Plano

NEREUS Vice-President Bernard Plano represented NEREUS at the event. "Now we need to spread the word and make sure that the publication finds its way to regions, politicians, public administrations and all potential stakeholders beyond the consolidated Copernicus user community", he noted.



MEP Ricardo Serrão Santos



Josef Aschbacher

The European Space Agency was represented by Josef Aschbacher (Director of Earth Observation Programmes). "It is very exciting to see how Copernicus Sentinel data are being increasingly used by public authorities to provide better services for European citizens" he said. "Europe has not only developed a world-class Earth observing system from space, but is also leading the take-up of space-based services at local, regional, national and European level", he added.



MEP Clare Moody



MEP Davor Škrlec



Andreas Veispak

"The publication shows the wide-ranging potential of Copernicus data in addressing local needs." "We believe this is only the start and that we are just at the very beginning of a change of society" said Andreas Veispak (Head of Space Data for Societal Challenges and Growth Unit at the EC's DG GROW) who represented the European Commission at the event.

## COPERNICUS USERS TAKE THE FLOOR!



### \*DOWNLOAD THE PUBLICATION

<http://bit.ly/2PIWjOz>



**NAME:** **Frederico Cardigos**  
(Head of the Brussels Regional  
Representation Office of the Azores)

**REGION OF APPLICATION:** Azores

**SENTINEL-BASED AZORES REGIONAL FOREST INVENTORY (P. 102-103)\*:** Frederico highlighted how the systematic use of Copernicus Sentinel data helps to develop a forest monitoring framework. That improves the regional decision support system and leads to a cost-effective and time-saving forest planning and management in the Azores.



**NAME:** **Kaupo Voormansik**  
(Tartu Observatory, University of Tartu)

**REGION OF APPLICATION:** Estonia

**SENTINELS VERIFY AGRICULTURAL SUBSIDIES (P.58-59)\*:** Kaupo pointed out that the development of SATIKAS, an automated satellite based information system using Copernicus satellite services, helps to reduce field visits and is aimed at replacing them entirely. Ultimately that will contribute to more efficient EU spending and better payment decisions.



**NAME:** **Serafim Tsiapelis** (Director of Water Directorate of Decentralised Administration of Epirus and Western Macedonia),  
and **Stelios Bolanos** (Planetek Hellas).

**REGION OF APPLICATION:** Epirus

**MONITORING COASTAL WATERS IN NEAR REAL TIME (P.132-133)\*:** Sentinel-3 satellite data complements SAIMON (a Near Real Time satellite network for monitoring the Eutrophication Risk) with additional information. That enables the Decentralised Administrations of Greece to provide reliable and accurate information to fishermen and fish farms to help them monitor changes in the fish population and thus make better business decisions.



## A UNIQUE INTERREGIONAL COLLABORATION HIGHLIGHTS COPERNICUS USES WORTHWHILE FOR YOUR REGION!

- 177 Authoring Entities
- 99 User stories
- 72 European Regions from almost all of the Copernicus participating countries

*"From brownfield mapping in Wallonia to afforestation monitoring in Thuringia, from public utility management in Milan to farmland monitoring in Lithuania, Copernicus is truly a shared system producing common benefits across Europe."* (The Ever Growing Use of Copernicus across Europe's Regions).

Copernicus4Regions is implemented as a third joint initiative within the long-term partnership between NEREUS, the European Commission (EC) and the Space Agency to promote the European Earth Observation Systems at the regional level. NEREUS provided the platform for interactions to the regional users and formed the editorial team of the publication together with the two institutional partners.

Building on the 2012 Copernicus-collection, which portrayed 67 user cases before the launch of the Sentinels, the results of the collection in 2018 demonstrates that Copernicus uses have entered all levels of regional eco-systems. Although local and regional authorities are not always aware of or ready to exploit the programme's potential, Copernicus4Regions identified numerous examples of how the system is already being successfully applied.

