

# Atlantic Stakeholder Platform Conference 2025

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**4<sup>th</sup> Draft Agenda**

12 & 13 November 2025

Galway, Ireland

**ATLANTIC STRATEGY**  
Supporting the Atlantic Action Plan

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# Thematic Focus of the ASPC 2025

The 12<sup>th</sup> Atlantic Stakeholder Platform Conference (ASPC 2025) will take place five years after the launch of the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0 – A New Approach to the Atlantic Maritime Strategy. The Conference will, as in previous years, provide all stakeholders of the Atlantic Community the opportunity to review the progress and achievements made so far regarding AAP 2.0 objectives and blue economy challenges in the Atlantic Sea Basin.

This year's Irish Presidency of the Atlantic Steering Committee has been focusing on four key priorities:

- Promote the Atlantic Strategy from the Regional to the International
- Seek Synergies with Other Sea Basin Initiatives
- Develop a community of practice on Maritime Spatial Planning
- Review of the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0

Based on this approach, the ASPC 2025 will have dynamic sessions to promote the Atlantic Strategy, enhance cross-sea basin dialog, develop a community of practice on Marine Spatial Planning, and review the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0 by fostering participation of different communities, regional and local stakeholders.

Like in 2024, the ASPC will be set in close liaison with Annual Interreg Atlantic event with a joint event. It illustrates the strong cooperation between ASC and the Interreg Atlantic Managing Authorities to support the AAP implementation.

It will also be an essential point of discussion and interaction between existing and new Atlantic players from different geographies (WestMED, Black and North Sea) and regions, and the place to showcase new projects and innovative ways to secure funding, work and collaborate.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Atlantic Stakeholder Platform Conference will be the opportunity to assemble traditional stakeholders as well as new ones to discuss future cooperation on blue economy, investment, innovation and sustainability.

This year's conference theme is suggested to be:

- **Tides of Cooperation: The Atlantic Strategy as a Catalyst for the European Ocean Pact**

The conference will underscore the significance of strengthening European cooperation and integrating maritime efforts to navigate towards a sustainable and vibrant future for the Atlantic region. Focus will be given on enhancing synergies and sustainable practices, promoting inclusivity and sustainable maritime development among Atlantic communities and through cross-sea basin dialogue. The ASPC will also delve into key AAP activities, addressing the challenges in achieving sustainable blue growth aiming to foster greater territorial cooperation and cohesion within the Atlantic region.

# Draft Agenda

## Atlantic days in Galway

### Tides of Cooperation: The Atlantic Strategy as a Catalyst for the European Ocean Pact

The event will be held in English.

#### 13 November 2025

09:00 – 09:30 Participants' Registration

09:30 – 10:00 Opening of ASPC25

- Representative from the Irish Presidency (TBC)
- Representative from DG MARE, European Commission (TBC)
- Representative from DG REGIO, European Commission (TBC)
- Interreg High level representative (TBC)

10:00 – 11:15

#### Ports Powering the Blue Energy Transition

This session will offer a dynamic blend of policy insights and project showcases, aligning with the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0's ambition to foster innovation, sustainability, and cross-border cooperation in the Atlantic region. It will feature high-level policy speakers from EU institutions and national authorities, alongside award-winning and emerging Atlantic projects in the **Atlantic Ports and Marine Renewable Energy categories** that exemplify impactful collaboration and innovation.

To ensure meaningful engagement, the session will be fully interactive. Participants will be invited to contribute questions and insights in real time via SLIDO app, enabling a lively exchange between speakers and the audience.

11:15 – 11:30

#### Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:45

#### Resilience Through Knowledge: Strengthening Coastal Communities with Blue Skills

This session will highlight the critical role of education, training, and community engagement in building resilient coastal societies across the Atlantic. Anchored in the priorities of the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0, it will **showcase award-winning and emerging projects** that empower citizens—particularly youth, educators, and local actors—with the blue skills and ocean literacy (2 of the Atlantic Award thematic categories) needed to address environmental and socio-economic challenges. Through a **dynamic mix of project presentations and interactive dialogue**, the session will emphasize how knowledge-sharing and inclusive capacity-building can drive long-term resilience, foster innovation, and ensure that all Atlantic communities—mainland and outermost—are equipped to thrive in a changing climate.

12:45 – 14:45

#### Light Lunch Break

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**Research and Innovation dimension of the AAP 2.0**

**14:45 – 15:45**

This session will focus on research and innovation dimension of the Atlantic Strategy, in collaboration with the Mission Restore Our Oceans and the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AOORIA). The discussion will also focus on the contributions of EU projects (Atlantic Award Winner) and the private sector.

During this session, a dedicated presentation on Energy Transition in Fisheries and Aquaculture will provide a comprehensive overview of the current status of the EU roadmap. It will inform stakeholders about ongoing developments, highlight opportunities for collaboration, and invite feedback to help shape future policy and implementation strategies.

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**15:45 – 16:00**

**Coffee break**

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**16:00 – 17:00**

**State of play and way forward, discussion on possible revision of the Action Plan in the context of the new Ocean Pact**

Interactive workshop

This session will focus on the alignment of the AAP 2.0 with the European Ocean Pact with the contribution of the National Representative, National Hubs and/or Pillar Coordinators.

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**17:00 – 17:30**

**Handover of the ASC Presidency for 2026 and closing**

- Irish representative
- Spanish representative
- European Commission – DG MARE representative

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**Closure of ASPC25**