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29 SEPT - 2 OCT 2025 LA SPEZIA NAVAL BASE

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SEAFUTURE 2025

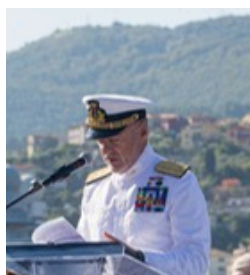
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29 SEPTEMBER

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**SF25 OPENING CEREMONY WITH MINISTER GUIDO CROSETTO**

Opening Ceremony for 'Seafuture' one of the most important international trade fairs dedicated to the Blue Economy, took place in the late morning of September 29th at the Arsenale Marittimo Militare in La Spezia from September 29th to October 2nd. The ceremony, attended by over 500 guests from around the world, included Minister of Defense Guido Crosetto, President of Italian Blue Growth Cristiana Pagni, Chief of Staff of the Italian Navy Admiral Enrico Credendino, President of the Liguria Region Marco Bucci, and Mayor of La Spezia Pierluigi Peracchini. Following the official speeches, a moving demonstration by the GOI (Gruppo Operativo Incursori), the Italian Navy's Special Forces unit, was held to mark the start of the official visit to the fair.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



29 SEPT - 2 OCT 2025 LA SPEZIA NAVAL BASE

MONDAY
29 SEPTEMBER

CEO OF FINCANTIERI

PIERROBERTO FOLGIERO

INTERVIEW WITH PIERROBERTO FOLGIERO, CEO OF FINCANTIERI

Fincantieri's CEO outlined a vision where defense investments generate technological progress benefiting both military and civilian industries. The Underwater Economy, developed in cooperation with the Italian Navy, is a long-term industrial asset, enabling applications from infrastructure protection to seabed mining and aquaculture. Folgiero highlighted La Spezia's deep roots in underwater expertise and the vital role of SMEs in innovation. He also pointed to strategic collaborations with Poland and Greece, supported by governments and navies, as key to strengthening both industrial and geopolitical positioning. For Folgiero, Italy's competitive edge and job security rely on technological distinctiveness, with subsea capabilities serving as a cornerstone of national industrial progress.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)


ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & DEFENCE: INDUSTRIAL PERSPECTIVES, INSTITUTIONS, AND EMERGING CHALLENGES

In today's world, where information dominance, real-time decision-making, and data security are increasingly crucial, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming a game-changer for new operational models. Through real-world case studies and forward-looking discussions, the conference organized by ELT Group has explored how AI is reshaping the Defense–Industry–Public Administration ecosystem. With a holistic approach, the event brought together voices from industry, institutions, and academia to highlight AI's role in driving digital transformation, sparking a meaningful conversation on the opportunities and challenges of adopting AI in defence and security, alongside its regulation. Opened by Admiral Giacinto Ottaviani, National Armaments Director and Domitilla Benigni, CEO & COO ELT Group, and closed by Hon. Matteo Perego di Cremona, Undersecretary of State for Defence, the panel saw the participation of Admiral Francesco Procaccini, Chief of the 6th Department, IT, Cyber and Telecommunications, Italian Defence General Staff, Daniela Pistoia, Corporate Chief Scientist ELT Group, Alessandro Musumeci, Professor of Network Economics and Innovation, International University of Rome, Vincenzo Di Nicola, Head of AI Fund – CDP Venture Capital, and Federica Valente Marinkovic, Hub for EU Defence Innovation Manager, European Defence Agency.


[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

INTERVIEW WITH EDOARDO RIXI, DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

Deputy Minister Rixi emphasized the significance of SeaFuture as a hub where over 60 delegations, including many Arab countries, meet to share perspectives of peace, growth, and future cooperation. He stressed the importance of showcasing Italy's excellence and its role as a maritime nation with vast potential. Italy is investing heavily in underwater technologies, establishing a dedicated institute that will shape future exploration and security for decades. Rixi also warned of global challenges such as Arctic shipping routes that could bypass the Mediterranean, potentially penalizing Europe. He criticized current EU emission taxes on Mediterranean shipping as inconsistent and called for a comprehensive Mediterranean strategy alongside the Mattei Plan for Africa. Finally, Rixi defended Leonardo as a national technology leader, vital for cybersecurity, space, and defense, stressing that penalizing such a company would be a mistake for Genoa and Italy.



