



1st Lower Adriatic Conference

Bari, November 21-22, 2023 – The Nicolaus Hotel

AGENDA

English/Italian simultaneous translation service

Servizio di traduzione simultanea Inglese/Italiano

Day 1 – November 21, 2023 (Tuesday)

9:00 - Registration of participants and welcome coffee

9:30 - Welcome address

Michele Emiliano, President, Puglia Region

Session #1

A GLIMPSE INTO THE STATUS QUO

Chair: **Giuseppe Garofalo**, Project Manager, ASSET Strategic Agency, Puglia Region

10:00 - **Study report**

TARGET: SMART INTEGRATION PROCESS

Towards a closer coordination among the main ports in the Lower Adriatic region

Matteo Apollonio, DBA Group – Southern Adriatic Port Authority

Q&A Sub-Session

10:30 - **Study report**

PASSENGER MOBILITY IN THE LOWER ADRIATIC

A decade of ferry crossing in the Lower Adriatic: facts and figures

A 2023 report by **Alessandro Rubino** and **Claudia Capozza**, University of Bari Aldo Moro

A comprehensive analysis of passenger traffic flows in the Lower Adriatic region

Q&A Sub-Session

11:00 - **Panel discussion**

INSTITUTIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS, HAVE YOUR SAY

Ports and ferries on the move: relevant improvements and enhancements of the last years, and a glimpse into their future

Host: **Luigi Morfini**, Morfimare / Montenegro Lines

Invitees:*

- **Maurizio Ammendolia**, GNV - Grandi Navi Veloci
- **Ilir Banushi**, Port of Vlore
- **Federico Berto**, GNV - Grandi Navi Veloci
- **Vittorio Di Benedetto**, Ventouris Ferries / Blumare
- **Vegim Hoti**, Port Authority of Durrës
- **Antonios Karatzis**, Ventouris Ferries
- **Alessio Macri**, GNV - Grandi Navi Veloci
- **Zvonimir Matic**, Jadrolinija
- **Marko Novaselić**, Jadrolinija
- **Renato Pasqualicchio**, Jadrolinija / Barimar
- **Ugo Patroni Griffi**, Southern Adriatic Ports Authority
- **Rade Stanišić**, Port of Bar
- **Kostantinos Ventouris**, Ventouris Ferries

* In alphabetical order

13:00 - Buffet lunch

Session #2

BUILDING A WIDER PERSPECTIVE FOR THE PAN-EUROPEAN CORRIDOR VIII

Chair: **G. Massimo Lupis d'Urso**, Coordinator, Internationalization Task Force, ASSET Strategic Agency, Puglia Region

14:30 - **Technical Seminar**

TOWARDS THE CREATION OF THE "CORRIDOR VIII" EGTC (EUROPEAN GROUPING OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION)

Host: **Ardian Hackaj**, Director of Research at Cooperation and Development Institute (Albania) and Project Manager of SMART WB6 CSOs Agency in the WB6 Economic & Investment Plan

Participants:*

- **Cinzia Di Iorio**, Sviluppo Italia Molise Agency - Molise Region
- **Žana Jovanović**, Head of National Fund Division, Ministry of Finance, Republic of Montenegro
- **Danijela Kapa**, Head of Division of IPA Projects, Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs, Republic of Montenegro
- **Jasminka Kirkova**, State Counsellor, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Republic of North Macedonia
- **Slaven Klobučar**, Policy Officer, European Committee of the Regions
- **Endrit Pollo**, Director, Centre of Excellence for Maritime Affairs, Durres Port Authority
- **Ana Raičević**, Secretary, Ministry of Finance and NAO (National Authorizing Officer), Republic of Montenegro
- **Giuseppe Rubino**, Manager, International Cooperation Department, Puglia Region
- **Dimitar Savov**, Director, National Transport Policy Directorate, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Republic of Bulgaria
- **Fabrizio Spallone**, Sviluppo Italia Molise Agency - Molise Region
- **Antonio Travascio**, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italian Government

* In alphabetical order

Session #2, designed and managed by ASSET - the Strategic Agency of Puglia Region, gathers a pool of experts from Albania, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Italy, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Puglia and Molise, with the technical support of representatives of the EU Committee of Regions and the Italian Government. The technical meeting aims to present, share and discuss the proposal of ASSET to create the "Pan-European Corridor 8 EGTC" (European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation).

EGTCs were set up in 2006 by the European Parliament to facilitate cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation between Member States or their regional and local authorities.

