



## Selection report for “Regional 3”

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## 1. WP5, SRP and LRP working procedure and results

The EUROFLEETS2 Work Package 5 is indispensable for the implementation of the TransNational Access (TNA) to the research vessels and equipment offered in EUROFLEETS2. It is devoted to the practical management of all the calls for proposals.

The WP5 is primarily devoted to the call preparation, call dissemination, the proposal evaluation, the selection procedures and post-cruise workshop organisation. The post-cruise workshop will gather all PIs of the funded cruises to present their results and to give feedback on the cruises.

This Deliverable is dedicated to the evaluation of the Call Regional 3 which gave access to 12 Research Vessels (RVs) and 3 pieces of Embarked Equipment, either together with an EUROFLEETS2 cruise or onboard a non-EUROFLEETS2 cruise.

The Call Regional 3 opened on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2014 and closed on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2015.

### European Research Vessels offered in the Call Regional 3:

#### **Indian Ocean/SW Atlantic**

*Marion Dufresne (IPEV, FR) \**

#### **SW Baltic Sea**

*Salme (TUT, EE)*

#### **North Sea/ English Channel/Celtic Sea**

*Belgica (RBINS-MUMM, BE)*

*Simon Stevin (VLIZ, BE)*

#### **Bay of Biscay - SW Iberian Margin**

*Angeles Alvariño (IEO, ES)*

*Belgica (RBINS-MUMM, BE)*

#### **Mediterranean RVs**

*Aegaeo (HCMR, GR)*

*Bios-DVA (IOF, HR)*

*Marmara (Tubitak, TR)*

*Ramon Margalef (IEO, ES)*

*Urania (CNR, IT)*

#### **Black Sea RVs**

*Aegaeo (HCMR, GR)*

*Akademik (IO-BAS, BG)*

*Mare Nigrum (GeoEcoMar, RO)*

#### **Red Sea RVs**

*Aegaeo (HCMR, GR)*

### European Marine Equipment

*3D HDTV Camera (IFREMER, FR)*

*3D HDTV Camera (Marum, DE)*

*ROV Liropus (IEO, ES) \**

#### 1.1. General description of the evaluation procedure

The foundation for the evaluation and review procedure was already laid by the EUROFLEETS2 project and was described step by step in the Deliverable 5.3

## 1.2. Call Regional 3 results

The call Regional 3 closed on the 10th of February 2015, at 15:00 HOURS CET.

Seventeen proposals were submitted to the Call Regional 3, of which all of them passed the eligibility criteria.

The proposals requested the following regions: Eastern Mediterranean (7), Western Mediterranean (6), Black Sea (2), Baltic Sea (1), and Red Sea (1).

A total of 120 scientists from 25 nations are partners on the 17 submitted proposals, with a majority of scientists affiliated at Italian institutions and followed by Germany and UK scientists.

From the 12 RVs offered within the call Regional 3, only 7 have been requested: RV *Aegaeo* (requested 7 times as 1st option and 3 times as 2nd option), RV *Ramon Margalef* (requested 2 times as first option and 1 time as 2nd option), RV *Urania* (requested 2 times as 1st option and 5 times as 2nd option), and RVs *Akademik*, *Bios-Dva*, *Mare Nigrum* and *Salme* (requested once as first option) and RV *Marmara* (requested once as 2nd option). RVs *Angeles Alvarino*, *Belgica*, *Marion Dufresne* and *Simon Stevin* were not requested in this call.

