

JPI Oceans Annual Report 2025



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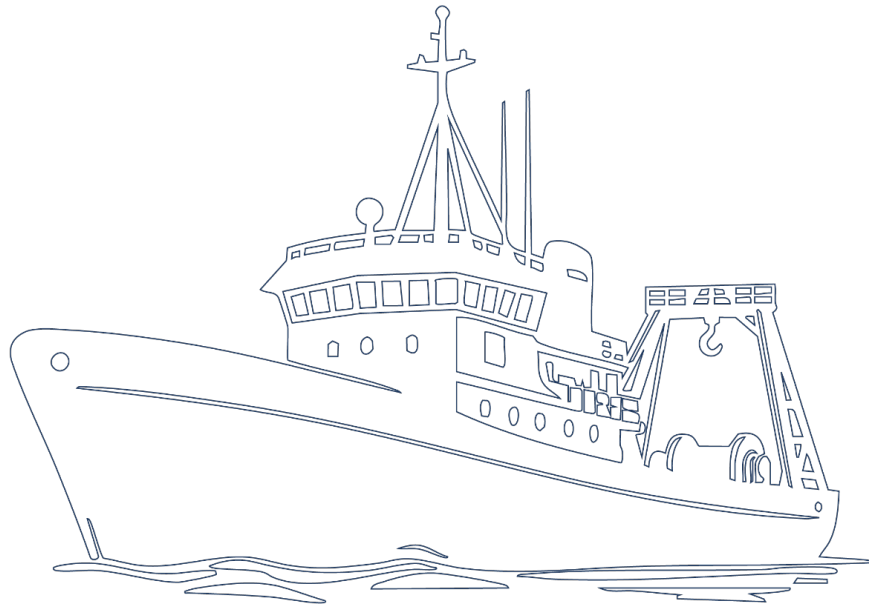
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Foreword

The year 2025 was an eventful one both for JPI Oceans and for ocean science, in Europe and beyond. The launch of our 2026–2030 Strategy Framework set a direction for the years ahead, while landmark international events, and namely the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice, placed ocean matters squarely at the centre of global policy debates. Across our Joint Actions and Strategic Engagements, the Secretariat and member countries worked together to advance science, connect communities, and translate scientific evidence into political action.

This report provides an overview of the work carried out throughout the full calendar year 2025. It reflects the collective ambition of JPI Oceans: to coordinate European marine research funding, to build shared knowledge infrastructures, and to ensure that the best available science informs the decisions that will shape the state of our seas for generations to come.



Our 2025 in numbers

200

Experts engaged in
Knowledge Hubs

29

Events organised, of
which 10 at UNOC

11

Joint Actions
running

3

Joint Calls
launched

4

New funded
projects

5

Major products and
publications

1

New strategy launch

Flagship events of 2025

Two events defined the public face of JPI Oceans in 2025: the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) and the launch of the new JPI Oceans Strategy 2026–2030. Both provided a stage for the organisation's scientific and policy ambitions and mobilised member countries and international partners alike.

United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) and One Ocean Science Conference (OOSC)

Why it mattered

UNOC in Nice represented the most important multilateral ocean moment of 2025, bringing together governments, scientists, and civil society to agree on accelerated action for the ocean. JPI Oceans was involved in featuring six of its Joint Actions and five of its Strategic Engagements

In June 2025, Nice became the global epicentre of ocean diplomacy, with two back-to-back events: the One Ocean Science Congress (3-6 June), and the Third UN Ocean Conference (9-13 June). [JPI Oceans attended both](#) as an accredited organisation, co-organising side events and contributing scientific work.

At the One Ocean Science Congress, JPI Oceans presented results from Joint Actions on the ecological impacts of deep-sea mining, microplastics, sea level rise, and underwater noise, which have directly informed decision-makers and intergovernmental bodies, such as the International Seabed Authority.

At UNOC3, JPI Oceans equally co-organised and contributed to several side events: a workshop on marine noise and light pollution aboard the RV Meteor, a Blue Carbon session on regulatory integration into the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, a panel on Munitions in the Sea, and a session on ocean carbon observation.