By producing the current Copernicus4Regions edition, the NEREUS-community and its cooperation partners have compiled an outstanding inventory that reaches out to almost all Copernicus Contributing Countries and brings together a broad range of user-experiences. Everything that is achieved within the Copernicus4Regions booklet is the result of the work of volunteers. At the same time the NEREUS community shares the experience of a unique interregional cooperation that connects people through Europe's Earth Observation System.

Special thanks go to the publication manager, Branca Cuca together with Raffaella Brumana from Politecnico di Milano (Department ABC) and all authors, reviewers and volunteers who contributed with their stories, experiences, time and energy to make this a unique interregional cooperation.



## DOWNLOAD THE PUBLICATION

<http://bit.ly/2PIWjOz>



### Comments by Roya Ayazi, NEREUS Secretary General (SG):

*"The production of the Copernicus4Regions publication and the event in the European Parliament coincided with a politically challenging period. As part of its proposal for the next "Multiannual Financial Framework 2021 to 2027" (MFF), the European Commission (EC) had earmarked €16 billion for a new Space Program (May 2019). A month later, in June 2018, a new proposal introduced the regulation of a new EU-space program that brings all EU-space activities under one roof and set out its budget allocations for the €16 billion: €9.7 billion for Galileo/EGNOS; €5.8 billion for Copernicus; and €500 million for SSA and GOVSATCOM. By the time we released the Copernicus4Regions publication in the European Parliament in autumn 2018, members were debating the space dossier and defining their views on the proposed regulation. In fact, the relevant Parliamentary Committee, the Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) committee, had just approved the report by the centre-right Member of European Parliament Massimo Salini (EPP, Italy)."*

## OUTLOOK 2019

Copernicus4Regions moves on:

- Five stories of important public policy domains have been selected to produce promotional videos;
- Short Info-Sheets on specific use-cases were generated;
- Promoting the Copernicus4regions compendium: Interviews with regional user representatives as well as snapshots of the territories were produced; live updates from @NEREUSaisbl.



# Political dialogue/ Advocacy

## COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS: NEREUS' PRESIDENT UNDERLINES REGIONS' POTENTIAL TO STRENGTHEN THE EUROPEAN DOWNSTREAM SPACE SECTOR

08th February 2018, NEREUS President Michele Emiliano was invited by the Committee of the Regions (CoR) to participate in a round table discussion with the European Space Agency (ESA) on "Growth, innovation, and investment in Europe's Regions: the opportunities of space".

Mr. Emiliano emphasized the important role that regions can play in the development of the downstream space sector. By broadly promoting space applications they contribute to modernize the public sector, bring benefits to the citizens and facilitate the interregional and inter-cluster cooperation.

He explicitly referred to the ongoing political discussion between NEREUS, the CoR, ESA and national space agencies, European Commission and Parliament, and to the development of specific joint space activities where regions can play a key role due to their proximity to the territories and citizens.



**READ MORE**

<http://bit.ly/2UWREcX>

*"We represent those institutions who work every day in close contact with the people: men, women, workers, students, families. I believe that we should put more efforts and our full commitment as regional representatives to work together and make it happen".*  
Michele Emiliano, NEREUS President



### BACKGROUND INFO:

The Committee of the Regions is a close strategic partner of NEREUS and has supported the network since its establishment. In the recent years, partly through the commitment of politicians from NEREUS-regions, the CoR, ENVE-Commission has increasingly issued opinions on space dossiers (e.g. European Space Strategy). NEREUS closely followed the discussions and compilations of the opinion on "The space programme of the European Union and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme" by rapporteur Andres Jaadla that was adopted on 05th December 2018.

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: ENGAGING EUROPEAN DECISION MAKERS IN INVESTING MORE IN SPACE ACTIVITIES TARGETED AT REGIONS

3rd of May 2018, NEREUS organized a working breakfast meeting on "The significance of EU Space activities for regions and their citizens" hosted by Member of European Parliament Monika Hohlmeier (EPP, Germany – President of Parliament's Sky&Space Intergroup). The event particularly addressed Members of the Budget Committee and Members with a constituency in NEREUS-regions.



