

WP3 WEBINARS

Bridging R&I among Coastal Regions

T&R Hub 1, December 3rd 2025



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

INTRODUCTION

EUNICoast, the European University of Islands, Ports, and Coastal Territories, is a European University Alliance funded by ERASMUS+ under the European Universities initiative and is constituted by a diverse group of coastal universities spread across European seas, encompassing both mainland and island members. It focuses on the unique challenges and opportunities of members regions, blending sustainability, education, research and innovation, and community engagement.

EUNICoast aims to (1) contribute to the next generation of students and citizens who are engaged, aware and willing to contribute to sustainability; (2) Foster a multicultural, multilingual and inclusive European education, research, and innovation environment; and (3) Enhance the consortium joint capacity to better respond to the societal and environmental challenges faced by island and coastal communities.

To achieve this, the EUNICoast universities are collaborating with each other under the different workpackages tasks, namely by establishing mechanisms for internal and external researchers networking. One aim of this collaboration is to define new research activities and develop new research proposals based on the five predefined EUNICoast Teaching and Research Hubs (T&R Hubs), which EUNICoast has identified as key domains critical for tackling the sustainability development of maritime and coastal regions. Therefore, this joint webinar series will present ongoing research strands and projects from each T&R Hubs, in order to subsequently identify potential new research projects to address societal challenges and facilitate joint research projects under Horizon Europe calls (or other funding instruments) aligned with the identified research areas.

Information about the EUNICoast T&R Hubs:

1. Identities, Local Knowledge, and Cultural Heritage in Islands & Coastal Communities:

Focus on preserving cultural identities and traditional knowledge to enhance community resilience and maintain cultural heritage.

2. Blue Circular Economy, Port Logistics, and Sustainable Blue Tourism:

Promote sustainable economic models that optimize resource use and reduce environmental impacts, particularly in port logistics and tourism sectors.

3. Governance, Planning, Management, and Monitoring of Islands and Coastal Communities:

Aim to improve governance structures and policy frameworks to manage coastal resources effectively and sustainably.

4. Health, Biodiversity Protection, Nature-based Solutions, and Sustainable Exploration of Coastal/Marine Resources:

Prioritize health and biodiversity conservation through sustainable practices and the adoption of nature-based solutions.

5. Engineered and Data-driven Solutions for Coastal Infrastructures, Marine Renewable Energy, Marine Safety, and Navigation Systems:

Develop advanced engineering and data-driven solutions to enhance the safety and sustainability of maritime infrastructures and navigation systems.

Contact Name for potential collaborations	Contact Details
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Bridging R&I among Coastal Regions

T&R Hub 1 Online Webinar

AGENDA



December 3rd 2025, 11H00 CET time



Teams

11h00 – 11h15 Mapping the Azorean Islands and Unlocking the Innovative Potential of Cultural and Creative Industries for Sustainable Regional Development | IN SITU AzoresLab

Prof. Dr. Pilar Damião de Medeiros, University of the Azores

11h15 – 11h30 Åland Islands: Identities, local knowledge, and cultural heritage

Dr. Anders Kjellman, HÖGSKOLAN ÅLAND

11h30 – 11h45 3D Urban Space Analysis & Waterfront Identity: Protecting Cultural Heritag

Prof. Dr. Klara Czyńska, West Pomeranian University of Technology, Szczecin

11h45 – 12h00 Enhancing Competences for Cultural Tourism Experiences

Prof. Dr. Werner Gronau, Stralsund University of Applied Sciences

12h00 – 12h15 Mapping education: literacy and development in Sardinia(1861-1914). The results of a research project of relevant national interest

Prof. Dr. Fabio Pruneri, University of Sassari

12h15 – 12h30 Q&A and Networking for potential cooperation

OUR SPEAKERS:



Prof. Dr. Pilar Damião de Medeiros, University of the Azores

Pilar Damião de Medeiros holds a Ph.D. from Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany (2007), an M.A. from Queen's University, Canada (2003), and a B.A. with honors from Brock University, Canada (2001). She is currently an Associate Professor at the University of the Azores and an integrated researcher/local coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Centre of Social Sciences CICS.UAc/CICS.NOVA.UAc. Her research areas include Cultural Sociology, Critical Theory, Intellectuals, Activism, and the Public Sphere, as well as Cultural and Creative Industries. She has published five books, several scholarly articles, and book chapters. She is currently engaged in two European Projects, namely the IN SITU: Place-based innovation of cultural and creative industries in non-urban areas (HORIZON-CL2-2021-HERITAGE-01-03 project) and the EUNICoast: The European Alliance of Islands, Ports and Coastal Territories (Co-funded by the European Commission).

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Prof. Dr. Werner Gronau – Stralsund University of Applied Sciences

Werner Gronau has extensive experience in tourism research and education, with previous posts and visiting professorships in Cyprus, Australia and Italy. He is member of several research groups, such as NECTAR or the German "Tourism Research Working Group". His research interests focus on sustainable Destination Management and tourism-related transport issues. He has worked in several research projects granted by various institutions, such as the European Commission, the DFG (German Research Foundation) or the German Ministry of Research and presented the results on international conferences, in various journals and books. He works as associate editor of the "Journal of Tourism Science" and "Frontiers in Sustainable Tourism".

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Dr Anders Kjellman – HÖGSKOLAN ÅLAND

Former Senior Financial Advisor at the Ministry of Finance, Former Chairman for the activities in Asia, Africa and Latin-America at the European Investment Bank, Board Member at Baltic Investment Programme, aided WB (IBRD) and EBRD besides working as a Professor at Hanken and CUP.

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Prof. Dr. Fabio Pruneri, University of Sassari

Fabio Pruneri is a full Professor of History of Education at the Department of History, Humanities and Education, University of Sassari. He serves on the editorial boards of *Paedagogica Historica: International Journal of the History of Education* and *History of Education*. In 2013, he was a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Education, University of London.

A member of the International Standing Conference for the History of Education (ISCHE) since 2004, he was Principal Investigator of the 2017 PRIN project *Literacy and Development in Southern Italy from Italian Unification to the Giolittian Era (1861–1914)*.

His research focuses on teaching methods, school policy, literacy, and educational reforms from the modern to the contemporary age.

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Prof. Dr. Klara Czyska, West Pomeranian University of Technology

Architect and urban planner, Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Architecture at the West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin. Graduated from Szczecin University of Technology in 2003; earned a PhD at Wrocław University of Science and Technology in 2007 and habilitation in 2020. For many years, she has co-organized exhibitions and academic events at the Forma Architects' Gallery (FA/ZUT). She leads workshops and supervises numerous award-winning urban planning theses. From 2013 to 2016, she managed the "2TaLL" project funded by the Polish-Norwegian Research Programme. Her research focuses on shaping urban landscapes, particularly assessing the impact of contemporary high-rise developments. She is the author or co-author of numerous urban planning studies for major Polish cities, using proprietary analytical methods based on virtual city models.

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