Several outcomes are worth noting. The European Ocean Pact was launched at the start of the Conference and explicitly references JPI Oceans, recognising it as a well-established mechanism, vital for identifying and responding to ocean research and innovation challenges.

Additionally, JPI Oceans contributed a [statement](#) to the “Our ocean, our future: united for urgent action” declaration. On the sidelines of the event, we also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Ocean Matcher, a platform that connects ocean research projects with philanthropic funders to address the persistent gap in ocean financing.



Launch of the new JPI Oceans Strategy for 2026–2030

Why it mattered

The launch of the JPI Oceans Strategy for 2026–2030 marked the beginning of a new framework period, setting out a renewed vision for coordinated European ocean research and outlining the thematic priorities that will guide it in the years ahead.



On 4 December 2025, JPI Oceans launched its new [Strategy Framework 2026–2030](#) at the European Parliament, in an event convened by the SEArca Intergroup under the patronage of MEP Paulo do Nascimento Cabral. The event counted on the participation of European Commissioner for Ocean and Fisheries Costas Kadić and IOC-UNESCO Executive Secretary Vidar Helgesen.

The Framework presents JPI Oceans' vision and mission and outlines how we intend to operate over the next five years. Three elements stand out: the elevation of Ocean Stewardship and Governance alongside Ocean Health and Ocean Economy; a reinforced commitment to frontier science on novel topics that fall outside existing research baselines; and a more explicit international dimension, recognising that many ocean challenges require coordination beyond Europe.

<p>Vision ↗</p> <p>JPI Oceans is the leading transnational platform for ocean research programming, performance, and policy.</p>	<p>Mission ↗</p> <p>To facilitate the efficient provision of expert knowledge and sustainable solutions to enable informed policy delivery and economic development.</p>	<p>Tagline ↗</p> <p>Advancing knowledge, informing policy, driving innovation.</p>
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The launch was framed in line with the European Ocean Pact implementation, positioning JPI Oceans as a vehicle for translating the Pact's objectives into coordinated research and evidence. A panel discussion with JPI Oceans Chair Peter Haugan, Vidar Helgesen, and European Commission DG RTD Deputy Head of Unit Wiebke Pankauke addressed research coordination, the UN Ocean Decade, and practical next steps. The session closed with remarks from MEP Thomas Bajada, who drew a direct line between JPI Oceans' work and a newly launched Joint Call on Offshore Freshened Groundwater, illustrating how JPI Oceans' work remains, above all, anchored in concrete action.


STRATEGY LAUNCH | DECEMBER 2025

Costas Kadis

European Commissioner, Fisheries and Oceans

I was pleased to see that the new JPI Oceans Strategy embraces the ambition for ocean knowledge as outlined in the European Ocean Pact.



Joint Actions

JPI Oceans [Joint Actions](#) are the organisation's primary mechanism for coordinating transnational research investments. Through Joint Calls, knowledge exchange and infrastructure sharing, they translate national priorities into concrete outcomes to inform the policy sphere.

In June 2025, JPI Oceans opened a dual process, inviting both member countries and the wider community to propose ideas for potential Joint Actions. At the 34th Management Board meeting in Rhodes in October, the Board invited the Secretariat to explore three of those ideas further; a few months later, already in 2026, they were officially approved as JPI Oceans Scoping Actions. Each Scoping Action now brings together national experts to assess the state of knowledge on the topic, identify research gaps, and define whether and how a future Joint Action could be designed.

Electromagnetic Fields (Scoping Action)

Not yet coherently integrated into European marine governance or research programming, anthropogenic electromagnetic fields (EMFs) are an emerging cross-sectoral topic. [This Scoping Action](#) investigates EMF encounter likelihood, exposure and biological responses, as well as supporting a more comprehensive implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) Descriptor 11.

Offshore Infrastructures (Scoping Action)

Europe is planning a large-scale expansion of offshore infrastructures: energy systems, pipelines, and subsea cables. However, the environmental knowledge underpinning this growth remains fragmented across technologies, sectors, and sea basins. [The Offshore Infrastructures Scoping Action](#) is assessing whether a JPI Oceans Knowledge Hub could fill this gap by connecting experts, authorities, industry and researchers into a transnational platform.