MEP Monika Hohlmeier

NEREUS launched this debate with Members of the European Parliament one day after the European Commission' had published its proposal for the next Multiannual Financial Framework which earmarked €16 billion for a new European space program. NEREUS-Vice-Presidents Bärbel Deisting and Mark Lester (University of East Midlands) represented the network on this occasion and spoke on behalf of the regional user community.

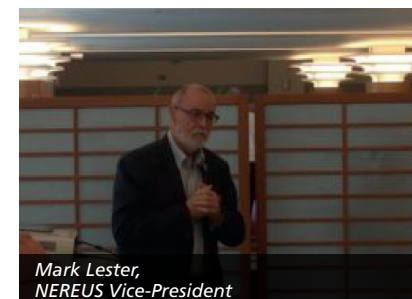
NEREUS transmitted its political message by bringing four short user-stories to the attention of the participants. Among those, a representative from Wallonia (Pierre-Yves Declercq (Researcher, Geological Survey of Belgium) explained the impact of space on beer production), an entrepreneur from Hesse (Jürgen Born, CEO, Spatial Business Integration) presented his App "Solorrow": "precision farming finally easy") and an industry representative from the Bremen (based company OHB shared an example of how fisheries can be monitored from space).

At the event attended by some 65 participants, NEREUS seized the opportunity to call for:

- Doubling investments compared to previous MFF: space investments mean securing our future;
- Keeping Europe's space systems at the forefront: continuing Europe's space flagship programmes, structures and efforts as well as clear governance and operational reliability;
- Dedicating 5% of the total space budget to user uptake and market development, with a particular emphasis on the regional/ local dimension on both the offer and the demand side.



Bärbel Deisting,  
NEREUS Vice-  
President



Mark Lester,  
NEREUS Vice-President



### OUTLOOK 2019 (Roya Ayazi, NEREUS SG):

*Members of European Parliament with a constituency in NEREUS-regions are an important target group for the network. Prior to the working breakfast in the European Parliament NEREUS had closely worked with the Brussels-based group to mobilize Members with a constituency in NEREUS-regions. That resulted in Members of European Parliament (MEP) Ricardo Serrão Santos, Mercedes Bresso and Caroline Nagtegaal taking the floor and enriching the debate with impulse statements.*

*The next European Parliament elections in May 2019 also mark an important date for the network. Following the elections, all NEREUS-regions are encouraged to liaise with their Member to promote and foster the regional impact of space policy in Europe.*



### LINK TO THE EVENT

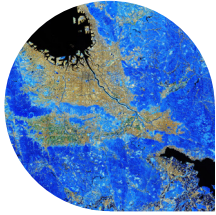
<http://bit.ly/2Jesx0>



### DOWNLOAD THE LEAFLET

<http://bit.ly/2DN1h8e>





# Interregional collaboration

## "SPACE4CULTURE": THE CONTRIBUTION OF EARTH OBSERVATION SERVICES FOR A BETTER REGIONAL CULTURAL POLICY

### CULTURAL HERITAGE IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF EACH REGION'S IDENTITY

15-16 October 2018, hosted by Basilicata region, NEREUS organized a 2-day workshop together with TeRN Consortium, the Italian Space Agency as well as EURISY on "Satellite services for creative and historical cities" in Matera, Italy. Taking place in the European Year of Cultural Heritage the workshop enhanced a discussion and exchange on how operational satellite services can support the management of historical cities and the enhancement of the cultural and creative sectors. The broad range of illustrative case studies from across Europe and the Middle East comprised examples related to safeguarding and promoting cultural heritage, managing historical cities in remote areas thanks to 5G, enabling cultural and artistic experiences, and promoting access to culture and arts within and around cities in Europe and in the Mediterranean area.

