The European Marine Biological Resource Centre (EMBRC-ERIC) opens for excellence in marine biology and ecology research

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On the 19th of June 2018, the European Marine Biological Resource Centre will celebrate its adoption as a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (EMBRC-ERIC) and the onset of its operational phase. The event will be held at Sorbonne Université - Campus Pierre et Marie Curie, where EMBRC has its Headquarters, at the presence of dignitaries from EU Commission and French Ministry MESER representatives, in addition to governmental delegations from nine EU countries. *"EMBRC-ERIC is a milestone for services to science furthering our knowledge of marine life and its implications for the human conditions."* – says Ilaria Nardello, the Executive Director.

Hosted by France and based in Paris, EMBRC-ERIC is a pan-European Research Infrastructure (RI) for marine biology and ecology research, providing state of the art facilities, technology platforms and advanced services to study marine organisms and ecosystems. Among its objectives, it is to enable new technologies and marine biological models to further our investigation capabilities for life-science breakthrough discoveries, and to support a modern approach to long-term marine ecological monitoring efforts. *"EMBRC ERIC is a truly multidisciplinary effort and a driver in the development of blue biotechnologies, including at regional level, supporting both fundamental and applied research activities for sustainable solutions in the food, health and environmental sectors." – said Mr. Jean-David MALO, Director of Open Innovation and Open Science, European Commission - DG Research and Innovation.*

EMBRC-ERIC has nine founding Members: The Kingdom of Belgium, the French Republic, the Hellenic Republic, the State of Israel, the Italian Republic, the Kingdom of Norway, the Portuguese Republic, the Kingdom of Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, who started investing national resources since the preparatory phase of EMBRC-ERIC. These Members decided to provide EMBRC with the legal framework of a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC). This specific legal form was especially conceived to facilitate the establishment and operation of excellent research infrastructures fulfilling the long-term needs of the European research community. As such, EMBRC-ERIC is a crucial element in developing the



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European Research Area (ERA). "Only through a truly cooperative effort among EU and Associated countries can the ambitions of EMBRC-ERIC to advance the frontier of knowledge in marine biological and ecological sciences be tackled" said prof. David Paterson, Chair of EMBRC-ERIC.

Further information

- EMBRC-ERIC Website: <u>www.embrc.eu</u>
- Phone: +33 (0)1 4427-6161
- Email: <u>secretariat@embrc.eu</u>

Pictures



Pic. 1 - Handing of the commemorative Plate: From left to right:

- 1) Prof. David Paterson, Chair of EMBRC-ERIC
- 2) Mr. Christain Chardonnet, representative of the French Ministry for Research and Education
- 3) Prof. Jan Jabaz, President of Sorbonne University
- 4) Mr. Jean-David Malo, European Commission
- 5) Dr. Ilaria Nardello, EMBRC-ERIC Executive Director