Plastic-Associated Chemicals (Scoping Action)

Over 16,000 Plastic-associated chemicals (PACs) have been identified, yet only about half have been screened for risk. Moreover, many of those assessed show hazardous properties, causing harm to the marine environment and potentially to humans via their food web. [This Scoping Action](#) intends to identify the remaining knowledge gaps regarding the threats that PACs pose to the marine environment, building on previous work performed under the JPI Oceans Joint Actions on [Ecological Aspects of Microplastics](#) and [Integrated Assessment of New Pollutants](#).

Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation

Awareness is rising that a slowdown or even collapse of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) in response to progressing climate change needs to be considered possible. In 2025, JPI Oceans established a [Joint Action](#) in collaboration with JPI Climate to produce a comprehensive scientific assessment of AMOC's current state, future trajectories, and implications for ecosystems, societies, and policy.

In January 2025, over 40 experts and funders convened in person and online in Brussels to define the scope, goals, and governance structure of the initiative. The preparatory phase established the Governing Council, co-chairs (Hans-Otto Pörtner and Gerard McCarthy), and principles for diversity, disciplinary balance, and international participation.



International participation spans Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, France, Norway, Portugal, and the United Kingdom, ensuring broad multidisciplinary expertise. The provisional report outline was developed, comprising six chapters and a Summary for Policymakers, covering AMOC state, future scenarios, ecological risks, human and socio-economic implications, and policy considerations. By late 2025, writing teams and chapter leads were finalised in preparation for the first in-person authors' workshop, scheduled for January 2026.

Blue Bioeconomy

The [BlueBio ERA-NET Cofund](#) aimed to strengthen Europe's position in the blue bioeconomy. The year 2025 saw the conclusion of projects from the 2nd Additional Call, with JPI Oceans organising a final meeting for them in Brussels in September. Furthermore, results were shared widely across the research and policy community. JPI Oceans presented BlueBio results at the SCARFish meeting in October 2025, reaching a specialist fisheries science audience. A [booklet of factsheets covering all 49 funded projects](#) offers a compact overview of the full programme portfolio.

Blue Carbon

Blue carbon ecosystems — including seagrasses, saltmarshes, and mangroves — are increasingly recognised as both carbon stores and biodiversity hotspots. [JPI Oceans' Blue Carbon Joint Action](#) advanced on multiple fronts in 2025.

In March 2025, the State-of-the-Art working group submitted its report to the JPI Oceans Management Board. It provided a comprehensive analysis of research priorities and knowledge gaps within the blue carbon community, and has informed the Joint Call launched later in the year.

In June 2025, the [“Enhancing Blue Carbon considerations in the Marine Strategy Framework Directive \(MSFD\)”](#) policy brief was launched at the Third UN Ocean Conference (UNOC3) with targeted recommendations for integrating blue carbon ecosystems into implementation of the MSFD, generating high-level engagement. In parallel, the Policy Working Group is developing two further briefs on the LULUCF Regulation and the Nature Restoration Regulation.

In November 2025, JPI Oceans launched a [Joint Call on Blue Carbon Ecosystems](#), mobilising €5.3 million from seven funding partners across Ireland, Canada, Germany, Malta, Norway, and Poland, and in-kind resources from Greece. In December 2025, a writing workshop brought together experts to draft a perspectives paper incorporating findings from all three working groups (State of the Art, Policy, and Vulnerability). The paper is intended for submission to a peer-review journal in 2026.



The poster features a light green background on the left and a circular inset on the right showing a close-up of green seagrass with white root outlines. At the top left are the JPI Oceans logo and the 2021-2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development logo. The main text is in orange and blue. At the bottom left, it lists participating countries with their flags and '(in-kind)' for Greece. Photo credits are at the bottom right.

JPI OCEANS

2021-2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

Joint Call for Proposals:
Blue Carbon Ecosystems
Budget: €5.3 Million

Participating countries:
Canada, Germany, Ireland, Malta, Norway, Poland, Greece (in-kind)

Photo credits: Eli Rinde

Changing Marine Lightscapes

Marine lightscapes are emerging as a critical area of scientific inquiry as they are experiencing two fundamental transformations: increased turbidity of coastal waters and a proliferation of artificial light at night. The [Changing Marine Lightscapes Joint Action](#) moved into its active research phase in 2025, with two projects launched and a Knowledge Hub in development.