Roberto Cifarelli, Minister for Development, Employment, Training and Research Policies of the Basilicata Region underlined that historic cities like Matera are privileged but also challenged by their cultural heritage. This impels regional authorities to develop a vision on regional development that to closely links culture with innovation and new technologies. For this reason Basilicata Region chose culture and aerospace sector as two of the main axes of its Smart Specialization Strategy. This vision together with actors such as a competitive aero-space hub, a committed research community and the presence in Matera of the Geodesy Centre "Giuseppe Colombo" of the Italian Space Agency make of Basilicata an ideal test bed for Space4Culture. On the first day in his keynote speech, Michel Praet, ESA Head of the ESA-EU relations, underlined: "More culture for a better space policy; and more space policy – or if you prefer, more space data – for a better culture policy" and concluded that "thanks to 'Copernicus', the EU becomes one of the biggest data providers in the world, the Sentinel satellites collecting continuously data, ensuring sustainability and also continuity."

**34 SPEAKERS among them NEREUS Members and regions as well as a broad panorama of institutional representatives ranging from European Commission (DG GROW and DG CNECT), ESA, UNESCO**



**Audience: Politicians, decision-makers at the European, national, regional and local levels, intergovernmental organisations, academia and research centres, international organisations and NGOs active in the cultural and creative sectors**



*Bärbel Deisting, NEREUS-Vice-president with Roberto Cifarelli, Minister of the Basilicata Region*



*Roya Ayazi, NEREUS SG*

The roundtable discussion 'Capitalising on the Space4Culture conference to stimulate civil society and boost policy dialogue', moderated by Roya Ayazi, SG NEREUS, brought together a good mix of panelists from the political level, European institutions, national space agency, regional clusters, and others to share their perspective on the future of Space4Culture - how space for culture can be better exploited by new professional user communities and public administrations operating in the cultural sector.

When closing the conference NEREUS-Vice-president Bärbel Deisting thanked all speakers for their illustrative cases. She had particularly been impressed by the presentation on Using satellite images to assess the damages to Iraqi cities. Understanding how Earth Observation contributed at six archaeological sites to identify any damages gave an insight that space data is a precious source of information. She highlighted the role satellite services can play for cultural heritage to the benefits of society.



## NEREUS-REGIONS SHARE THE "SPACE GIRLS SPACE WOMEN EXHIBITION" AS A JOINT EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE

Since its launch in 2015 in Paris the photo exposition toured various NEREUS-Regions: Apulia (Bari), Lombardy (Milan), Abruzzo (Chieti), East Midland (Leicester), Azores (Santa Maria). In 2018 it was presented in Bremen (Free Hanseatic City of Bremen) on the occasion of the year of space, in Occitanie (Toulouse) on the occasion of the Toulouse Space Show 2018 and in Basilicata (Matera).

NEREUS is together with other partners such as the GSA, the French Space Agency (CNES), the Italian Space Agency (ASI), Women in Aerospace (WIA), who are sponsoring partner of the initiative. This allowed the NEREUS-partners the rights to use the exposition. Due to the positive response the NEREUS Management Board agreed to extend the usage rights until December 2019 to offer more regions the opportunity to benefit from the exposition:

- Demonstrating space-related activities and space technologies;
- Attracting young audience and presenting space-based career opportunities;
- Strengthening the visibility of their local space capabilities and
- Facilitating conferences on gender equality issues in the STEM field.

### OUTLOOK 2019: SPACE GIRLS SPACE WOMEN MOVES ON (comments by Roya Ayazi, SG NEREUS)

*NEREUS regions across Europe share the exposition as a joint infrastructure but every hosting region brought the exposition also in its own specific local context. We are delighted to see the enthusiasm and interest with which it is met amongst our members. We strongly encourage more members to grasp the opportunity and become one of the hosting regions in 2019: Madrid and Wallonia presented the exposition in the first quarter with great success.*



Azores



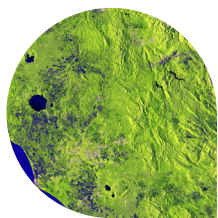
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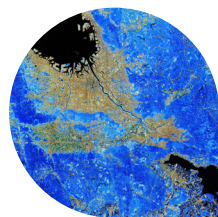
### WATCH OUR TEASER VIDEO

