

German Marine Research Consortium
Mr. Jonathan Heimer

Madam Chairwoman/ Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for giving me the floor.

I am speaking as a young scientist on behalf of the German Marine Research Community.

As we convene at this critical third United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice, the urgency to act is clear. Coastal communities worldwide are at the frontline of climate change. Our ocean is heating and changing rapidly. My community is working to provide the best knowledge to understand and tackle these and the many other challenges facing our ocean and coasts.

Aligned with the conference theme “Accelerating action and mobilizing all actors” as well as the UN Pact for the Future and, here in Europe, the EU Ocean Pact, one of our key priorities is to foster intergenerational cooperation between scientists and communities around the world.

In Germany, we are already strongly contributing to this priority. Our marine research think tank is looking at how we can improve career prospects for young scientists. Transdisciplinary research missions enable ECOPs to take leading roles. And, here in Nice we organized many events on the RV Meteor including the third Virtual Early Career Ocean Professional Days connecting hundreds of young experts from around the world.

Looking toward the future, we welcome the EU’s call this week to establish a Blue Intergenerational Programme under the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance. This pan-Atlantic programme will be dedicated to career development for young professionals, facilitating mentorship, capacity-building, and meaningful participation to promote peaceful scientific collaboration for us all.

We call on UN Member States from around the world to join us and invest in intergenerational collaboration, ensuring that young ocean and coastal scientists are empowered to shape the sustainable future we need.

Thank you.