

NAVIGATING THE FUTURE

MDEM Intl. joined the Black Sea Maritime Stakeholder Conference



On October 28 Black Sea Common Maritime Agenda Stakeholder Conference took place in Constanța, Romania. This Conference is a key annual forum for the Black Sea maritime and blue economy community, bringing together stakeholders from academia, industry, government, and civil society to exchange expertise, foster cooperation, and advance a sustainable and resilient blue economy in the region.

Participants engaged in knowledge-sharing, strategic dialogue, and collaboration to support the development of a sustainable and resilient blue economy in the Black Sea region. In line with the Common Maritime Agenda and Ukraine's 2025 priorities, the event highlighted practical experience with EU marine directives, showcased recent innovations, explored funding opportunities, and fostered partnerships for future project development.

The delegation from Mykolaiv included representatives of local government, academia and business community: Artem Vashchylenko (Director of Business Support Center), Tetiana Shulichenko (Head of the Economic Development Department of Mykolaiv City Council), Vitalii Lukov (First Deputy Mayor of Mykolaiv), Olena Zhukova (Director of MDEM & MDEG, UMC Executive Director, NUS), Mykhailov Mykhailov (Vice-rector of International Affairs and Educational Activity of NUS), Olesia Mandra (MDEG Specialist in Communications; NUS). Costel Ungureanu, Dean of the Faculty of Naval Architecture at University Dunărea de Jos of Galati, also attended the event.





Notably, Dunărea de Jos has signed a cooperation agreement with MDEG and Admiral Makarov National University of Shipbuilding (NUS), further supporting academic exchange and joint initiatives.

During the plenary session “Financing Innovation and Start-ups at the Coastal Community Level,” Tetiana Shulichenko shared how regional investment instruments and funding models are driving local entrepreneurship, fostering innovation, and enhancing economic resilience – drawing on successful projects and initiatives implemented in Mykolaiv.

As part of BlackSeaCMA2025 program, two parallel workshops were held. These interactive sessions explored how innovation can reinforce the resilience of coastal communities across the Black Sea, focusing on two key themes: Ocean Literacy and Innovative Blue Skills, and Maritime Spatial Planning and Offshore Renewable Energy. Mykolaiv representatives actively



contributed to the second workshop, helping shape project ideas that promote inclusive and balanced maritime spatial planning – integrating blue economy development, environmental protection, and community needs.

As the conference concluded, reflections from the Ukrainian National Coordinator, the European Commission, and the Coordinator of the Black Sea Assistance Mechanism captured the spirit of the day – one marked by meaningful collaboration, shared insights, and a united vision for a resilient and forward-looking Black Sea region. The pledges voiced throughout the event reflected a strong commitment to joint action, innovation, and inclusive growth. MDEM Intl. extend our sincere appreciation to all participants, partners, and contributors whose engagement continues to shape a more sustainable, connected, and forward-looking Black Sea region. «