<http://bit.ly/2IWYDFY>





# Regional Anchorage



# Interregional collaboration

## REGIONAL WORKSHOPS IN 2018



Veneto Region



Tuscany Region



Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region

### WORKSHOP ON 'COMMERCIALISATION AND UTILISATION OF SPACE TECHNOLOGIES', 15-16 MARCH 2018, TORINO, PIEDMONT REGION

Organised by NEREUS and its Working Group on Technologies from Space Exploration, Piedmont Region and ESA, hosted by ALTEC – The Italian Gateway to the International Space Station

Over 70 participants attended the Workshop which aimed at identifying successful business ideas and innovative concepts demonstrating the benefits of the utilization, direct commercialization and indirect exploitation of space exploration outcomes.

### WORKSHOP ON "MATINÉE ESPACE, NUMÉRIQUE ET TRANSITION ECOLOGIQUE", 24 APRIL 2018, NOUVELLE-AQUITAINE REGION

Organised in partnership with the clusters Aerospace Valley (Occitanie Region) and Digital Aquitaine (Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region) in the frame of the Booster Nova initiative and supported by the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region and Aerospace Campus.

Raising awareness on the potential use of space data among the Nouvelle-Aquitaine ecosystem of digital and green companies and sharing experiences of other EU regional players using them for public policy purposes.

### WORKSHOP ON "WHAT CAN EARTH OBSERVATION DO FOR SUSTAINABLE PRECISION AGRICULTURE?", 16-17 MAY, TUSCANY REGION

Organised by Tuscany Region and hosted in its demo farm Tenuta dell'Alberese, the event was implemented in the frame of the Watify-scheme, an awareness-raising campaign funded by the European Commission to stimulate the technological transformation of Europe's industry.

Facilitating the dialogue between the technology providers and agricultural user communities the WS focused on the question how the use of Europe's Earth Observation space system and IT-technologies tackle current and future challenges in the agricultural sector.

### ROUND TABLE ON "SPACE FOR INSPIRATION AND WOMEN LEADERSHIP" & NETWORKING BREAKFAST, 25 MAY, OSTUNI, APULIA REGION

Organized by the Distretto Tecnologico Aerospaziale (DTA) together with the Italian Space Agency (ASI) and the European Space Agency (ESA)

Building a well-balanced and diverse workplace and encouraging more women to undertake studies in aerospace and cover leadership position.

### SPACE4TOULOUSE EXCHANGING EXPERIENCE IN USING SATELLITE APPLICATIONS TO BUILD SUSTAINABLE CITIES, 28 JUNE, TOULOUSE, OCCITANIE

Organized by CNES, NEREUS and Eurisy

Cities using satellite-based services to better manage public topics/dossiers such as urban plan monitoring and public bus traffic flows.

### COPERNICUS HACKATHON PROGRAMME, 5-7 OCTOBER, VENETO REGION

Funded by the European Commission and organized by the European Institute for Technological Development

Fostering the uptake of Copernicus Earth Observation data and the development of new applications that address societal challenges related to the Sustainable Development Goals.



### OUTLOOK REGIONAL WORKSHOPS IN 2019 (comments by Roya Ayazi, SG NEREUS):

*Regional workshop are at the core of NEREUS and an important element of the regional strategy to ensure a strong presence of the network in the territories. Regional workshop contribute to shape regional and local space communities and bring topics and trend with a European dimension to the regional level. On the list for 2019 (not finalized yet):*

- 28th/ 29th May EO4GEO-Workshop jointly with Aerospace Campus Nouvelle-Aquitaine
- 06th/07th June "COPERNICUS MARINE FOR OUTERMOST AND MARITIME REGIONS" jointly with Azores Region and MERCATOR
- Space Policy Industry Dialogue in Bavaria (2nd semester 2019)



