



AUTORITÀ DI SISTEMA PORTUALE  
DEL MARE ADRIATICO SETTENTRIONALE  
PORTI DI VENEZIA E CHIOGGIA

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Dear President,

dear Colleague,

I am writing to you because I am sure you can appreciate the meaning and the goal of this letter.

Being in charge of ports like ours has become, in the recent years, a job that requires the capacity to find an appropriate balance between the economic development and the preservation of a sustainable relationship with our territories.

The Cruise sector has been, and still is, a great source of income and a provider of jobs and innovations in our Ports and our Cities.

However, the growing size of vessels, their environmental impacts on the areas surrounding the ports and the “burden” that the increasing number of tourists are representing on the cities that are hosting our ports are creating a situation of conflict that seems to become unmanageable in the very near future.

I, more than others, am very much aware of the necessity, vital and uncompromising, to match the growth of the industry, and the benefits to the economy connected with it, with a delicate environment. The recent situations that took place in Venice have demonstrated that the concrete risk to create a real and unrecoverable damage is ever present and not completely avoidable.

It is, thus, with this in mind that I am addressing you with the present letter: it is time to gather together the major European cruise ports leaders to discuss, openly and frankly, about the possibilities available to the land side of the industry, in order to demand and implement measures that can still maintain a flourishing cruise market while, at the same time, should be more compatible with the nature and the characteristics of our ports, all enshrined in historical cities and fragile environments.





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A moment of study and analysis, where we can on one hand share our experiences and best practices while, on the other, draft a shared list of requests in order to influence and ‘steer’ the future cruise market of the ports located in the historical cities of Europe.

The industry model that so well has served our ports in the last two decades is not sustainable anymore and very soon we will all face the risk to see our ports and activities limited or even shut down, by local or national authorities.

It is time for us to find a common voice, to have a strong platform of proposals that are matching sustainability and economical activities, in relation to the handling of the Cruise industries in our ports, including the possibility to demand, *inter alia*, in the mid-to-long term the building of vessels with characteristics and sizes compatible with our structures and environments, an “Europa class” of vessels.

I am available to host and organise this meeting in Venice in the next months, but we could decide together where this meeting should happen.

The most important thing is to act and act quickly!

I hope to hear from you soon and I remain at your complete disposal.

Best regards,

The President

Dott. Pino Musolino