AT SEAFUTURE PAGE EUROPA AND JANA MARINE LAUNCH PAGE JSI COMPANY

Page Europa, an Italian company that is part of the Maticmind Group and a leader in the design and integration of security systems for strategic assets, and Jana Marine Services Company LLC, a Saudi company belonging to the Rashed Al-Rashed & Sons Group, today announced the creation of Page JSI Company, a strategic joint venture dedicated to the integrated protection of critical infrastructure in Saudi Arabia and the wider regional context.

This represents another crucial milestone in the over 65-year history of Page Europa, during which the company has established itself as a benchmark in the delivery of complex, world-class projects. The new joint venture was officially unveiled during the joint press conference held today at the Green & Blue Innovation Hub of SEAFUTURE 2025, the leading international hub for innovation in the Blue Economy.



[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

INTERVIEW WITH MATTEO PEREGO DI CREMNAGO, UNDERSECRETARY OF DEFENCE

Undersecretary Perego di Cremnago highlighted the impressive growth of SeaFuture, now hosting 370 exhibitors across 50,000 square meters and attracting global attention. He pointed to the increasing focus on underwater technologies, crucial both for security and economic development. La Spezia, as Italy's maritime hub, is becoming ever more strategic in this field, already hosting many companies and institutions. He emphasized the role of the National Underwater Hub (PNS) as an incubator connecting research institutes, startups, large companies, and the Navy. This initiative is vital for safeguarding critical subsea infrastructure, communications, and energy networks, while also preparing for future challenges such as rare earth extraction. Perego stressed that Italy is emerging as a leader in the underwater domain and that the ongoing funding calls prove the country's strong commitment. SeaFuture, he concluded, is a virtuous example of a national system working together.

BLUE ECONOMY BETWEEN GROWTH, SUSTAINABILITY AND GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

The blue economy today represents an essential bridge between maritime safety and sustainable prosperity. In compliance with international law of the sea, freedom of navigation and the protection of maritime workers, it is configured as a strategic priority not only for the economy, but also for the geopolitical dimension. It is not limited to the military sphere: it is a concrete tool that responds to the challenges of the present, combining growth, stability and global responsibility. This is what emerges from the panel organized by the Italian Navy «Exploring the importance of the blue economy in today's geostrategic context», which was attended by: Salvatore Vitiello admiral of Italian Navy, Claudio Cislino vice president Fincantieri, Mario Zanetti delegate president of Confindustria for the economy of the sea, Francesco Maiorana strategy and commercial director Intermarine, Paolo Quercia director of studies and analysis division of the Ministry of business and made in Italy, Andrea Margelletti international studies center advisor at the Ministero della Difesa, Fiammetta Borgia university of Rome Tor Vergata, Stefano Denicolai university of Pavia, Ilaria Tani university of Milan Bicocca. The panel was moderated by Alessio Patalano King's college London.





DEPUTY MINISTER RIXI: "MARITIME TRADE AS A TOOL FOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN NATIONS"

The future of ports and logistics was also discussed at Seafuture by the Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Transport, Edoardo Rixi, in a panel moderated by journalist Simone Gallotti. Rixi emphasized that Italy must strengthen its relations with other countries, particularly those in the Gulf, the Middle East, Africa, South America, and India, where excellent prospects are emerging. Trade, he reiterated, is an essential instrument to counter the growing international tensions, especially those concentrated in the Mediterranean area. According to the Deputy Minister, keeping ports open to trade and exchange is a fundamental element of any democracy. He also stressed that the current historical moment requires caution, avoiding the instrumentalization of international situations for political purposes, in order not to fuel degenerative dynamics.