# NEREUS involvement in EU-funded projects



## CORDINET (COPERNICUS RELAYS FOR DIGITALIZATION NETWORK)

[HTTPS://CORDINET.NET/](https://cordinet.net/)

CoRdiNet is an open network of five very diverse Copernicus Relays with a coordinating function on local, regional, cluster and national level, supporting, promoting and stimulating digitalisation and new business solutions based on Earth Observation (EO) i.e. Copernicus data. The Horizon2020-funded project is led by the Bavarian network partner bavAIRia e. V. and the University of Leicester (East Midlands) and the Tern-Consortium (Basilicata) are amongst the consortia partners. NEREUS is in charge of integrating external partners into the activities and is responsible for a fund of 100.000 EUR to support additional activities of Copernicus-relays across Europe. The project kicked off in October 2018 and has a duration of two years.



## EO4GEO (TOWARDS AND INNOVATIVE STRATEGY FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE SPACE GEO-INFORMATION SECTOR SUPPORTING COPERNICUS USER UPTAKE)

[HTTP://WWW.EO4GEO.EU/](http://www.eo4geo.eu/)

EO4GEO project aims to fill the gap between technological developments and specific skills for people who are able to drive and support change in the space/geospatial sectors (e.g. ICT). Main output will be the definition of a long-term sectorial skills strategy for the space/geospatial sectors. The project is funded as an Erasmus+ Sector Skills Alliance gathering 26 partners from 13 EU countries, most of which are part of the Copernicus Academy Network from academia, public or private sector active in the education and training fields of the space / geospatial sectors. EO4GEO is additionally the Blueprint for Sectoral Cooperation on Skills funded for the space/geo-information sector. The project kicked off in January 2018 and has a duration of 4 years. In the reporting year NEREUS was involved in the project activities as responsible for communication and dissemination. Outlook 2019: NEREUS will organize two dedicated outreach workshops to promote the project's activities towards regional stakeholder communities.



# Governance

The **General Assembly** represents all NEREUS Full and Associate Members. It is the **key decision-making body and supreme power** of the organization. NEREUS being a network of regions, Full Members play an essential part in it and have full voting rights, whilst Associate Members may only express views in a consultative role and participate in the General Assembly in a non-voting capacity.



The General Assembly 2017 was held in Brussels on 19th May 2017

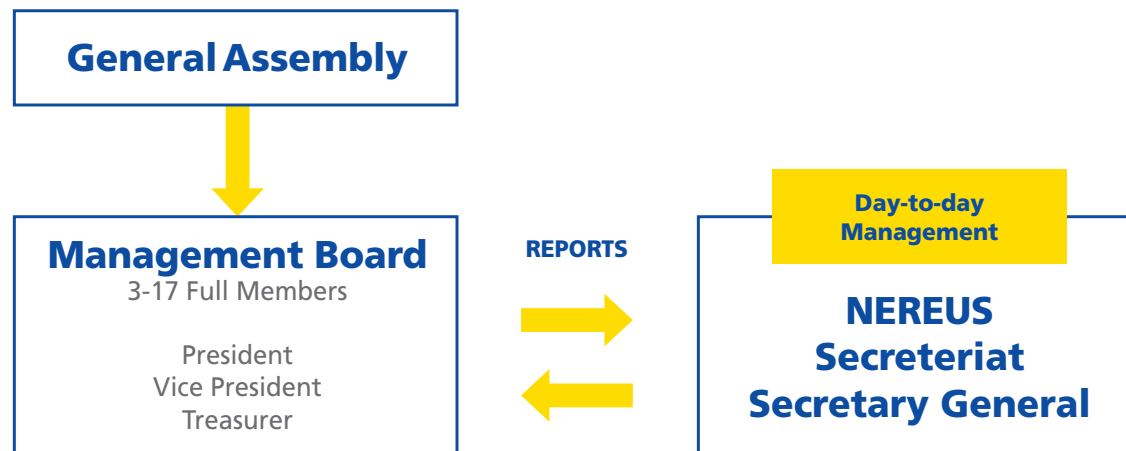
The General Assembly 2018 was held in Brussels on 29th November 2018

The **Management Board** is the steering committee of the network: it decides on strategy and monitors the implementation of the work programme. It is entrusted with the overall responsibility of the association management, appoints the Secretary General and engages in a regular exchange with the Secretariat in order to focus on the political dialogue, the working group and other opportunities for the network. Only the regions (Full Members) may nominate representatives to the Management Board.

