

# The Ocean Observation Initiative

## OceanEye

# European Ocean Observing System

We collectively define the European Ocean Observing System as the sum of the diverse European capabilities to observe the ocean, both from satellite, in-situ and through any other means. These capabilities serve operational monitoring, research and innovation, public and private interests, security, and are taking place through permanent or ad-hoc activities, utilising established monitoring systems, observing platforms, instruments, marine vessels, autonomous vehicles and more.



# Ocean Observation Initiative - OceanEye

Announced first by the Commission President in June 2025 at the Third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC 3, Nice, 2025), as part of the European Ocean Pact

On 2nd of March 2026, at the opening of the European Ocean Days, the Commission President announced the upcoming European Ocean Observation Initiative, OceanEye, as the EU's framework to strengthen and coordinate ocean observation capacities across the Union.

This initiative will materialise under the form of a Communication with an expected adoption mid-2026.

# Three pillars

1) Establishing the governance of a European Ocean Observation System

2) Develop an industrial dimension and manage EU marine knowledge assets

3) Outreach to the society with education, culture and societal ownership

# Establishing the governance of a European Ocean Observation System

- Current situation: fragmented, project-based and voluntary approaches towards structured coordination
- Move towards shared and long-term observation planning in the EU
- The Ocean Act, a legislative proposal, will include element of governance.
- We want to ensure coherent planning and delivery of in-situ ocean observation campaigns, filling gaps in monitoring and improving data availability.
- Setup an International Alliance to support the Global Ocean Observation System (GOOS) in partnership with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
- Unite EU Member States and international partners to jointly reinforce commitments



# Industrial dimension and management of EU marine knowledge assets

- Communication will further detail the way to strengthen a competitive European industrial ecosystem for ocean observation technologies and user-centred services, in full synergies with the Ocean Research & Innovation Strategy
- Develop a robust, integrated, and multidisciplinary European Marine Knowledge value chain—turning data into action, and science into solutions for all.
- Building on European Marine Observation and Data network, EMODnet, and evolve towards a better integration with the Copernicus Marine Service.
- This wealth of data and knowledge is the basis to develop a reliable European Digital Twin Ocean to be fully operational by 2030.

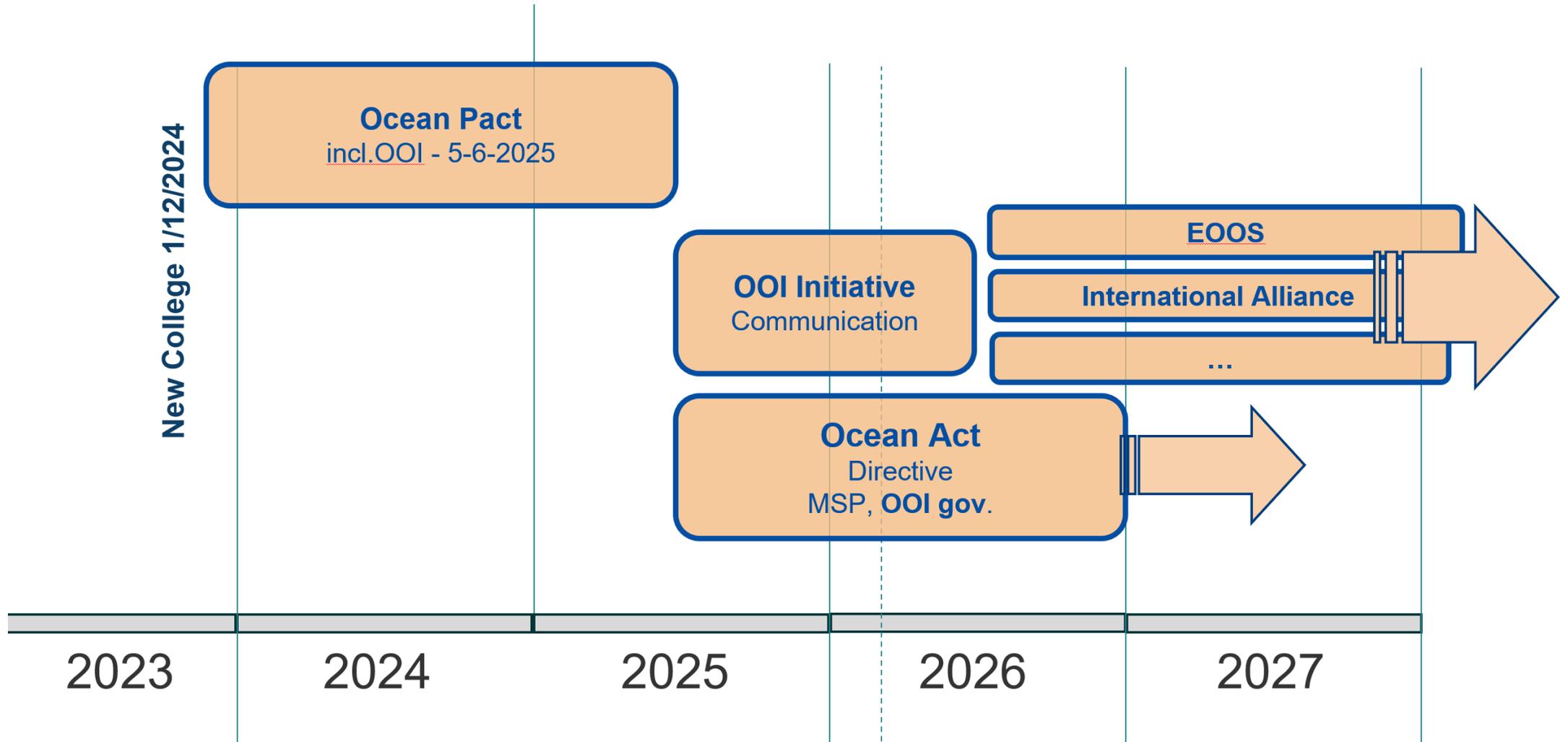


# Outreach to the society with education, culture and societal ownership

- Collective societal ownership
- Strong educational, cultural and outreach dimension, bridging science, art, education and society.
- Ocean observation must become a civic and cultural lighthouse, making the invisible visible, transforming complex data into shared meaning, and inspiring collective responsibility for Europe's seas
- Strengthening ocean literacy and deepening citizens' connection to the marine environment
- Empower Europeans to make informed choices that protect marine ecosystems, support climate resilience and foster sustainable blue growth



# Timeline



For any questions, please contact:

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