PORTS, LOGISTICS AND THE DIFFICULTIES TO BE FACED

Alexio Picco, President of Magellan Circle, moderated the panel dedicated to "Ports and Logistics between Geopolitics and Regulation: Development Strategies in the Current Global Scenario." This international conference focused on two aspects: the European rules and regulations that all logistics operators must address, and the more unpredictable aspects arising from geopolitical tensions or individual countries' decisions, such as tariffs, which can change overnight, drastically altering the global logistics landscape. Speakers on the panel included Roberto Ferrari, CEO of PSA Italia; Bruno Pisano, Special Commissioner of the Eastern Ligurian Sea Port Authority and Delegate of Assoporti; Alessandro Ferrari, Director of Assiterminal; Alessandro Pitto, President of Fedespedi; and Davide Falteri, President of Federlogistica.





AN INCREASING INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE COOPERATION WITH OCCAR

The OCCAR (Organisation Conjointe de Coopération en matière d'Armement / Organisation for Joint Armament Co-operation) has established itself as a key reference at European level and beyond in terms of a centre of excellence for cooperative Defence Equipment Programmes. "The OCCAR's Maritime Programmes in the surface vessel and submarine domain play a pivotal role in enhancing Europe's naval capabilities by delivering cutting-edge technologies and fostering multinational cooperation," has highlighted Mr Joachim Sucker, OCCAR-EA Director. The organization ensures operational readiness through integrated procurement, lifecycle management, and innovation across member and participating states. OCCAR manages complex cooperation armaments programmes, 24 and counting, in the air, sea, land, space and cyber domains with an operating budget of around €7 billion. Italy is a member state and a key contributor of national as well as international and cooperative programmes in all domains.



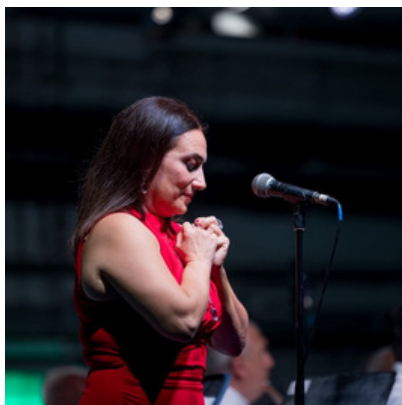
WELCOME COCKTAIL

CONCERT OF THE ITALIAN NAVY BAND

Maestro Cpt. Antonio Barbagallo

Co-Conductor Beatrice Venezi

Soprano Cinzia D'Astola Perroni



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CONFERENCES SEAFUTURE 2025

DAILY PROGRAMME 30 SEPTEMBER

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29 SEPT - 2 OCT 2025 LA SPEZIA NAVAL BASE