The two funded projects, [ALANIS](#) and [ISOLUME](#), both led by Germany, started their work in July 2025 and were jointly kicked off with a meeting in Hamburg in September 2025. During the year, work began on establishing a Knowledge Hub to compile and share findings, and both ALANIS and ISOLUME were endorsed under the UN Ocean Decade GOALANN Programme. A joint Instagram account was launched to communicate research activities with a unified voice across the projects.

Ecological Aspects of Deep-Sea Mining

As international negotiations on a regulatory framework for seabed mining progress at the International Seabed Authority (ISA), JPI Oceans continues to ensure that independent science informs the process through the [Ecological Aspects of Deep-Sea Mining Joint Action](#).

In July 2025, leading marine scientists presented a decade of research on the environmental impacts of deep-sea mining at a high-profile side event during the 30th ISA Council session in Kingston, Jamaica. The event '[Informing the Mining Code: New Research on Deep-Sea Ecosystem Responses](#)' was co-hosted by Belgium, Germany, and JPI Oceans. It attracted over 120 participants, including delegates, ISA representatives, and observers. ISA Secretary-General Leticia Carvalho highlighted the critical importance of JPI Oceans' research contributions to the ongoing negotiations. The event also marked the official launch of [MiningImpact3](#), the latest project in the series, whose kick-off meeting then took place in September 2025.



European Marinas Network

The [European Marinas Network](#) completed its first full year as a JPI Oceans Joint Action in 2025, transitioning from scoping to active implementation. Following its formal kick-off in February 2025, the initiative is connecting marinas across Europe as platforms for environmental monitoring and citizen engagement. The Joint Action Terms of Reference and Implementation Plan were approved at the 34th JPI Oceans Management Board, providing the governance basis for the network's running and expansion.

In October 2025, the European Marinas Network was [represented at the ICOMIA World Marinas Conference](#), the Network's main public event of the year. The



conference marked the first sensor installation outside Germany at Certosa Marina in Venice, launching the pilot phase of real-time data collection using [SOOP](#) sensors across the European Marinas Network. The collected water temperature and water level data can be visualised [here](#).

Ocean Carbon Capacities

The [Ocean Carbon Capacities](#) Joint Action works to strengthen Europe's capacity to monitor and understand ocean carbon processes. In February 2025, at a hybrid workshop in February, the Knowledge Hub defined its priority areas of action for the coming period. In the following, two outputs were published: a [Policy Brief on Strengthening Europe's ocean CO₂ monitoring](#), and a [Roadmap for European Ocean CO₂ Reference Materials Hub](#).

Moreover, the Knowledge Hub conducted surveys on pCO₂ observations on Research Vessels and organised a [side event at the Third UN Ocean Conference](#). The experts presented their work at the annual meetings of ERVO (European Research Vessel Operators) and IRSO (International Research Ship Operators), and connected with the [10.000 Ships for the Ocean Initiative](#).

Ocean Oxygen Loss

Following a targeted scoping process led by nominated experts from Poland, Norway, and Germany, together with IOC-UNESCO, JPI Oceans formally adopted [Ocean Oxygen Loss](#) as a Joint Action in March 2025 to investigate the causes, trends, and consequences of marine water deoxygenation.

An expert workshop in May 2025 produced a concept paper submitted to the 34th Management Board, which then formally adopted Ocean Oxygen Loss as a Joint Action in October 2025. Member countries confirmed support for the development of a Joint Call in 2026, with a first funders' meeting taking place in December 2025, initiating the process of designing the Joint Call.

Offshore Freshened Groundwater

Following elaborate scoping with two hybrid workshops, the [Offshore Freshened Groundwater](#) initiative progressed in 2025 from a concept to a Joint Action and launching a Joint Call at the end of the year.

