



Port of San Benedetto del Tronto
Onboard of Mediterraneo
May, 15th 2014

Press Release n.4

Mediterranea Project: the sailing, cultural, scientific expedition will officially start on May, 17th 2014 from the port of San Benedetto del Tronto.

Everything is ready for **Mediterranea**, the ketch equipped as cutter that will be sailing in the Mediterranean Sea (including Black Sea and Northern Red Sea) for the next 5 years, developing a scientific and cultural project. The boat will leave the port of San Benedetto del Tronto, where it has been hosted by the Italian Naval League, on May, 17th, at 10.00 am.

Progetto Mediterraneo achieved the "SUPPORT OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC", that gave to the expedition a plaque of cast bronze, and received the patronage from the **Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, from the **General Command of the Italian Coastal Guard**, the **Italian Naval League**, the **Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto**, the local section of the **Italian Naval League** and the **Municipality of Lampedusa**.

On the eve of its departure, on Friday, May 16th, at 8.30 pm, as part of the expedition's cultural events in calendar, the Mediterraneo Project team will meet **Gianluca Solera**, author of "Mediterranean Redemption. Voices and places of dignity and strength", published by Nuova Dimensione. By leafing through his latest book, the writer will talk about the hopes of an entire generation that rediscovers a common Mediterranean identity in the struggle for rights and dignity. Talking with Solera, in a "private meeting with the author" aboard the boat, will be the writer **Simone Perotti** and Mediterraneo crew.

Mediterranea will be a "floating laboratory" for scientific projects and will carry out research and experiments together with several subjects who signed scientific cooperation agreements with the expedition: the British researchers of **Sahfos** (*Sir Alister Hardy Foundation for Ocean Science*), Professor **Ferdinando Boero** from the **University of Salento** and **CNR-ISMAR**, the **University of Siena** and the **CMCC (Euro-Mediterranean Center for the study of the Climate Changes)**.

Mediterranea Project 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.

Mediterranea is a boat with zero environmental impact fuelled only by renewable energy sources (solar and wind power).

The expedition will end in Genova, in five years from now, after approximately 20.000 sailed miles (37.000 km), more than one hundred visited cities, spread across 29 countries.

It will share stories and images from the journey on its official website www.progettomediterranea.com as well as through its important media partners: **ANSA** (AnsaMed and AnsaMare bulletins) and **Corriere della Sera** (in the *Viaggi* section of its www.corriere.it website, by **DOVE**).



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