



27th ERVO Annual Meeting
2nd - 4th June 2025
Tórshavn, Faroe Islands



Eurofleets AISBL: from Eurofleets projects to a permanent European coordination structure

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A permanent European coordination structure



At European level, the **Eurofleets projects**, the annual **ERVO** meetings and the ship time exchange mechanisms set up by **OFEG** have strengthened our cooperation.

Building on this legacy of success , the **Marine Institute**, **Ifremer**, **CNR** and **RBINS** have worked to create a new pan-European distributed Research Infrastructure, named **Eurofleets**, allowing the creation of a “common house” for the European research fleet operators.

Eurofleets, which **does not seek financial gain**, aims to work in the collective interest of its members **to promote and foster cooperation between European institutional owners and operators of research vessels**.

More specifically the **purpose of the Organization** is:

- ✓ to facilitate and to coordinate **access to and utilization of** ship and seagoing facilities owned or operated by its members **including transnational access**;
- ✓ to coordinate European **training mechanisms**;
- ✓ to manage a **permanent strategic working group** on European fleets to advice on strategic development;
- ✓ To provide **easy access to up-to-date information** on European research vessels and Large Exchangeable Instrumentation.



The legal entity was formally established the 26th of March 2025 in Bruxelles.

The legal form of Eurofleets is an international non-profit association under the Belgian law (AISBL).

The Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences kindly offered to host the statutory seat of the association.

E-mail address: info@eurofleets.eu

Website address: <https://www.eurofleets.eu>



The **strategic decision-making body of the Association** is the **General Assembly**. The General Meeting of GA shall be composed of one (1) representative for each Member. Representatives may be assisted by advisers.

The **administrative body of the Association** is the **Directors Board**, which is made up of six (6) members (individuals):

- ✓ Four (4) people qualified in the field of research vessel fleets,
- ✓ The Chair or representative of ERVO,
- ✓ A representative of the Ocean Facilities Exchange Group (OFEG).

The **Chairman and Vice-Chair of the AISBL** are chosen by the Board of Directors from among the 4 qualified persons. They must be **affiliated to one of the AISBL members**.

The **Secretary General** shall be responsible for the **administration of the Secretariat Office** and shall support the policies of the Organization, **implementing** where appropriate the **decisions authorized by the General Meetings and the Directors Board**.

The number of directors is set at six (6). Are appointed:

1. Mr. **FITZGERALD Aodhán**, for a term of four years ending at the Ordinary GM of 2029;
2. Mr. **LEFORT Olivier**, for a term of two years ending at the Ordinary GM of 2027;
3. Mr. **MAGNIFICO Giuseppe**, for a term of four years ending at the Ordinary GM of 2029;
4. Mr. **SCORY Serge**, for a term of two years ending at the Ordinary GM of 2027;
5. Mr. **NAUDTS Lieven**, representing ERVO, for a term of four years ending at the Ordinary GM of 2029;
6. Mr. **PELTIER Goulwen**, representing OFEG, for a term of two years ending at the Ordinary GM of 2027.

The directors have appointed as:

- ✓ Chairman: Mr. **LEFORT Olivier**;
- ✓ Vice-Chairman: Mr. **MAGNIFICO Giuseppe**.

The person delegated for day-to-day management is **SCORY Serge**.

The Organization is composed of its **signatory members and members that are subsequently admitted**.

Public bodies (agencies, institutes and organisation) actively engaged in research vessel operations and associated marine science activities that align with the goals of Eurofleets AISBL may apply for **membership**. This includes **public bodies from European states that are not members of EU**.

Admission of a new Members must be voted by the General Assembly. **A Member may decide to leave the Organization**. Notification shall be made in writing to the Chairperson at least six months prior to December 31st of the relevant year.

The General Meeting may invite **non-member organizations with aligned interests** to participate as **observers**. Observers have no voting rights.

A reference fee for establishing the **annual membership contribution** has been set at two thousand five hundred euros (**€2,500.00**).

A **multiplying factor of 0.3, 1 or 2** is applied to this reference fee to set the actual contribution, **depending on the size of the fleet managed by the member**:

- ✓ **0.3** for owners of a **single coastal vessel**,
- ✓ **1** for operators of a **single regional vessel**, and/or **one or more coastal vessels**,
- ✓ **2** for **more than one regional vessel** and for all operators of **ocean or global vessels**.

Coastal vessels are defined as vessels of **less than 30 metres**, and **regional vessels** as vessels of **less than 80 metres**. Beyond that, we move into the higher category.

Members have the following rights:

- ✓ Participation in General Meetings and subsidiary bodies.
- ✓ Access to Association documents, including the Articles of Association and Internal Rules.
- ✓ Eligibility for election to the Directors Board and other committees.
- ✓ Receipt of regular updates and consultation on the Association's activities.
- ✓ Access to information and benefits provided by the Association.

Members are expected to:

- ✓ Actively contribute to the objectives and activities of the Association.
- ✓ Participate in working groups and General Meetings.
- ✓ Pay annual membership contributions as determined by the General Meeting.

To enable as many European institutes as possible to join this new structure, we will **take advantage of the upcoming meeting of the United Nations Conference on the Oceans (UNOC), to be held in Nice (France).**

A general meeting will be held the **10th of June 2025 in Nice, aboard the R/V *Thalassa***, to present the Association with a view to enlarge Eurofleets including all European fleet operators wishing to join.



**UN OCEAN
CONFERENCE
NICE 2025
FRANCE**



R/V Thalassa





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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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