European Research Vessel Operators (ERVO)
Update of Activities

Lieven Naudts

RBINS – OD Nature
Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences – Operational Directorate Natural Environment

The ERVO group

- **Informal pan-European long-lasting network (20 years!)**, with **no legal status and no financial resources.**

- **Created in 1999** as an initiative of the European Science Foundation-Marine Board (ESF-MB) to promote the **coordination of small- to medium-sized RVs in Europe.**

- The **ERVO Meetings** provide an opportunity for RV Managers to exchange information on their national fleets, highlighting trends in the requirements for RVs and new technological developments for RV operations.

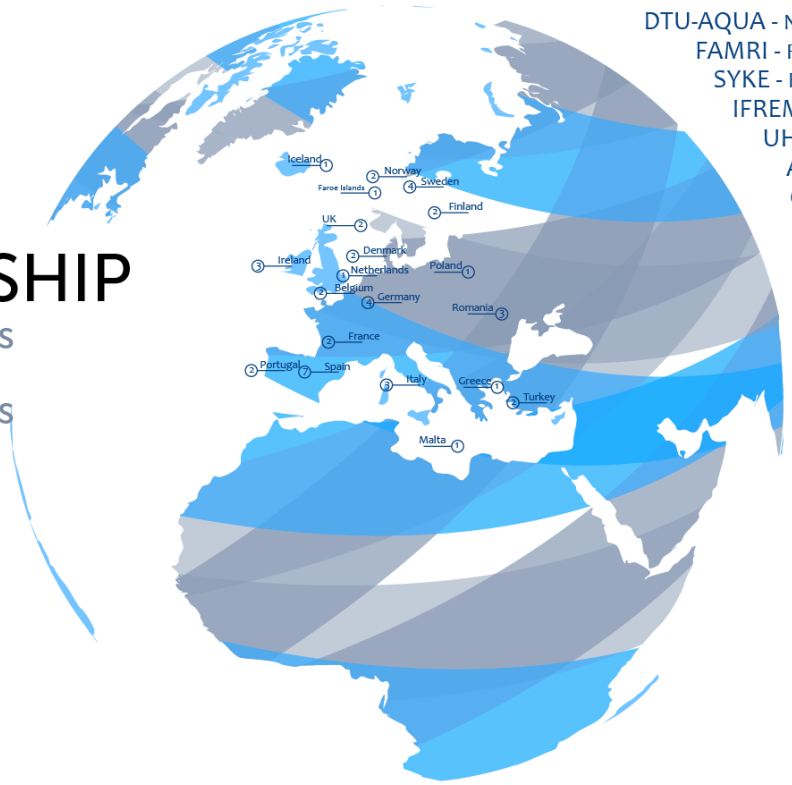
- The success of ERVO can be measured from the fact that the number of participating countries has risen from 7 to 20, proofing to be **a useful platform for up to 50 attendees** during the yearly meetings.

- Very useful **independent network** and **its activities are entirely driven by participants** who are not 'biased' since ERVO is not being funded by specific interests.

