Our Ocean 2017 Conference: Malta, 5-6 October

The news:

The European Union will host the fourth edition of Our Ocean conference in Malta, 5-6 October 2017.

Our Ocean conference aims to inspire joint solutions and ambitious commitments in managing seas and oceans — which cover 75% of our planet.

On behalf of the EU, High Representative / Vice-President **Mogherini** and Commissioner Karmenu **Vella** will be co-hosting the event, in the presence of First Vice-President **Timmermans** and Commissioner **Mimica**.

Over 700 participants are expected to attend, from more than 60 countries, including more than 50 Heads of State or Government and ministers.

Our Ocean 2017 has already attracted over 150 commitments and counting, including from more than 50 companies, ranging from the traditional fisheries sector to the Silicon Valley tech.

The background:

Previous conferences, hosted by the governments of the United States (2014, 2016) and Chile (2015), have seen a wide range of <u>commitments</u> and billions of euros pledged.

Our Ocean 2017 will address the themes of marine protected areas, sustainable fisheries, marine pollution, and climate change. This year, it will also offer a distinctively European flavour by introducing the themes of blue economy and maritime security. Our Ocean will engage participants from around the globe who will make significant commitments. With a focus on high-level engagement, partnership and action, the EU continues to drive other international efforts, such as delivery on the <u>Sustainable Development Goals</u> under Agenda 2030. The conference also complements the EU's <u>international</u> ocean governance initiative, which sets out an agenda for the future of the oceans around the world, proposing 50 concrete actions.

The event:

5-6 October, St Julian, Malta

Agenda

The sources:

Our Ocean 2017

Ocean Governance

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