



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

GLOBAL MARITIME FORUM AND WOC WORK TO ENGAGE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IN DELIVERING ON THE U.N. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

World Ocean Council Encourages Submissions to the GMF “Future Maritime Leaders Essay Competition” by Students and Young Professionals

4 June 2020

The World Ocean Council (WOC) invites students and young professionals from around the world to respond to the Global Maritime Forum (GMF) call for submissions to the [Future Maritime Leaders essay competition](#).

The 2020 GMF essay topic is “How can the maritime sector contribute to realizing the Sustainable Development Goals in the coming decade?”, with a deadline of 21 June 2020.

Three winning essays will be awarded the opportunity to participate in the GMF’s Virtual High-Level Meeting in October 2020, will have their contribution published on the GMF website and will be supported to attend the GMF Annual Summit 2021 in London, where they will take up active roles as full participants alongside 250 public and private sector leaders.

Essay competition criteria:

- The competition is open to students and young professionals aged 18-30
- Essay submissions in PDF format should not comprise more than 1,000 words
- Participants in the competition should also attach their CV and a submission form
- The submission deadline is 21 June 2020
- Competition winners will be announced in early September

For more information on the GMF Future Maritime Leaders essay competition, [click here](#).

The GMF convenes top executives, policymakers, NGOs, experts, thought leaders and other important decision-makers with the determination and authority to shape a sustainable future for global seaborne trade. The WOC CEO has been a part of the GMF since its inception and has been invited to chair sessions on the SDGs and ocean governance.

The GMF “Future Maritime Leaders Essay Competition” links well with the WOC Young Ocean Professionals (YOP) initiative. The WOC YOP is developing a global, multi-sectoral

network of young leaders from the ocean business and investment community. The WOC is working to support up and coming ocean professionals in contributing to a healthy ocean and sustainable ocean economy through their work, e.g. through access to sustainable development education, mentorship and leadership opportunities. Young Ocean Professionals interested in joining the WOC YOP Program are invited to submit their interest via the [WOC website](#).

Recent and Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

19 May, Online Webinar

International Union of Marine Insurers (IUMI) – WOC Briefing on the New U.N. Ocean Treaty: Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) (Speaker)

Click [here](#) to access the recording and slides.

20 May, Online Webinar

Fishing For Data: Ocean Observations and Data Collection from Fishing Vessels (Speaker)

Click [here](#) to access the recording and slides.

8 June, [16:00 BST](#), Online Webinar

World Oceans Day Industry Event - Celebrating Maritime's Innovative Blue Economy and Building Strategic Resilience (Speaker)

11 June, [10:00-13:00 CEST](#), Online Webinar

Stronger Together: European Cooperation for Polar Science and Society – The Integrated European Polar Research Programme (Speaker)

18 June, [17:00 CEST](#), Online Webinar

TRANSITION FORUM 2020: Time to Scale Up – Plenary IV Mobility (Speaker)

World Ocean Council (WOC) – The Global Blue Economy Business Organization

The WOC is the international, cross-sectoral alliance for private sector leadership, collaboration and action on ocean sustainability, stewardship and science. Companies from a range of industries worldwide are distinguishing themselves as leaders in "Corporate Ocean Responsibility", including: shipping, oil and gas, tourism, fisheries, aquaculture, mining, renewable energy, ocean technology and investment.

WOC Members are listed [here](#), a part of the WOC Network of 35,000+ ocean industry stakeholders around the world. The WOC is a registered not-for-profit organization in the US and France.

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