In 2017, the Management Board met in March, May, September and November.

In 2018, the Management Board met in May and November.

## NEREUS aisbl Structure





#### **NEREUS-President (Apulia Region, Italy)**

Michele Emiliano was born in Bari on July 23rd, 1959. He has three sons, Giovanni, Pietro and Francesca. He is judge and he was deputy public prosecutor at the Anti-Mafia Directorate of Bari and, previously, in the Courts of Brindisi (Puglia) and of Agrigento (Sicily). In its functions as public prosecutor he has instructed some of the most important processes against Mafia in Puglia. He has been Mayor of Bari for ten years, from 2004 to 2014, leading a center-left coalition. He has been Regional Secretary of the Democratic Party between October 2007 and 2009, and then since February 2014. In June 2014 he was appointed Councilor for Legality and Municipal police in the City of San Severo (Foggia). He was elected President of Puglia Region on May 31st, 2015 in the coalition of the center-left, with 791,498 votes and a percentage of 47.17%



#### **NEREUS-Vice-President (Bavaria Region, Germany)**

Dipl.-Math. Bärbel Deisting is Director of Space and Space Applications at bavAIRia e.V. Moreover, she is the German ESA business applications ambassador, Vice-president of NEREUS the Network of European Regions Using Space Technologies and a member of the Scientific Committee of the Navis Centre in Hanoi. She received a degree in Mathematics from the Ludwig-Maximilians-University (LMU) and was working until 2012 for ISTA, University FAF Munich, ITIS e.V. and ITIS GmbH. There she was working in the field of GPS and Galileo and was involved in several EU projects. She was a member of organizing committee of the Munich Satellite Navigation Summit until 2012. Furthermore, she has an apprenticeship as mediator.



#### **NEREUS-Vice-President (East Midlands, United Kingdom)**

Prof Mark Lester is Professor of Solar Terrestrial Physics at the University of Leicester. He has over 40 years' experience working on the space plasma physics with personal research interests in ionospheric and magnetospheric physics and has published nearly 350 papers in the scientific literature. He has extensive experience of working with and operating HF radars and is the Chair of the executive council of the Super Dual Auroral Radar Network (SuperDARN). He has also worked with a variety of spacecraft data sets and is currently working on a project involving various spacecraft at Mars. As a Professor at one of the UK's leading Universities involved in space research, he also believes passionately in the training and education of the next generation of space scientists and engineers.



#### **NEREUS-Vice-President (Occitania Region, France)**

Bernard PLANO, Regional Councilor of the Region Occitanie / Pyrénées-Méditerranée, was elected Vice-President of NEREUS in 2017. Deeply involved in the economic development of the Region, Mr. Plano is Vice-President of the Industry Committee and of the Regional Innovation Agency. Besides, this former space industry engineer is the Chairman and Founder of the Inspace Institute, which aims at promoting the development of spatial applications for public authorities, in order to better tackle environmental and urban issues. Finally, he serves as Mayor of Lannemezan and President of the Plateau de Lannemezan Communauté de Communes.

**NEREUS Vice-President (Lombardy Region, Italy)**

Fabrizio Sala was born in Milan on 13 June 1971. Holding an Accounting Diploma, he worked in the furniture industry until he was elected Mayor of the Municipality of Misinto until 2009. In 2013, he became a Regional Councilor and was appointed Under-secretary for Expo 2015 and the Internationalization of Enterprises and the following year he became Councilor for Housing, Social Housing, Expo 2015 and the Internationalization of Enterprises. In October 2015, he became Vice President of the Lombardy Region and also in charge for the International relations. In July 2016 he has been elected President of the European Chemical Regions Network, ECRN, and in May 2017 he became Vice President of the Network of European Regions Using Space Technologies, NEREUS.