The ERVO group

MEMBERSHIP

50 members
from
20 countries



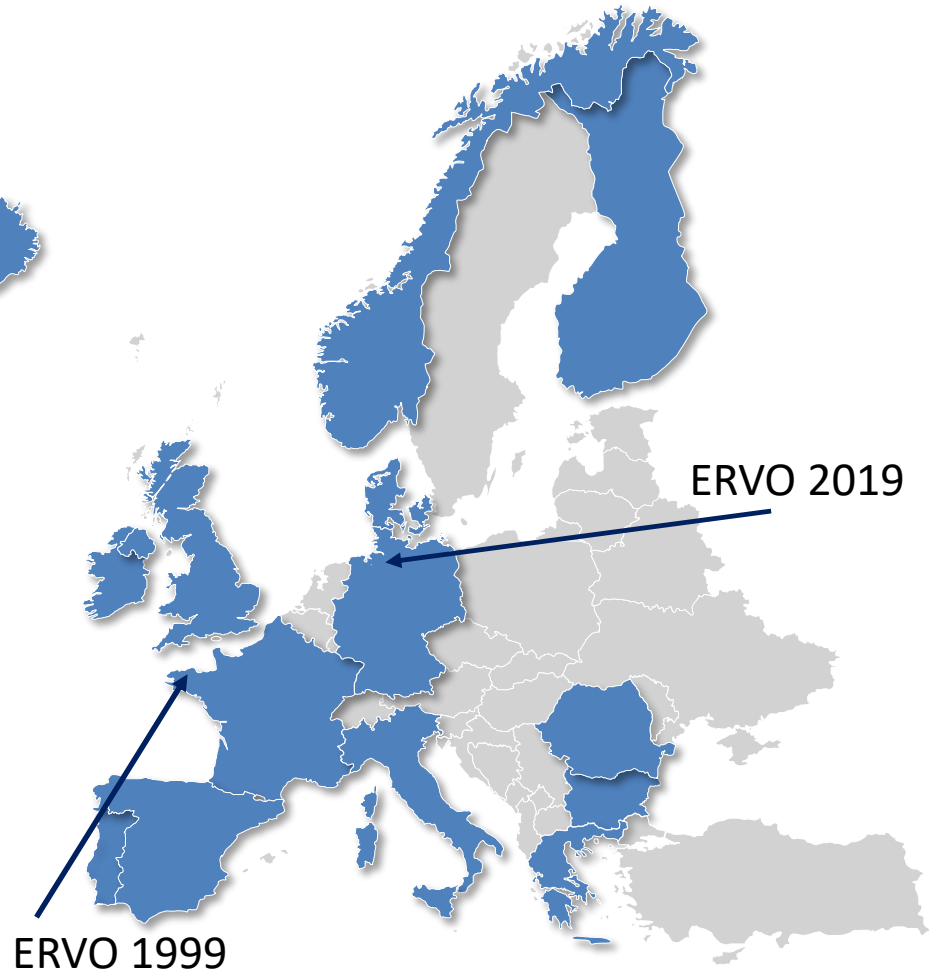
VLIZ - Flanders Marine Institute (BE)
RBINS-OD Nature - Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (BE)
DTU-AQUA - National Institute of Aquatic Resources (DK)
FAMRI - Faroe Marine Research Institute (FO)
SYKE - Finnish Environment Institute (FI)
IFREMER - French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (FR)
UHH - University of Hamburg (DE)
AWI - Alfred-Wegener-Institut (DE)
GEOMAR - Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel (DE)
HCMR - Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (GR)
MRI - Marine Research Institute (IS)
MI - Marine Institute (IE)
INFOMAR- Geological Survey of Ireland (IE)
CNR - National Research Council (IT)
OGS - National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics (IT)
University of Malta (MT)
NIOZ - Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NL)
IMR - Institute of Marine Research (NO)
GDA (PL)
UA - University of Aveiro (PT)
Dop/UAç - Universidade dos Açores (PT)
GeoEcoMar - National Institute of Marine Geology and Geoecology (RO)
CSIC - Spanish National Research Council (ES)
IEO - Spanish Institute of Oceanography (ES)
SOCIB - Balearic Islands Coastal Observing and Forecasting System (ES)
Sven Lovén Centre for marine Infrastructure (SE)
SLU - Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SE)
TUBITAK - The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TR)
ECPI (TR)
CEFAS - Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (GB)
NERC - Natural Environment Research Council (GB)
NCL (GB)

Lieven Naudts, ERVO Chair
Coordinator RV Belgica, RBINS – OD Nature (Belgium)

Riccardo Codiglia, ERVO Vice-Chair
Technologist, OGS (Italy)

The ERVO meetings

Year	Venue	Host Organisation
1999	Roscoff, France	ESF, Marine Board and CNRS/INSU
2000	Galway, Ireland	Marine Institute
2001	Rome, Italy	National Research Council of Italy
2002	Bergen, Norway	Institute of Marine Research
2003	Constanza, Romania	GeoEcoMar
2004	Barcelona, Spain	CSIC
2005	Lisbon, Portugal	COI/MCTES
2006	Reykjavike, Iceland	Icelandic Institute of Marine Science
2007	Oostende, Belgium	Flanders Institute
2008	Varna, Bulgaria	Institute of Oceanology – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
2009	Copenhagen, Denmark	DTU Aqua – National Institute of Aquatic Resources
2010	Southampton, UK	National Oceanography Centre (NOC)
2011	Oristano, Italy	National Research Council of Italy
2012	Faial, Portugal	DOP/University of Azores (DOP/UAç)
2013	Brest, France	French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea
2014	Barcelona, Spain	CSIC (UTM-CMIMA)
2015	Galway, Ireland	Marine Institute
2016	Rhodes, Greece	Hellenic Centre for Marine research
2017	Helsinki, Finland	Finnish Environment Institute
2018	Valletta, Malta	University of Malta
2019	Hamburg, Germany	University of Hamburg



The ERVO meetings

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Meetings

The European Research Vessels Operators´ group has held annual meetings since 1999.

