

# 4 Pictures 4 Mediterranean International

## PHOTO CONTEST REGULATION

The time has come to show off those awesome photos you took in the Mediterranean Protected Areas. Join our first Instagram photo contest **and win awesome prizes sponsored by Scubapro and Paralenz!**

**Your photos will come to life:** entering our marine nature photo competition you will contribute to the MPA Engage international project, carried out within the framework of the Interreg Med programme, aimed at raising awareness, committing people, and involving society in the conservation and knowledge of the Mediterranean marine environment in a scenario of climate change.

Your photos **might be selected to be part of our exhibitions on the Climate Change effects on the Mediterranean**, thus they will contribute to spread the awareness of the importance of Marine Protected Areas for sea and coastal natural and social protection.



## Categories

We are inviting submissions of original photos, both taken in terrestrial and underwater habitats, actual or ancient, related to the sea and coastal natural and social environments that capture either:

**Natural values** Photos showing the beauty and richness of marine and coastal Mediterranean habitats and biodiversity, its biology and ecology, flagship species, curiosities of the sea such as rare organisms (**#ValueMPA**)

**Impact** Photos reflecting the effects of climate change on biological, geological and social aspects, exotic and invasive species and other processes derived from global warming threatening the ecological stability in the Mediterranean coastal and marine environments (**#ImpactMPA**).

**Action** Photos explaining how people and organizations take action to mitigate, counteract or adapt to consequences of climate change in the Mediterranean coastal and marine environments (**#ActionMPA**).

**Old Mediterranean** Do you have old pictures in a drawer? These images can be precious for illustrating how much our sea has changed in its both social and natural aspects (**#OldMPA**).

Note: The organizers of the contest are free to change the category to which participants have initially assigned each photo.

We reserve the right to declare a category null and void if it does not receive more than 30 pictures.

## Photo requirements

- Photos **should be taken in any Marine Protected Areas of the Mediterranean Sea** but **not outside of these areas**.
- No photo editing altering the reality of photos is allowed. You can send us colour, black and white pictures. You can also edit brightness, contrast, damage, to highlight some aspects of the images and enhance their attractiveness.



## How to participate

First, you should follow us on Instagram! **@MPAengage**

### Then...

- Post your pictures in your Instagram profile **before December 31, 2020**.
- Tag us @MPAengage
- Add the hashtags: #MPAcontest
- Describe what is shown in the picture
- Tell us which category you intend to assign the photo using the corresponding hashtag (see above) and specify the name of the MPA where you took the photo.

It is possible to publish no **more than 3 photos in the same post** if they extend the information about the same organism, habitat, process, or phenomenon shown in the post.

Each Instagram profile can participate with a **maximum of 2 posts per category and per MPAs**. It is not accepted to post the same photos in different categories. The contest is open to any person over the age of 14 and from any nationality

## Rights and ownership

Your photos might be used in MPA Engage communication activities and be selected for Mediterranean exhibitions aimed at spreading the awareness of the importance of marine protected areas for sea and coastal natural and social protection.

Thus, by entering the contest **you agree to grant MPA Engage project the right to use the photo** in any manner and media, free of charge, including without limitation, the right to publish, adapt, distribute, copy, display or translate in printed or electronic media even if they are not the winning entries.

MPA Engage project agrees to mention the full name of author of the chosen picture when used for the Mediterranean exhibition other related materials.



## Judging

A jury of at least 5 experts, not linked to any Marine Protected Areas will be select by the project's Communication Team of MPA Engage project. For each category, the jury will select the best photo according to the following criteria:

- Inspirational Power and adherence to the theme
- Current/Potential Social Impact
- Technical Execution
- Artistic Merit

The selection and the declaration of winners will be carried out during February 2021.

## Exhibition

After the contest, the best photos (and the winner ones) will be selected in order to set up a **non-profit exhibition** to raise awareness among the citizenship about the natural values of the Mediterranean Sea, as well as the need to increase knowledge about climate change impacts on Marine Protected Areas and their mitigation.

Organizers will contact the authors of the selected works to ask for additional information and a full resolution version of the photos.

The organizers recommend participants to contribute to marine research and knowledge by sharing their pictures in any of the following citizen science platforms if they suit a research project:

- Sea Watchers <https://www.observadoresdelmar.es/>
- Reef Check Mediterranean <https://www.reefcheckmed.org/italiano/reef-check-med/>
- Diverse Alert Newtork Europe <https://www.daneurope.org/home>
- Oddfish <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1714585748824288/> Facebook Page



## Prizes

The winners of the international contest will be awarded with prizes provided by Scubapro and Paralenz ([check our website for details](#)).

**We cannot wait to see your photos!**

*Note: We reserve the right to change the rules and conditions of the contest*