The second scoping workshop in January 2025, following the first edition in August 2024, identified key knowledge gaps, technical requirements, budget considerations, site selection criteria, and priority themes for a demonstration project call. After that, the 33rd JPI Oceans Management Board formally adopted the initiative as a Joint Action. Six months later, the Management Board approved an [Offshore Freshened Groundwater Joint Call](#), which was launched on 4 December 2025 with €2 million in funding from Malta, Italy and Germany, and with in-kind contributions from Greece.



Science for Good Environmental Status

A [Science for Good Environmental Status \(S4GES\) Joint Call](#) was launched in January 2025 to support effective implementation of the second phase of this Joint Action. After an independent evaluation, the [Process-based Approach for Good Environmental Status \(PAGES\) project](#) was selected for funding.

PAGES is supported by Belgium, Italy, Ireland, and Malta and began its work in September 2025, with a kick-off meeting held at the JPI Oceans Secretariat in Brussels. The project aims to develop innovative monitoring strategies that integrate physical, chemical and biological data within a dynamic framework that acknowledges the complex interplay of oceanic processes. Providing proofs of concept, PAGES aims to influence national MSFD observation frameworks, shifting from conventional sampling to process-driven monitoring.

Sea Level Rise

Following the conclusion of the [Sea Level Rise Knowledge Hub](#)'s first phase, 2025 focused on disseminating the [First Assessment Report on Sea Level Rise in Europe](#) published in late 2024 and communicating its findings in webinars and at events during the UN Ocean Conference in Nice. In addition, a potential second phase was initiated by engaging member countries to renew their commitments and preparing a first funders meeting planned for early 2026.

Underwater Noise in the Marine Environment

Underwater noise from shipping, construction, and other human activities is a recognised pressure on marine ecosystems. The [Underwater Noise Joint Action](#) concluded its funded project phase in 2025, with the five projects completing their work under the Joint Action. The [final meeting](#) took place in Alicante in October 2025, featuring live sessions with the relevant MSFD Technical Group (TG Noise), presentations from DG RTD, and engagement with the High Ambition Coalition for a Quiet Ocean. Earlier in June 2025, the UNOC3 side event 'Calm and dark, not loud and bright - Marine pollution by noise and light' organised by JPI Oceans directed attention to the dual energy topics of noise and light changes in the marine environment. The Joint Action was also sounding out the potential for a follow-up Underwater Noise Joint Call.



Strategic Engagements

AMRIT

[Advance Marine Research Infrastructures Together](#) (AMRIT) aims to enhance ocean research infrastructures and establish a sustainable European Ocean Observing System (EOOS) through collaborative innovation and coordination. In 2025, JPI Oceans began work on its task of establishing a sustained federal structure for an EOOS Technical Support Centre.

All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance

The [All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance](#) (AAORIA) is supported by the OKEANO Coordination and Support Action, where JPI Oceans leads the project's communication, dissemination and exploitation efforts as well as tasks related to Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs) capacity-building and R&I coordination support. A major milestone was [JPI Oceans' contribution to the 2025 All-Atlantic Forum](#), hosted by the European Commission in Brussels in September. The Intergenerational Dialogue returned as a key component of the Forum, building on the success of the 2024 edition. Organised by JPI Oceans, the Dialogue was designed to spark meaningful exchanges between ECOPs and senior ocean professionals. Groundwork for a potential future All-Atlantic Joint Call also began, with a scoping workshop being prepared for January 2026.



Munitions in the Sea: CAMMera and MMinE-SwEEPER

JPI Oceans has historically addressed the problem of underwater munitions through its now-concluded Joint Action Munitions in the Sea. The Joint Action transformed into JPI Oceans' involvement in two EU-funded projects: [MMinE-SwEEPER](#) (Marine Munition in Europe – Solutions with Economic and Ecological Profits for Efficient Remediation) and [CAMMera](#) (Clearance Activities for Marine Munition through Efficient Remediation Approaches).

In 2025, an editorial meeting was held to further develop the JPI Oceans [Knowledge Portal Munitions in the Sea](#) within the MMinE-SwEEPER project. A cross-project "Munitions in the Sea" community was set up [on LinkedIn](#). Outreach activities generated broad visibility, including participation in the third UN Ocean Conference, the Kiel Munition Clearance Week, the Fraunhofer ICT Annual Conference, and the GICHD Innovation Conference. A deliverable outlining the communication, dissemination, and exploitation plan for MMinE-SwEEPER was duly submitted. CAMMera officially started its activities in July 2025.