TUESDAY
30 SEPTEMBER

TIME	LOCATION	AGENDA
9:00 18:00	Pitch AREA	PITCH AND B2B/B2G SESSION
10:00 14:00	Conference ROOM 2	<p>BLUEINVEST EU THEMATIC WORKSHOP</p> <p>OPENING BY Catherine FRIDERES, Project Director, BlueInvest Cristiana PAGNI, President of Italian Blue Growth Seafuture Organizer</p> <p>10.10 - 11.10 <i>"Innovating Maritime Security - Policy, Investment, and Emerging Technologies"</i> Moderated panel discussion with representatives of policy makers, industry leaders and investors exploring strategies and challenges in scaling up innovative technologies in the defence & security sector. The session will also highlight how AI is transforming the maritime sector.</p> <p>MODERATOR Catherine FRIDERES, Project Director, BlueInvest</p> <p>SPEAKERS Iain SHEPHERD, Active Senior, European Commission Antonella CALVIA-GOETZ, Principal Advisor, European Investment Bank Andre DE ALMEIDA SANTOS, Partner, Indico Capital Partners Others speakers TBD</p> <p>11.10 - 11.30 COFFEE BREAK</p> <p>11.30 - 12.10 <i>"Startup Pitch Session: Showcasing Maritime Innovation"</i> A dynamic session where 4 selected startups will pitch their innovations to a panel of investors and large corporates.</p> <p>Cosma: new generation subsea survey and AUVs Blue Armada Robotics: A robotic fleet of diverse unmanned marine vehicles (USVs) to supervise construction works and monitor marine critical infrastructure. SOTIRIA Technology: underwater intelligence systems for defense and national security Subdron: autonomous digitalisation of underwater structures through advanced 3D scanning and inspection technologies.</p> <p>12.10 - 12.45 <i>"Fireside Chat: Corporate Strategies for Maritime Innovation"</i> This fireside chat will explore how leading companies identify, adopt, and scale innovative maritime technologies.</p> <p>MODERATOR Leonardo MANZARI, BlueInvest Coach</p> <p>SPEAKERS TBD</p> <p>12.45 - 14.00 CLOSING & NETWORKING LUNCH</p>



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TIME	LOCATION	AGENDA
10:00 12:30	SHIP 2	<p>SOCIETÀ DANTE ALIGHIERI DELLA SPEZIA</p> <p><i>"Garibaldi before the myth: from Niçoise childhood to Merchant Navy officer"</i></p> <p>MODERATOR RDML Leonardo MERLINI- Director of the Naval Technical Museum of the Italian Navy, La Spezia</p> <p>SPEAKERS Carlo RAGGI, President of Società Dante Alighieri (La Spezia) Gianmaria VITALONI, SciencesPo Davide GNOLA, Director of the Cesenatico Maritime Museum</p>
10:00 12:00	SHIP 1	<p>NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORATE III DEPARTMENT</p> <p><i>"Deep Tech for Deep Waters: Innovative R&D Solutions for Underwater Infrastructure Protection"</i></p> <p>MODERATOR Constantinos HADJISAVVAS, DIGITALEUROPE – Director Digital Resilience and Defence</p> <p><i>This panel will try to explore cutting-edge technological advancements in the field of underwater infrastructure protection, emphasizing the role of deep tech innovations. It highlights recent research and development efforts aimed at enhancing the durability, security, and maintenance of underwater assets such as pipelines, cables, and communication networks. By leveraging advanced robotics, UAV, sensor technologies, and data analytics, the workshop will also demonstrate how innovative solutions can address the unique challenges posed by underwater environments. The findings underscore the importance of integrating these technologies to ensure the resilience and longevity of underwater infrastructure in the face of environmental and operational risks.</i></p> <p>SPEAKERS Eric POULIQUEN, NATO CMRE director Jörg BARTOSCHEK, EDA - Head of Unit Critical Enablers Alessandro IAFRATI, Director, CNR- INM Institute of Marine Engineering ADM. Isp. Cristiano NERVI, Director, CSSN and PNS Operational Structure Gabriele CAFARO, Manager Underwater Hub Fincantieri RADM Massimiliano LAURETTI, Head of the 3rd Department MARISTAT</p> <p>KEYNOTE SPEECH ADM Giuseppe CAVO DRAGONE, Chairman of the NATO Military Committee</p>



