

Barcelona, 23 April 2015

Dear colleague,

Further to the adoption of the Maritime Policy Green Paper of 2006, the European Commission conceived a new initiative that gathered all parties interested in maritime affairs with the objective of establishing a new integrated maritime policy. Among other actions, the European Maritime Day was born, and in this framework different maritime sectors organise activities and events with the aim of promoting the maritime Europe.

We would like to invite you to participate in a proposal related to this celebration, which this year takes place in the Greek city of Piraeus on the 20th of May.

In former editions some of us have individually taken actions in favour of the valorisation of maritime heritage and, very particularly, of historical vessels. In our opinion it is not often that we achieve joint actions among us.

Our proposal is to carry out a simple action but coordinated between as many agents as possible, who work for the preservation and conservation of these vessels, be it locally or at an European level. The objective is to make visible this heritage and its low awareness in our Catalan area, and also enlarge its field of action onto Europe. As you all know, maritime heritage in many of our communities and territories is not fully recognised and is not preserved as it should. This lack of valorisation increases even more in the case of traditional and historical vessels.

Therefore, we wish to propose an awareness action in Catalonia and Europe, and we would like to address to all those heritage organisations, associations, entities, and heritage vessels' owners to celebrate the European Maritime Day. The action is to raise a pennant the 20<sup>th</sup> of May in your museum, the heritage vessel you guard or own, your entity or those in your community that would wish to join.

To get started with this action Catalan Maritime Museums have already contacted entities in the territory with the intention of trying to search complicity of other maritime sectors.

The Maritime Museum of Barcelona and the Network of Maritime Museums of the Catalan Coast are responsible for the design of a common pennant. We attach in our mail a digital copy so that you can print a 40cm x 40cm pennant, and make dissemination next 20<sup>th</sup> of May during the European Maritime Day.

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This action should not be too expensive for any of us, and we are convinced that media coverage could be positive to raise awareness on this heritage. We would also like to ask you to send us a photo of the pennant placed, so that we can disseminate in the future the initiative that starts this year 2015.

The success of this action is in our hands. And, if we also reach to our area of influence, success will be totally attained.

Thank you for your collaboration.

Kindest regards,



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