In December 2025, REVOLVE Media and JPI Oceans partnered up to organise a press briefing, bringing together leading industry experts and research initiatives to advance safe, sustainable solutions for the detection and remediation of underwater munitions.



European Ocean Observing System

JPI Oceans chairs the Resource Forum of the [European Ocean Observing System](#) (EOOS), moderating strategic discussions on the long-term resourcing of ocean observations. The EOOS Resource Forum held its annual meeting with its national representatives and broad participation from the European Commission. In the European Ocean Pact published in 2025, the Commission committed to a European Ocean Observation Initiative, building a framework for discussions for adjusting the role and governance structure of EOOS.

In addition, JPI Oceans was contracted by DG MARE to expand in cooperation with the Member States Expert Group the work on National Charts on Ocean Observing and Monitoring. These charts aim to create dynamic national overviews of responsibilities and data flows across ocean observing and monitoring constellations in Europe.

UN Ocean Decade

The year's highest-profile moment came in June, when JPI Oceans participated in the third [United Nations Ocean Conference](#) in Nice.

Throughout the year, ISOLUME and ALANIS, the two projects funded under JPI Oceans' Joint Action on Changing Marine Lightscapes, were endorsed by the [UN Ocean Decade](#) through the GOALANN programme, which focuses on light pollution and links European research to global efforts in this area. The MiningImpact3 project was also endorsed as an Ocean Decade action. In addition, JPI Oceans' Joint Calls on Blue Carbon and Offshore Freshened Groundwater were co-branded under the Ocean Decade framework.

Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership

The [Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership](#) is a joint endeavour by 70 institutions from 32 countries under Horizon Europe to advance research and innovation for a climate-neutral, sustainable, and competitive blue economy. JPI Oceans leads the Work Package on communication, dissemination and ocean literacy, and contributes to tasks on exploitation and capacity building.

The results of the Partnership's second Joint Transnational Call were published in 2025, and the third call addressing five priority areas was launched in September. Both a pilot transnational call offering access to research infrastructures in Europe and a call for interest to build thematic portfolios of projects were also implemented. The portfolios are meant to connect ongoing funded projects and boost networking around sustainable small-scale fisheries and marine algae cultivation.

In addition, JPI Oceans organised or supported several events, including a session ahead of European Maritime Day in Cobh and a side event at the UN Ocean Conference. Preparations also continued for the Partnership's second Symposium, taking place in Bucharest, Romania, in February 2026. Ocean literacy activities were presented at the EMSEA Annual Conference in Ostend.

EU4Ocean (Concluded)

[EU4Ocean](#) is a European Commission-supported coalition that connects organisations, projects, and individuals contributing to ocean literacy and the sustainable management of the ocean. JPI Oceans was an active participant in this consortium and contributed to ocean literacy programming during the [European Ocean Days](#), including moderation and participation in the Ocean Literacy Island. Additional outreach included a booth and quiz at the Science is Wonderful event.

MINKE (Concluded)

The [EU-funded MINKE project](#) concluded in 2025, and it brought together 16 European marine metrology research infrastructures to coordinate their use and development and propose an innovative framework of 'quality of oceanographic data' for the different European actors in charge of monitoring and managing the EOVs (Essential Ocean Variables) and marine ecosystems. In this context, [JPI Oceans leveraged its expertise](#) and established connections to enhance collaboration and knowledge transfer across European marine research infrastructures, building on its previous Joint Action named [European Marine Sensors Calibration Network](#).

PREP4Blue (Concluded)

[PREP4BLUE](#) was a Coordination and Support Action established as the first building block for the implementation of the [EU Mission](#) "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030." Some of JPI Oceans' main contributions include a guidance document on establishing and strengthening National Mission Hubs, as well as a series of financing factsheets covering different funding mechanisms and instruments, accompanied by recommendations for funders. These outputs were presented at a workshop on governance held during the Mission Ocean EU Presidency Conference in Nyborg, Denmark, as part of the Danish EU Presidency programme.

