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PRESS RELEASE

#SurfriderEurope #VoicefortheOcean



European elections 2019 : Surfrider Foundation Europe launches Voice for The Ocean, a major citizen consultation campaign

On the occasion of the European Maritime Days to be held from May 31 to June 1, 2018 in Burgas, Bulgaria, **Surfrider Foundation Europe reveals a major citizen consultation campaign: Voice for the Ocean.** One year ahead of the European elections, the objective is simple: to mobilize all European citizens to put the oceans and their protection back at the heart of the debates.

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VOICE FOR THE OCEAN: BRINGING THE VOICE OF CITIZENS TO THE EUROPEAN LEVEL

The ocean produces half of the oxygen on Earth and yet it is in danger. Given the urgency of this, Surfrider Foundation Europe has developed a major campaign of citizen mobilization, ahead of the European elections to be held in 2019.

The Voice for the Ocean campaign offers European citizens, whether they are students, experts or ocean lovers, the opportunity to express their visions and priorities regarding the protection of the oceans. These will be compiled and analyzed by Surfrider who will then make these demands as part of the campaign for the European elections.

"The future of the oceans is also decided in the European Parliament! That is why we believe in the need to connect European citizens, ocean lovers and the political sphere, to be able to dialogue, advance, and protect together the oceans." explains Antidia Citores, Surfrider Lobby Manager

[Click here to see the presentation of Voice for the Ocean campaign](#)



A DIGITAL CONSULTATION PLATFORM...

In practice, from June 01, every citizen will be able to access an [Internet platform](#) through which you will not only learn about, understand and respond to the issues and threats that weigh on the oceans, but also express yourself on these subjects.

On the agenda:

- Ocean pollution
- Resource exploitation and energy transition
- Sustainable tourism
- The ocean and you

... COUPLED WITH A EUROPEAN TOUR TO MEET VARIOUS AUDIENCES

In addition to this consultation, Surfrider has also developed a European tour to meet various audiences: schoolchildren, committed citizens, scientists, local, national, and European elected representatives, etc., that is to say a lot of citizens involved in the protection of the oceans, for whom it will be possible get information, discuss and express oneself.

Each stage of this Voice for the Ocean tour will be organized hand in hand with local actors or subject matter experts. Five stages are already planned (in Bulgaria, France, Spain, Belgium and Portugal).



The first stage in Burgas, Bulgaria, on the occasion of the European Maritime Days, will be the occasion for Surfrider to officially reveals this new campaign, and thus to reaffirm the NGO's commitment to make oceans a question policy at the national, European and international levels.

For more information, a press conference is organized on May 29, 2018 from 09:30 to 10:30 (French time), possibility to follow it remotely and to interact [via a livestreaming in English.](#)

For more informations about the campaign "Voice for the Ocean " :

www.surfrider.eu/FAQ/VFTO - #VoicefortheOcean



HELP US AND JOIN US ON SURFRIDER.EU



Surfrider Foundation Europe is a non-profit environmental organization (under the French law of 1901), which was created in 1990 in France (Biarritz). During its existence, it has acquired real expertise in the areas of research and local action, as well as in the creation and distribution of educational tools. It now consists of a network of 700 volunteers, 10,500 members and 120,000 supporters in approximately forty local chapters, which are active in twelve European countries. Find out more: www.surfrider.eu Surfrider