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10:00 11:30	Conference ROOM 1	MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT MODERATOR Giovanni Vittorio Maria DONATO , Diplomatic advisor to the Minister of Infrastructure and Transport High Level Roundtable "Challenges and Opportunities on Global Maritime Connectivity" Edoardo RIXI , Deputy Minister of Transport and Infrastructure (ITALY) Hallal BENOUDA , Director General of Merchant Marine and Ports (ALGERIA) Toks OMISHAKIN , Secretary of Transportation (STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
12:00 13:00	SHIP 1	LIGURIAN CLUSTER OF MARITIME TECHNOLOGIES <i>The discussion will explore cooperation between industry and the defense sector to achieve strategic goals through competitiveness and national excellence. In a rapidly evolving technological and maritime security landscape, synergy across a broad ecosystem is key to safeguarding maritime and underwater spaces, protecting critical infrastructure, fostering sustainable innovation, and strengthening technological sovereignty. The debate will aim to outline a shared vision that balances security needs with opportunities for growth in the blue economy.</i> MODERATOR Davide RITAROSSO, Project Manager - DLTM SPEAKERS Captain Gianluca Maria MARCILLI , Head of the Department of the Navy General Staff Chief Technology Officer RADM Giulio CAPPELLETTI , Director at the Operational Structure of the Italian National Underwater Hub (PNS) Andrea BUCCHIONI , CEO Leonardo Sistemi Integrati srl Luca MAGGIANI , CEO SMA-RTY srl Giuliano BUSETTO , Vice President MADE - COMPETENCE CENTER 4.0
12:00 13:00	Conference ROOM 1	SEAFUTURE AWARDS 2025 <i>Presentation of the selected Thesis and Prize giving ceremony</i>



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TUESDAY
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TIME	LOCATION	AGENDA
13:00 - 14:00		Lunch break
14:30 - 16:30	SHIP 2	<p>ATENA LOMBARDIA</p> <p><i>"Digital Simulation for Naval and Military Propulsion Pre-Design Analysis and Optimisation"</i></p> <p>MODERATOR Giulio GENNARO</p> <p><i>Event dedicated to the use of simulation systems in the initial stages of design, with a particular focus on naval and military propulsion systems. Tools and methods for analysing, optimising and innovating will be explored, reducing development times and costs and improving overall performance. Digital Simulation for Naval and Military Propulsion: Pre-Design Analysis and Optimisation</i></p> <p>SPEAKERS Luigi BRANDINELLI, Vulkan Italia srl Germano DEGAN, Chief Technology Officer Green VENERGY Federico MIRETTI, Professor Politecnico di Torino Maria Grazia SOCIEVOLE, FINCANTIERI/CETENA</p>
14:30 - 16:30	Conference ROOM 1	<p>ELT GROUP AI EVENT</p> <p>AI and DEFENCE: Industrial and Institutional Perspectives and Emerging Challenges</p> <p><i>"AI in Action: practical use cases"</i></p> <p>CHAIRMAN Andrea TEJA - Partner and Head of GEA Lab, GEA</p> <p>MODERATOR Andrea FROLLÀ – Journalist, Author, Moderator and Producer LaRepubblica, Affari&Finanza, ItalianTech, Green&Blue</p> <p>OPENING BY Simone ASTIASO GARCÍA – SVP Engineering & Operations ELT Group</p> <p>KEYNOTE SPEECH Andrea D'ONOFRIO – AI & Data Lead EMEA Microsoft</p>



