



DRAFT Concept  
Web-session: **“Copernicus4regions” with invited speaker Julien Turpin, European Commission (EC) and Alessandra Tassa European Space Agency (ESA) on Tuesday, 06<sup>th</sup> October 2020, 14.00h**  
(Online event, 45 min. – 1h)

**Target group:** **NEREUS-members** with an interest in the European Earth Observation Program Copernicus and interregional collaborations; NEREUS-members who were involved in Copernicus4regions;

**Objectives:**

- Updating members about the latest evolution of Copernicus4region and next steps, presenting the material that has been lately developed in the frame of the project;
- Exchanging with the EC, ESA and member regions about promoting Copernicus at the regional level and the role of regions for up-take and further development of the system;
- Exchange with ESA to better prepare the planned visit of a high-level NEREUS-delegation at ESA/ESRIN in the second semester 2021;
- Sharing experiences and knowledge, networking and mobilizing interregional collaborations;

**Background:**

NEREUS and the European Space Agency (ESA) entertain since 2011 a long-term partnership to promote the European Earth Observation System Copernicus at the regional level. In this context, NEREUS and ESA, realized the former collection [“The Growing Use of GMES Across Europe’s Regions”](#) in 2012 and the series of thematic workshops “What can SENTINELS do for regions” in 2015.

Focused on local and regional authorities, [Copernicus4Regions](#), the latest collaborative initiative that was implemented as a cooperation between NEREUS, EC and ESA, portrays with concrete user experiences how Copernicus is increasingly supporting the public sector in Europe. It provides an analysis and a practical reference for the broad range of use opportunities and solutions, while also encouraging administrations to share their user experiences.

Copernicus4regions comprises different tools, each aimed to promote better awareness of the capabilities and opportunities of Copernicus. The collection of **99 user-stories** in 8 user-domains that are presented in an online and paper collection were the starting point of the project. In the meantime, other tools have been developed that will be presented during the webinar.

Copernicus4regions is an initiative by volunteers and assembled a large Copernicus stakeholder community. Copernicus4regions is about community building, sharing experience and knowledge and learning from each other. The initiative is an important step to make the competence and experience of different stakeholders and in particular of local and regional authorities who already use Copernicus successfully more transparent.



During the webinar, we want to exchange with Julien Turpin, the responsible project officer from the EC (tbc) and Alessandra Tassa who is the responsible from the European Space Agency (ESA) for the Copernicus4regions initiative. We wish to discuss with Alessandra the motivation of the agency to cooperate with regions and her views on the long-term partnership with NEREUS.

#### **Draft –Program:**

- Brief impulse presentation “**What is Copernicus4regions about & why NEREUS entertains a partnership/cooperation with ESA;** by Roya Ayazi, NEREUS Secretary-General (5 min)
- Presentation of Teaser
- A short presentation by Margarita Chryski (NEREUS-Project/Communication Officer) on the latest **Copernicus4regions material and where to find it** (5-8 min)
- **Short impulse statements (max.3-5 min.) by NEREUS-members** sharing their experience:
  - Brittany region whose Copernicus-community submitted the highest number of user-stories from all regions across Europe: **René Garello (ITM Atlantic and Director of the BreTel ISU)**, an author from Brittany region (Why did you decide to submit an article? Did you cooperate with other Copernicus stakeholder in your region? What do you like about the Copernicus4regions initiative? Do you find the material produced in the frame of Copernicus4regions useful? For which target groups have you used it? Do you cooperate with other European partners? What is in your view an important hurdle to advance Copernicus up-take at regional level? )
  - **Branca Cuca (Politecnico di Milano)** who supported the initiative a publication manager, suggestions of questions to shape intervention, e.g. what motivated you to present your candidacy as publication manager to the Copernicus4regions initiative? How did you experience the cooperation within the Copernicus4regions initiative? What was different compared to other initiatives you are involved in? What do you value about the material that has been produced in the frame of Copernicus4regions? What could have been done better? What is in your view an important hurdle to advance Copernicus up-take at regional level?
  - **Silvano de Zorzi (Veneto Region)** who supported the initiative as part of the independent review panel, suggestions of questions to shape intervention, e.g. what motivated you to join the independent expert review panel within the Copernicus4regions initiative? How did you experience the cooperation within the Copernicus4regions initiative? What do you value about the material that has been produced in the frame of Copernicus4regions? What could have been done better? What is in your view an important hurdle to advance Copernicus up-take at regional level?



- **Exchange with invited speakers Julien Turpin (EC) - tbc and Alessandra Tassa (ESA)** (Questions to be defined together: Why is it interesting for EC and ESA to cooperate with regions? Where do you see the role of regions for the up-take and further development of the system? How have you experienced the co-operations with the regional level and regional stakeholder? What do you think impedes the regional level for advancing with a systematic up-take and broader use of the system to address regional challenges? What could be topics and points of common interest to be addressed in a meeting with a high-level political NEREUS-delegation and your director?)
- Questions/Comments by participants to **“Copernicus4regions”** (moderated discussion)
- Closing

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