

Opportunities for International Collaboration: Example of the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance

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The Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation**

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Parallel Session 1

Looking Beyond Europe: International Cooperation in Research Funding

The Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation and the US-EU-Canada Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance



Signed in Galway on 24 May 2013 in three originals in the English language.

For the European Union

For the Government of
Canada

For the Government of the
United States of America

Máire GEOGHEGAN-
QUINN
Commissioner for Research,
Innovation and Science

Edward FAST
Minister of International
Trade and Minister for the
Asia-Pacific Gateway

Dr Kerri-Ann JONES
Assistant Secretary of State
for Oceans and International
Environmental and Scientific
Affairs

Maria DAMANAKI
Commissioner for Maritime
Affairs and Fisheries

Overarching Objectives of the Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation

- Improve ocean health and stewardship
- Promote sustainable management of resources
- Improved ecosystem assessments and forecasts and deeper understanding of vulnerabilities and risks, including climate change
- Generate new tools to increase resilience, conserve rich biodiversity, manage risk and determine social, environmental, and economic priorities

The Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation

AORA Working Groups

Formal tri-lateral working groups and initiatives have been established to advance scientific planning under agreed upon areas of priority research of the Galway Statement:

- **Aquaculture**
- **Ocean Literacy**
- **Atlantic Seabed Mapping**
- **Ecosystem Approach to Ocean Health and Stressors**
- **Atlantic Seafloor Partnership for Integrated Research and Exploration**



The Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation Funding and Support for AORA

- Galway-related EU-funded Horizon 2020 Projects such as AORA-CSA, AtlantOS, Atlas, SponGES, SeaChange, ResponSEAbLe, etc.
- Galway-related NSF-funded projects in the North Atlantic – 2 projects funded to date
- Opportunistic Atlantic seabed mapping transects (in-kind)
- Atlantic seabed mapping and habitat characterization planned for 2018 and 2010
- Canadian federal agency and provincial support
- Cooperation with the IOC for a UN conference on “Ocean Literacy for All”

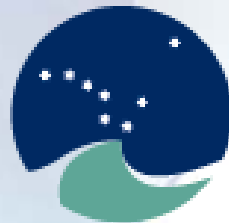


Future Opportunities for Joint Collaboration and Funding

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Alignment of The Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation with SDG 14



Excerpts from the Galway Statement illustrating alignment with SDG 14 Targets:

This cooperation is intended to increase our knowledge of the Atlantic Ocean and its dynamic systems by aligning our ocean observation efforts to improve ocean health and stewardship and promote the sustainable management of its resources....

This cooperation may result in mutual benefits including better ecosystem assessments and forecasts and deeper understanding of vulnerabilities and risk, including those relating to the global climate system and climate change impacts....

It can also help to generate new tools to increase resilience, conserve rich biodiversity, manage risk and determine social, environmental and economic priorities.

Alignment of the G7 Future of the Seas and Oceans Working Group Actions and The Galway Statement

- Action 1: Support the development of a global initiative for an enhanced, global, **sustained sea and ocean observing system**
- Action 2: Support an enhanced system of ocean assessment through the UN Regular Process for global reporting and assessment of the **state of the marine environment**
- Action 3: **Promote the improvement of global data sharing infrastructure** to address the challenges of physical, chemical and biological data
- Action 4: Strengthen collaborative approaches to encourage the **development of regional observing capabilities and knowledge networks**



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Thank You!