**NEREUS Board Member (Basilicata Region, Italy)**

Marcello Pittella was born in Lauria on June 4 1962. He is currently serving as 10th President of Basilicata region since 2013, as a representative of the Democratic Party. Father of three, Marcello holds a Medicine Degree and started his political career at a 31, when he was first elected as municipal councilor of his home town, Lauria. He became Lauria's Mayor from 2001 to 2005, and was then elected two times in a row as part of the Basilicata Regional Council. He joined Basilicata's Regional Government in 2012 as Councilor of Productive Activities and was its Vice President from April 2013 to September 2013. He was elected as President of Basilicata Region with 59,60% of preferences.

**NEREUS Board Member (Azores Region, Portugal)**

Francisco Luís Wallenstein Faria e Maia de Macedo has graduated in Economics (Universidade Nova de Lisboa, 1994) and in Biology (Universidade dos Açores, 2002) and has a PhD in Marine Biology (Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh-Scotland, 2011). After 10 years doing research on coastal ecosystems of the Azores and 5 years working as Project Officer in the Fisheries and Science & Technology Departments of the Regional Government of the Azores, he was recently appointed to represent the Region in NEREUS and Copernicus matters and invited to integrate the Cabinet of the Regional Secretary for Sea, Science and Technology and the Azores Mission Structure for Space.

**NEREUS Treasurer (Baden Württemberg, Germany)**

Senator E.h. Wolfgang Wolf completed his vocational training and obtained the right to study at the same time. He then studied economics at the Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen at the same time Wolfgang Wolf worked in the Institute for Applied Economic Research (IAW). After completing his studies, he worked as a research assistant at the University of Tübingen, as well as a department head at the regional association of the local health insurance companies in Württemberg-Baden. Wolfgang Wolf has been working for the Baden-Württemberg-based Industry Association (LVI) since 1980. He was appointed to the management of the LVI in 1981 and became a member of the Executive Board of the LVI in 1994. He headed the founding of the Aerospace Forum in Baden-Württemberg (LR BW) in 2005 and since then has been Managing Director of LR BW. In the 12 years since the founding of LR BW, he has been particularly active in the aerospace industry as an important cross-section technology of Baden-Württemberg, in politics and other industries. He is also managing director and board member of other associations and clusters and holds numerous honorary offices in economically oriented institutions.





#### **NEREUS Board Member (Mazovia Region, Poland)**

Surveyor of the Mazovia Region

Director of the Department of Digitization, Geodesy and Cartography in the Office of the Marshal of Mazowieckie Voivodeship  
Has over 30 years of professional experience including: surveyor of the region, director of the Department of Geodesy, Cartography, Cadastre and Real Estate of the Provincial Office in Płock, director of the Land Surveying and Real Estate Department in the Office of County in Płock, director of the Real Estate Cadastre Department and deputy director of the Surveyor General of Poland, director of Provincial Geodetic and Cartographic Documentation Center in Warsaw, director of the Office of Regional Surveyor in Warsaw. He currently holds the position of surveyor of the voivodship and the director of the Department of Digitization, Geodesy and Cartography of the Office of the Marshal of Mazowieckie Voivodeship in Warsaw. He is an author and co-author of publications on spatial information, e-government, several copyrights in the field of geodesy, cartography, cadastre and real estate management. He has professional qualifications to serve positions in the field of geodesy and cartography, court expert in the field of property valuation.



#### **NEREUS Board Member (Hesse Region, Germany)**

Ms. Perdita De Buhr, Hessian Ministry of Economics, Energy, Transport and Regional Development



#### **FULL MEMBERS**

<http://bit.ly/2UXAjAu>



#### **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

<http://bit.ly/2Li1WVu>

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