An EGTC can be created by public bodies based in at least two Member States (or one Member State and one or more non-EU countries). The objective of an EGTC is to facilitate and promote territorial cooperation among its members, including one or more of the cross-border, transnational and interregional strands of cooperation, with the aim of strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion in the EU.

Tasks may include specific acts of territorial cooperation between its members, even with financial support from the Union. An EGTC may be tasked with implementing programmes co-financed by the European Union, through the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and/or the Cohesion Fund, or other cross-border cooperation projects.

EGTCs have legal personality and are governed by a convention concluded unanimously by its members. As a minimum requirement, an EGTC must have two organs: an assembly, which is made up of representatives of its members, and a director, who represents the EGTC and acts on its behalf.

The European Committee of the Regions manages the EGTC register, which already includes (2023) 78 EGTCs all over Europe. EGTCs are growing steadily in number across the EU and their uses are multiplying. As a result of the changes to the EGTC Regulation in 2013, the role of EGTCs is now empowered and EGTCs are now involved in various European territorial cooperation (INTERREG) programmes and projects, and in implementing other cohesion policy programmes.

Welcome Session

DISCOVERING BARI VECCHIA (THE OLD TOWN)

The conference guests are invited to take part in a 2-hour guided walking tour of Bari Vecchia. Participants will dive into the Bari casbah, exploring the maze of narrow streets and tasting its mouthwatering street food. All in all, a pleasant discovery to talk about.

17:30 Meeting of Participants, transfer to the Old Town, guided walking tour

20:00 Welcome dinner at a traditional restaurant by the Old Town

Day 2 – November 22, 2023 (Wednesday)

9:00 - Registration of participants and welcome coffee

9:30 - Welcome addresses

Salvatore Refolo, Extraordinary Commissioner, ASSET Strategic Agency, Puglia Region

Aurora Losacco, Officer, Joint Technical Secretariat, Interreg IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro Programme

Session #3

TOWARDS A SHARED STRATEGY FOR A MORE CONNECTED LOWER ADRIATIC REGION

Chair: **Vito Antonio Antonacci**, Manager, Transport Department, Puglia Region

10:00 - Study report

Luca Petruzzellis, University of Bari Aldo Moro and **Marco Petrelli**, University of Roma Tre

GUIDELINES FOR A “LOWER ADRIATIC TRANSIT SYSTEM” STRATEGIC PLAN

Potential strategies and calls to action aimed to enhance multimodal connections in the Lower Adriatic region

Q&A Sub-Session

11:00 - Panel discussion

TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR A SHARED TRANSIT SYSTEM IN THE LOWER ADRIATIC REGION:
EXPECTATIONS, TAILWINDS AND HEADWINDS

Host: **Gino Lorenzelli**, Journalist

Panelists*:

- **Giuseppe Garofalo**, ASSET Strategic Agency, Puglia Region
- **Ugo Patroni Griffi**, Southern Adriatic Ports Authority
- **Rafaelo Rexho**, Durres Port Authority
- **Fabrizio Spallone**, Sviluppo Italia Molise Agency - Molise Region
- **Rade Stanišić**, Port of Bar

* In alphabetical order

12:30 - Findings, and shared expectations

13:00 - Arrivederci: aperitivo Bari style and photo opportunities



TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

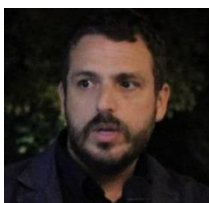
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CHAIRS



Session #1

Giuseppe Garofalo

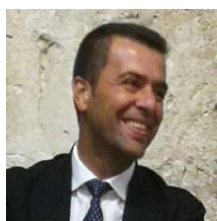
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Session #2

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Session #3

Vito Antonio Antonacci

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HOSTS



Panel Discussion, Session #1

Luigi Morfini

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Technical Seminar, Session #2

Ardian Hackaj

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Panel Discussion, Session #3

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STUDY AUTHORS



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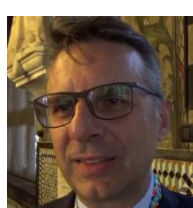
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Luca Petruzzellis
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Marco Petrelli
University of
Roma Tre



Matteo Apollonio
DBA Group
Southern Adriatic Port Authority

MEDIA MANAGEMENT

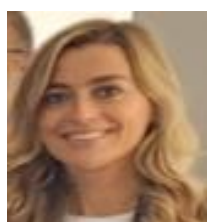


Carmela Sfregola
Social Media Manager



Fabio Nardulli
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TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT



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TECHNICAL SUPPORT