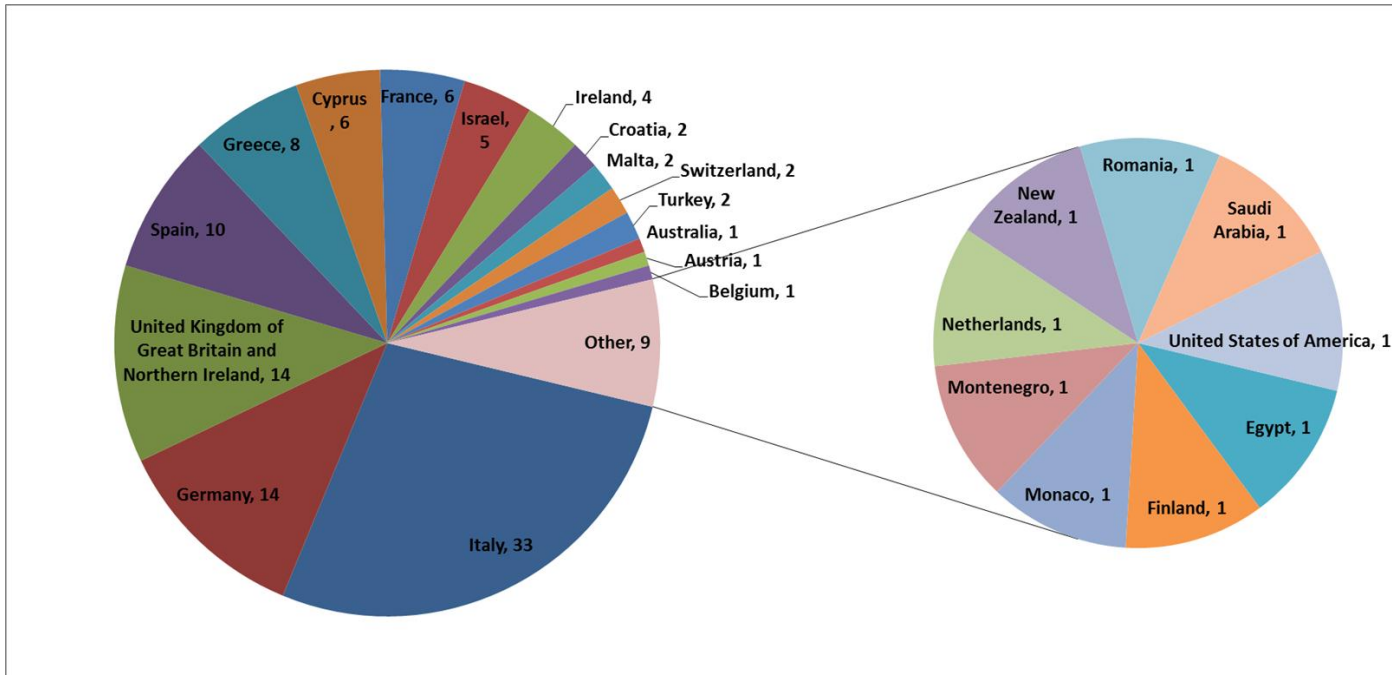
Regarding the embarked equipment, 3 pieces of equipment were offered but only the ROV *Liropus* was requested twice.

RV	1 <sup>st</sup> option	2 <sup>nd</sup> option	TOTAL
<i>Aegaeo</i>	7	3	10
<i>Akademik</i>	1		1
<i>Angeles Alvarino</i>			
<i>Belgica</i>			
<i>Bios-Dva</i>	1		1
<i>Mare Nigrum</i>	1		1
<i>Marion Dufresne</i>			
<i>Marmara</i>		1	1
<i>Ramon Margalef</i>	3	1	4
<i>Salme</i>	1		1
<i>Simon Stevin</i>			
<i>Urania</i>	2	5	7
<b>EMBARKED EQUIPMENT</b>			
3D HDTV Camera (FR)			
3D HDTV Camera (DE)			
ROV <i>Liropus</i>	2		2

**Figure 1:** Table showing the Research Vessels requested on the EUROFLEETS2 Call Regional 3

The applicants were based at 25 different countries. The three countries where more applicants were based were Italy, Germany and UK (33, 14, 14, respectively). The

participation of small countries and non EU countries increased from the previous call.



**Figure 2:** Pie chart showing the nationality of applicants to the Call Regional 3.

### Scientific Review Panel (SRP)

Each proposal was assigned a Watchdog within the Scientific Review Panel. Afterwards, each proposal was sent to external evaluators with the aim of collecting at least 3 evaluations per proposal.

A total of 118 external evaluators were contacted for the evaluation process, with a success range of 1-3 external evaluations per proposal.

One Scientific Review Panel Meeting was held to provide a consensus evaluation for the submitted proposals on the 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> of June 2014 in Aveiro, Portugal.

At this meeting, the proposals were categorized into:

- A. Recommended for scheduling
- B. Needs improvement.
- C. Not recommended for scheduling

As a result of the meeting, 15 proposals were recommended for funding (A), 1 was ranked in category B, and 1 was not recommended for funding (C). (See table in Annex 1). The proposals in categories B and C were not considered for the logistic evaluation.