European Research Vessels Operators´ group meetings

11-13 June 2019. Hamburg, Germany
University of Hamburg - UHH
Agenda | Attendance list | Minutes | Photo1 |Photo2 | Photo3 | Photo4 | Photo5| Photo6 | MORE [+]

12-14 June 2018. La Valletta, Malta
University of Malta - UM
Agenda | Attendance list | Minutes | Photo | MORE [+]

12-14 June 2017. Helsinki, Finland
Finnish Environment Institute - SYKE
Agenda | Attendance list | Minutes | Photo | MORE [+]

The ERVO activities

- **2018** November, ERVO participation in the **EOOS conference** in Brussels

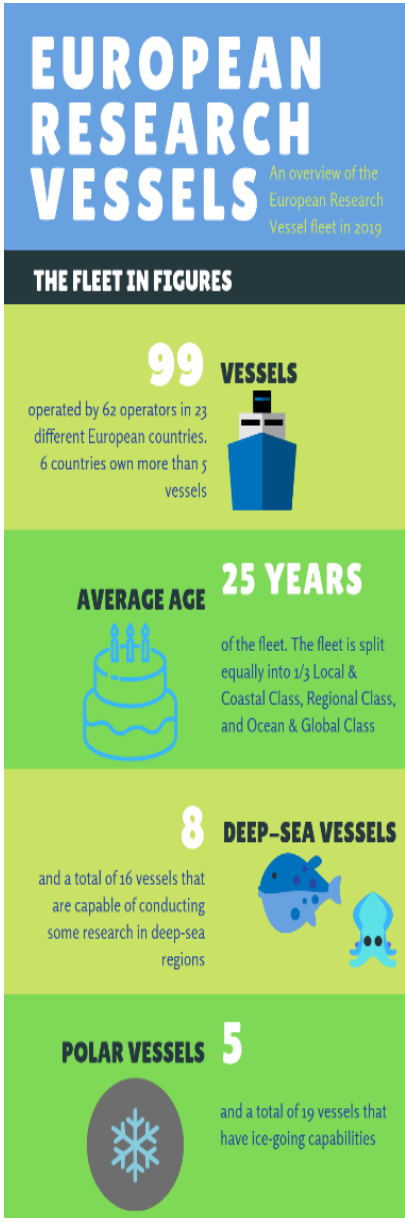
- **2018-2019** ERVO (**12 out of 17 WG members**) and the European Marine Board (EMB) started working on the **update of the EMB Position Paper #10 on Ocean Research Fleets (2007) – Position Paper #25 "Next Generation European RVs - Current status and foreseeable evolution"** will be published in November this year.

  Position paper presentation

- **2019** March, Kick-off meeting **Eurofleets+ project funded under the EU RI Work programme 2018-2019 of H2020** (Galway, Ireland): several subjects are "connected" to ERVO: TNA, regional bartering, sharing annual cruise programs and best practice. **ERVO is a permanent invitee to Eurofleets pojects**.

- **2019** June 12th to 14th in Hamburg (Germany), 21th annual ERVO meeting where the results of EMB/ERVO Position paper on Ocean Research Fleets & Equipment was presented

- **2020** June in Bucharest (Romania), 22th annual ERVO meeting



The ERVO future

- ERVO, with its broad membership of operators representing the majority of European countries who have their own research vessel fleet, is the **ideal focal point for any organization in Europe looking for ways to communicate directly with the experts on research vessels and related instruments and equipment.**

- ERVO has discussed/implemented some changes over the last years to be more visible, both nationally and on a pan-European level, and **to have a "voice" within the European Marine Research (Infrastructure) Community.**

- As indicated in the new position paper ERVO should take a more active roll in activities for **training for RV-related personnel & operations**, **design of RVs,** etc.

- Need to evolve to a more **formal ERVO 2.0,** possibly in cooperation with or linked to **EOOS, Eurofleets+ legacy, OFEG** and/or other EU research infrastructure organizations & networks.