Communication



From a communications perspective, JPI Oceans embarked on a brand revamp to refresh the organisation's visual identity and align its materials with a more contemporary, fresh aesthetic.

The revamp was timed to coincide with the launch of the updated Strategy Framework 2026-30, visually signalling a new moment in JPI Oceans' journey.

The communication statistics showed a steady overall growth, driven by a combination of evergreen content with shorter thematic campaigns. Website visits rose to 73,745 in 2025, representing a 13% increase from the year before (and a 27% increase over two years). Page views also increased from 125,474 in 2024 to 138,349 in 2025, up over 10%. Average visit duration, however, went down from 00:01:39 in 2024 to 00:01:24 in 2025, continuing a multi-year downward trend in line with changing online habits. Web articles published grew slightly from a 10-year average of 29 to 33 in 2025. Newsletter issues were reduced from 12 in 2022-2024 to 9 in 2025 to focus more on the most relevant content. Newsletter subscribers, at 2,568, have remained stable over the years.

On social media, we observed a flat rate across Facebook and X, in line with broader trends, while LinkedIn and Instagram maintained their leadership as the largest sources of engagement. LinkedIn grew from 3,219 followers in 2024 to 5,215 in 2025, an astounding 62% increase (115.5% over 2 years). It remains our fastest-growing channel, similar to other company pages for Brussels-based organisations. Instagram went from 1,011 followers in 2024 to 1,229 in 2025, a 21.6% increase. It grows at a healthy rate, driven by visual storytelling and event-related content. X saw a 2.0% decrease in followership. At the end of 2025, we decided to stop actively using X; the account is kept for historical continuity only, and a continued decline is expected.

Our people

Governance

JPI Oceans is governed by its Management Board, which is composed of representatives of JPI Oceans member countries. They meet twice every year to set the strategic direction and approve Joint Actions, next steps, and our budget. 2025 included changes in Board leadership and composition:

- In April 2025, the Management Board renewed the mandates of Vice Chairs Angelo Camerlenghi from Italy and Benjamin Kürten from Germany, and elected Monika Kędra from IOPAN in Poland into the Internal Advisory Committee.
- In October 2026, the General Assembly unanimously elected Peter Haugan, Policy Director at the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research, as [the new Chair of JPI Oceans](#).



Secretariat

The JPI Oceans Secretariat, based in Brussels, coordinates the organisation's day-to-day activities and supports all Joint Actions and Strategic Engagements. In 2025, the Secretariat comprised the following team members, from left to right and from second row to first:

- Willem De Moor, Deputy Director
- Lisa Picatto, Communication Officer
- Maria Galveia, Intern since July 2025
- Thorsten Kiefer, Executive Director
- Vegard Rønning Dahlen, Science-policy Advisor since July 2025
- Theresa Steins, Office Manager
- Jella Kandziora, Science-policy Advisor
- Paul Trautendorfer, Science-policy Advisor
- Isabel Caballero, Communication Officer since February 2025
- Gabrielle Aubert, Science-policy Advisor
- Lavinia Giulia Pomarico, Science-policy Advisor
- Pier Francesco Moretti, Science-policy advisor (not pictured)



Annex

Financial overview

In the 2025 accounting year, JPI Oceans received a total cash amount of EUR 669,575, excluding bank interest. EUR 396,668 came from fees, donations, and desk fees. EUR 305,647 came as instalments of the five project grants related to the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership, EU4Ocean, MINKE, AMRIT and CAMMera, while EUR 21,270 of unspent funds from participation in the AANChOR CSA had to be returned.

The total expenditure during 2025 amounted to EUR 936,500 (excluding bank costs). Expenditures consisted of Secretariat employment costs, office fixed costs, operating expenses, and project-related costs.

The Research Council of Norway, the Government of Flanders via the Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ), the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) via the Konsortium Deutsche Meeresforschung (KDM), and the National Research Council of Italy (CNR) provided in-kind contributions through staff secondments. This is not further quantified in the accounting of JPI Oceans AISBL's finances.

The financial reserves at the end of 2025 amounted to EUR 656,450.