### Logistic Review Panel (LRP)

The Logistic Review Panel examined each of the selected proposals for logistical feasibility. Following contact with each of the vessel operators to determine availability of the vessels and suitability for ability to complete work programs in proposals, unfortunately, some of the high ranked proposals were considered to be logistically non feasible with the EUROFLEETS2 resources and within the time frame of the EUROFLEETS2 project. The PIs of the proposals that were high ranked and logistically feasible were put in direct contact with the vessel operators to commence negotiation about specific dates for the surveys.

One proposal which was highly ranked was based in the Red Sea, however when details of logistics required to conduct the cruise in the Red Sea were considered and the considerable issues with timing of the cruise and the cost of passage of the Suez Canal emerged the proposal was deemed logistically unfeasible. Furthermore, during the course of the logistics review phase one of the offered vessels, RV *Urania* was involved in a fatal dockyard accident which as well as loss of life resulted in severe damage to the vessel and its consequent unavailability for the regional 3 call. Negotiations are on-going to replace this vessel by the RV *Minerva Uno* for the Regional 3 call and, following completion of the revised costings and suitability review of the vessel, it will likely accommodate two cruises under the call.

The outcome of the regional 3 call saw a large demand for a small number of vessels (e.g. RV *Aegaeo*) due to the geographic location of the study areas, an attempt was made to utilise as many vessels as possible and in the most efficient way as possible to try and achieve a greater spread of vessels across the call. However, in some cases, the distances required to make passage to the study areas as well as technical/ capability shortcomings made it unfeasible to achieve this. One proposal requested the use of the ROV *Liropus* on the RV *Aegaeo*, however technical incompatibilities made it impossible to use the ROV as part of the cruise. It is why the ROV *Max Rover* has been proposed to cover the ROV requirements of the proposal.

After the logistic evaluation, 9 proposals were sent to scheduling, and two proposals are still waiting to be rescheduled on an alternative RV to *Urania* (RV *Minerva Uno*).

**As a result, 11 highly ranked research projects, representing a success rate of the EUROFLEETS2 “Call Regional 3” of 65%, will get access to at least 99 days at sea plus 13 days of research equipment use fully funded by the EC.**

Both review panels accomplished their respective tasks. The partition into two steps, with a scientific evaluation of proposals before taking into account any logistical considerations, guarantees that only excellent proposals are awarded ship time.

**Annex 1: Proposals submitted to the Call Regional 3, arranged by SRP evaluation category VS Research Vessel requested (first option)**

<b>RV</b>	<b>Salme</b>	<b>Akademik</b>	<b>Mare Nigrum</b>	<b>Bios DVA</b>	<b>Marmara</b>	<b>Ramon Margalef or Angeles Alvarino</b>	<b>Urania</b>	<b>Aegaeo</b>	<b>ROV Liropus (+ Aegaeo)</b>
<b>A</b>								EUROFLEETS15-05	
<b>A1</b>	EUROFLEETS 15-08						EUROFLEETS15-22	EUROFLEETS15-20 EUROFLEETS15-10	
<b>A2</b>		EUROFLEETS15-07	EUROFLEETS15- 11	EUROFLEET S15-18		EUROFLEETS15-09	EUROFLEETS15-19	EUROFLEETS15-13 EUROFLEETS15-21 EUROFLEETS15-12	EUROFLEETS15-13 EUROFLEETS15-12
<b>A3</b>						EUROFLEETS15-14		EUROFLEETS15-15	
<b>B</b>								EUROFLEETS15-06	
<b>C</b>					EUROFLEE TS15-17				



**Annex 2: Proposals granted within the Call Regional 3, with granted RV information and number of days granted**

<b>RV</b>	<b>Proposal code</b>	<b>Number of RV days<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Number of Marine Equipment days</b>
<i>Salme</i>	EUROFLEETS15-08	9	
<i>Akademik</i>	EUROFLEETS15-07	9	
<i>Mare Nigrum</i>	EUROFLEETS15-11	8	
<i>Bios DVA</i>	EUROFLEETS15-18	10	
<i>Angeles Alvarino</i>	EUROFLEETS15-09	12	
	EUROFLEETS15-14	12	
<i>Alternative RV to Urania<sup>2</sup></i>	EUROFLEETS15-22	5	
	EUROFLEETS15-19	5	
<i>Aegaeo</i>	EUROFLEETS15-20	8	
	EUROFLEETS15-10	8	
<i>Aegaeo + ROV Liropus</i>	EUROFLEETS15-13	13	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11 PROPOSALS (9 already scheduled)</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>13</b>

<sup>1</sup> Number of days includes time for mobilisation and demobilisation

<sup>2</sup> RV and final number of days to be determined