

Strategy for marine research

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// abstract:

The European *integrated maritime policy* (IMP) (COM (2007) 575; p.66) pursues the creation of optimal conditions for the growth of maritime sectors on the one hand, and aims to achieve the European environmental goals such as the *Marine Strategy Framework Directive* (2008/56/EC; p.85) on the other. Science and technological innovation are crucial to reconciling the increasing maritime activities and the environmental goals. The main focus is on the eco-efficient production process as well as on the efficient coordination of marine research activities. That's why the European Strategy for Marine and Maritime Research (COM (2008) 534) has been adopted. This strategy is a key component of the IMP and offers a larger reference framework for European marine research priorities. The strategy focusses on the complexity of marine ecosystems and aims for a more effective integration and collection of knowledge and research. It also aims to stimulate partnerships between different sectors by creating a "Forum" where networks can be created between key partners in maritime research and stakeholders in the industrial sector. The strategy thus points out the need for new types of 'governance' in the field of research that need to be based on a continuous dialogue between scientists, policy makers, industrialists and representatives from society.