29 SEPT - 2 OCT 2025 LA SPEZIA NAVAL BASE

TUESDAY
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TIME	LOCATION	AGENDA
<p>SPEAKERS Paolo CAPODANNO - Vice President Chief Digital Officer (CIO&CDO) ELT Group Luigi SCHIUMA - Group Chief Technical Officer (CTO) CY4GATE James DANCER – Head of UK and EU DLA Piper Business Advisory and Former Deputy CEO - HelsingUK Fabio MOIOLI - AI & Leadership Advisor - Spencer Stuart Claudio PALESTINI - Head, Innovation and Technology Adoption NATO</p> <p>CLOSING BY Alberto S. VINCENTELLI, Professor, The Edgar L. and Harold H. Buttner Chair Department of EECS, University of California at Berkeley</p>		
14:00 16:00	SHIP 1	<p>SEA EUROPE</p> <p><i>“Maritime Domain (Black Sea, Red Sea, Baltic Sea, through three different perspectives: operational, policy making (EU/NATO) and industrial”</i></p> <p>MODERATORS Mihai CHIHAIA, Policy Analyst - EPC Sidonie ROBERT, Project Officer - SEA Europe</p> <p>SPEAKERS Admiral (ret.) Dario GIACOMIN, Head of Underwater Product Development - Fincantieri (IT) Philippe MISSOFFE, Managing Director - GICAN (FR) Angelos TSEREKLAS, Managing Director - SOTIRIA Technology (EL)</p>
15:00 16:30	Conference ROOM 2	<p>EUROPEAN PATROL CORVETTE</p> <p><i>by NAVIRIS</i></p> <p>PRIVATE MEETING, UPON NAVIRIS INVITATION</p>
16:30 18:00	SHIP 1	<p>GEA Lab & AnotheReality - HOW TO USE XR/VR FOR TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE</p> <p>Immersive technologies such as Extended Reality (XR) and Virtual Reality (VR) are transforming how complex systems are designed, operated, and maintained, particularly in the Defence and maritime sectors. This panel will explore real-world applications of XR/VR, from immersive training and simulation to assisted maintenance and tactical scenario modeling. Through concrete case studies and insights from leading companies like ELT Group, AnotheReality, and SITEP, we will discuss the technological challenges, measurable benefits in terms of efficiency, safety, and scalability, and the future outlook for integrating immersive solutions into operational environments</p> <p>MODERATOR Nicolas ROSSINI, Innovation Consultant GEA LAB</p> <p>SPEAKERS Alessandro ZOCCO, Head of Application Software ELT Group Lorenzo CAPPANNARI, CEO AnotheReality Niccolò FURIO, Deputy Managing Director SITEP Italia</p>



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TIME	LOCATION	AGENDA
16:30 - 18:00	Conference ROOM 3	<p>STABILITY AND PROTECTION IN THE MARITIME DOMAIN: INTERAGENCY COOPERATION FOR NEW THREATS</p> <p>MODERATOR Aurelio GIANSIRACUSA, Editorial Director - ARES Osservatorio Difesa</p> <p>SPEAKERS Admiral Aurelio DE CAROLIS, Commander in Chief - Naval Fleet Col. t.ISSMI Luigi BRAMATI Director, NATO Stability Policing Centre of Excellence <i>Hybrid Warfare; Instrumentalization of Migration; UAVs and Uncrewed Systems (UxS); The Stability Policing Trilogy</i></p> <p>Admiral Inspector Sergio LIARDO, Commander General of the Port Authority Corps – Italian Coast Guard</p> <p>Brigadier General Armando FRANZA, Manager Guardia di Finanza <i>The Air and Naval Division of the Guardia di Finanza: using technology to protect the sea, coastlines, and the blue economy</i></p>
17:00 - 18:00	Conference ROOM 1	<p>GREEN&BLUE INNOVATION HUB</p> <p>Skills & Training for the Blue Economy A skilled workforce is essential to drive innovation, competitiveness, and sustainability in the Blue Economy. This panel will discuss how education and training can strengthen the maritime sector and prepare the next generation of professionals for the challenges ahead. Speakers will highlight the role of ports, industry clusters, and naval academies in fostering talent and bridging the gap between academic knowledge and practical needs. Contributions will include perspectives from the Port of La Spezia Commissioner, European and National training center and the Italian Shipping Academy, offering insights into how institutions are investing in people to ensure a resilient and future-ready maritime sector.</p> <p>MODERATOR Leonardo PARIGI Journalist</p> <p>KEYNOTE SPEECH Bruno PISANO, Special Commissioner of the Eastern Ligurian Sea Port System Authority</p> <p>SPEAKERS Eduard RODÉS, Director at Escola Europea - Intermodal Transport (EEIT) TBC Federica CATANI, Director at Scuola Nazionale Trasporti e Logistica Paola VIDOTTO, General Director Italian Shipping Academy TBC Davide RITAROSSO, Project Manager DLTm, BLUE PORTS project Luca ISGRÒ, Head of Simulation Solutions at CETEMA TBC</p>