



PERMANENT SECRETARIAT



FORUM
delle Camere di Commercio dell'Adriatico e dello Ionio
of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce
Gospodarskih Komora Jadransko-jonskog područja



FORUM
of Adriatic
and Ionian
CITIES

Declaration of Intent

Adriatic Ionian Integrated Secretariat

The representatives of the Secretariats of the

***Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce**, founded in 2001 in representation of 38 Chambers of Commerce of the Adriatic-Ionian Area;*

***Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Cities**, founded on 30th April 1999 with the approval of the "Ancona Chart", in representation of 56 municipalities of the Adriatic and Ionian area;*

***UniAdrion** (Virtual University of the Adriatic-Ionian basin), founded in 2000 together with the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative, in representation of 36 Adriatic-Ionian Universities;*

*and the **Permanent Secretariat of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative**.*

- Conscious of the longstanding cooperation among the countries of the Adriatic-Ionian Area;
- Considering the reinforced relations among these countries, that have formalised their friendship in the last fifteen years, thereby establishing forms of cooperation not only involving governmental institutions, but also civil society, promoting exchanges and activities shared by Chambers of Commerce, Universities and Municipalities;

- Conscious of the great value of the achievements so far, in terms of integration and activities for the development and the protection of the territories of the Adriatic-Ionian area;
- Convinced that the approval of the “European Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region” in 2014 will further foster the growth of our territories in terms of development, employment, commerce, tourism, safety in the seas and protection of the environment;
- Convinced that a stronger cooperation within the framework of the Macroregional Strategy can consolidate the process for the EU accession of the Adriatic-Ionian countries that are not yet members;
- Sure that, in this context, the role of the civil societies (in particular of Municipalities, Chambers of Commerce and Universities supported by the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative and by its Permanent Secretariat) can be of crucial importance both in the preparatory and in the implementation phase of the “European Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region”;

HEREBY DECLARE

- their commitment for the implementation of an integrated organization resulting in an enhanced cooperation between the “Adriatic-Ionian Fora of the civil society” and the Permanent Secretariat of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative, all of them having their seats in Ancona;
- their commitment to share their ideas and experience with all European institutions and with the Governments of All Countries (Contact Points and focal points of line Ministries) in the preparatory and in the implementation phase of the “European Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region” directly or through the Secretary General of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative (who is fully entitled to take part in all meetings of the Macroregion);

- their commitment to integrate their activities, in order to improve the efficiency of their work, as far as timetables, working tables, web-sites are concerned;
- their commitment to work together, in order to conceive, plan, submit and implement projects regarding the Adriatic-Ionian area within EU Calls or similar;
- their commitment to urge their national authorities to propose to the European Commission, amongst others through the engagement of the Adriatic Ionian Initiative, to integrate the draft proposal for programs of transnational cooperation for the period 2014 – 2020, with the special draft proposal aiming at including a relevant program, directly supporting the strategy for the Adriatic Ionian Macroregion, emphasizing that otherwise the Decision of the European Council might not provide relevant results.

Yours faithfully

Adriatic-Ionian Initiative
Secretary General
Amb. Fabio Pigliapoco

Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce
Secretary General
Dr. Michele De Vita

UniAdrion
President
Prof. Marco Pacetti

Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Cities
Secretary General
Dr. Michele Brisighelli