



Port of San Benedetto del Tronto  
Onboard of Mediterranea  
April, 29th 2014

**Press Release n.2**

**Mediterranea Project receives Italian President support. Coming soon, moreover, the first prize: "L'Albero d'Argento (The Silver tree) for the quality of the arts". The calendar also includes the cultural meeting opening with the writer Gianluca Solera.**

As part of the expedition's cultural project, Mediterranean team has put on its calendar on May 16, the eve of its official departure, the first meeting with the author: the writer **Gianluca Solera**.

The day after, the Italian sailing Expedition Mediterranean Project will leave from the Port of San Benedetto del Tronto. The project has just received two important endorsements:

The sailing, cultural and scientific expedition Project Mediterranean, as of Monday, can in fact bear the words "**WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC**" and will receive a plaque of cast bronze, which will be sent via official communication of the Secretary General of the President of the Republic.

The important concession, which emphasizes and officializes the social and cultural value of the sailing initiative, also adds to the many accolades already obtained, including the use of the logo of the **General Command of the Harbour**, the patronage of the **Italian Naval League**, the city and naval league of **San Benedetto del Tronto**, the **Municipality of Lampedusa**, the **Italian Institute of Culture in Istanbul**, and **University of Parma's Master university** in Culture, Organization and Marketing of the wine and food territory (MASTERCOMET).

On May 9, in addition, the Project Mediterranean will receive its first prize: "**Albero d'Argento (Silver tree) for the quality of the arts**" by the **Coppini** family, who founded and led Coppini Arte Olearia, a leading company in the production and sale of reliable and quality extra virgin olive oil for over 70 years. As part of the initiatives of the third edition of the event, which will be held in San Secondo Parmense at the Museum Agora Orsi Coppini, the **Mediterranea Project will be awarded because it is representative of that space for dialogue and sharing the significance of the Greek world's agora and which distinguishes and characterizes the intentions and objectives of the museum's activities.**

The Agora Museum Orsi Coppini, created by the Coppini family, "was born with ambitious goal of assembling growing to knowing, love for nature to love for learning and man", said Ernesto Coppini, owner of the group. "The cultural center of oil and the olive," he explained, "was created to spread the knowledge of a product and a world that is a thousands-years old art in daily life. That's why the award goes to Mediterranean, with whom we feel we have common and converging goals".

Meanwhile, as part of the expedition's cultural project, the Mediterranean team has put on its calendar the first "**private meeting with the author**". On May 16, the eve of its departure, **Gianluca Solera** will talk about the Mediterranean sea and its story, leafing through his latest book "Mediterranean Redemption. Voices and places of dignity and strength", published by Nuova Dimensione. The author, trans-Mediterranean activist who recently returned to Italy after living for over twenty years between Europe, Palestine and Egypt, will recount revolutionary events and social movements of protest that concern the extensive Mediterranean area, the young protagonists of the Arab Spring, the Indignados (outraged) against the economic and political crisis, and the hopes of an entire generation that rediscovers a common Mediterranean identity in the struggle for rights and dignity. Talking with Solera, now aboard the boat for its





next departure (on May 17 from San Benedetto del Tronto) is the writer **Simone Perotti** and crew, who set sail in the year of the Mediterranean, when Greece and Italy assume EU presidency during 2014.

Mediterranea Project, a **five-year long journey through Mediterranean, Black Sea and Northern Red Sea**, was born from an idea shared by a group of sailing, sea and culture lovers and is the **first co-sailing experiment in the world**. It doesn't have a main sponsor and it is rather supported by dozens of like-minded people sharing the expedition purposes, who will take part in the journey. The boat will set the sails from the port of San Benedetto del Tronto on May, 17<sup>th</sup> 2014. The expedition will end in Genova, in five years from now, after approximately 20.000 sailed miles (32.000 km), more than one hundred visited cities, spread across 29 countries.

[www.progettomediterranea.com](http://www.progettomediterranea.com)



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