

UHI Research Database pdf download summary

The Ischia Declaration: Management of Bioinvasions in the Mediterranean Sea: The Way Forward

Galil, Bella S.; Cook, Elizabeth

Publication date:
2016

The Document Version you have downloaded here is:
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link to author version on UHI Research Database](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Galil, B. S., & Cook, E. (2016). *The Ischia Declaration: Management of Bioinvasions in the Mediterranean Sea: The Way Forward*. EuroMarine.

General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the UHI Research Database are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights:

- 1) Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the UHI Research Database for the purpose of private study or research.
- 2) You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- 3) You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the UHI Research Database

Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us at RO@uhi.ac.uk providing details; we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.



EuroMarine Workshop Report

Ischia (Naples, Italy)

4 – 5 May 2016



“Management of Bioinvasions in the Mediterranean Sea: The Way Forward”

The number of recorded non indigenous species (NIS) in the Mediterranean Sea is far higher than in other European Seas; their number more than doubled between 1970 and 2015, with the greatest increases recorded in the 1990s and the 2000s.

Though States are responsible for ensuring that activities within their jurisdiction do not damage the environment of other States, effective implementation of the IAS regulation (EC 2014) concerning marine NIS in the Mediterranean Sea depends on policy coordination with the Regional Sea Convention (Barcelona Convention).

At the Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols (Greece, February 2016) the parties adopted the ‘Updated Action Plan concerning Species Introductions and Invasive Species in the Mediterranean Sea’. This plan focuses on the collection of data and the further development of the Marine Mediterranean Invasive Alien Species Database. The plan **lacks management actions** to prevent NIS introduction, control their spread, and mitigate the damage they cause to the marine ecosystem.

The EuroMarine workshop ‘Management of Bioinvasions in the Mediterranean Sea - the Way Forward’ aimed to discuss a general framework of what a comprehensive action plan for managing NIS under the unique conditions of the Mediterranean Sea should contain.

In the plenary session the participants formulated and discussed the following ‘Ischia Declaration’.

Further works enlarging on the theme and on lost opportunities in this area are planned.

Co-organisers

Maria Cristina Gambi, Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Villa Comunale, 80121 Napoli, Italy.

Bella Galil, National Institute of Oceanography, Tel Shikmona, 31080 Haifa, Israel.

THE ISCHIA DECLARATION

MANAGEMENT OF BIOINVASIONS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

THE WAY FORWARD

The number of non-indigenous species (NIS) is substantially greater in the Mediterranean than for other European Seas - coastal habitats comprising native species alone are now a rare occurrence. With increased shipping, recreational boating, aquaculture and the Suez Canal, the number of NIS is expected to substantially grow in the region. The individual and synergistic impacts of the majority of the known invasions have already adversely affected the conservation status of many native species, critical habitats, the structure and function of ecosystems and the availability of natural resources. Some NIS are noxious, poisonous, or venomous and pose clear threats to human health.

As the bioinvasions in the Mediterranean Sea are creating an environmental and conservation crisis, we, the participants in the EuroMarine-sponsored workshop, convened in Ischia, Napoli, May 4 - 5, 2016 and debated the management challenges. We believe that although large numbers of NIS have been recorded from the Mediterranean Sea, it is not too late to act with effective participation of all relevant sectors.

Valuable efforts* are being made to improve NIS inventorying, monitoring and data sharing. **However, to reduce the risk of new introductions and the further spread of NIS already present in the Mediterranean Sea, a strategic focus on effective, science-based trans-boundary management of bioinvasions is needed.**

We, the signatories, call to:

- i) employ a **Mediterranean-wide** harmonized approach and protocols when managing bioinvasions;
- ii) enact a **one authority approach**, both nationally and regionally, appropriately funded to achieve stated targets;
- iii) focus on **preventing invasions** (i.e., 'pre-border' management of invasion vectors and pathways);
- iv) apply the existing **voluntary** Directives/Regulations/Conventions/ Guidelines and codes of practice with compliance, monitoring and enforcement, until **obligatory** pan-Mediterranean legislation is implemented;
- v) exercise the **precautionary approach** (i.e., act even when regional data/information is limited);

- vi) embed **risk assessment** (risk analysis and management) into the management at the appropriate level of action (i.e. at vector, pathway, habitat or species, as relevant) and make the information available through clearing-house mechanisms;
- vii) conduct **multi-vector management**, taking into account future changes in **vector dynamics, climate scenarios** and environmental **changes due to human pressures**;
- viii) collect post-introduction information on **bio-ecological features** and **impacts** of NIS and make it available through clearing-house mechanisms;
- ix) incorporate **lost opportunities** (established NIS) in future *novel* ecosystems.

“...introduced species undermine in an irreversible way everything that has been done to protect biodiversity, whether through the protection of species or the protection of habitats.” (Boudouresque and Verlaque, 2005).

*Decision IG.22/12 - Updated Action Plans Concerning “Cetaceans, Coralligenous and Other Calcareous Bio-concretions, and Species Introductions and Invasive Species; Mandate for update of the “Action Plan on Marine and Coastal Birds” and revision of the “Reference List of Marine and Coastal Habitat Types in the Mediterranean” UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/28 (Decision IG.22/12).

Signatories

Agius, Darmanin Sandran (Univ. of Malta, Malta)

Albano, Paolo (Univ. of Vienna, Austria)

Ben Souissi, Jamila (INAT, Tunisia)

Berline, Leo (Univ. Aix-Marseille, France)

Bottaro, Massimiliano (ISPRA Roma, Italy)

Boudouresque, Charles F. (MIO, Univ. Aix-Marseille, France)

Brutto, Sabrina Lo (Univ. of Palermo, Italy)

Campese, Lucia (Univ. Federico II & SZN Napoli, Italy)

Carlo, Fabiola (Univ. di Firenze, Italy)

Ciarlone, Luciano (Univ. of Napoli, Italy)

Cinar, Melih Ertan (Ege Univ., Turkey)

Colangelo, Paolo (Univ. of Roma, Italy)

Cook Cottier, Elizabeth (Scottish Marine Institute, UK)

Danovaro, Roberto (SZN Napoli, Italy)

Denis, Françoise (Univ. Lemans, France)

Di Meglio, Emanuela (SZN Napoli, Italy)

Foo, Shawna (SZN Napoli, Italy)

Galil, Bella (NIO, Israel)

Gambi, Maria Cristina (SZN Napoli, Italy)

Gennaro, Paola (ISPRA Roma, Italy)

Geropoulos, Antonios (Univ. of Crete, Greece)

Giangrande, Adriana (Univ. del Salento, Italy)

Gravili, Cinzia (Univ. del Salento, Italy)

Grech, Daniele (SZN Napoli, Italy)

Guala, Ivan (Fondazione IMC Oristano, Italy)

Iaciofano, Davide (Univ. of Palermo, Italy)

Kumar, Amit (SZN Napoli, Italy)

Lorenti, Maurizio (SZN Napoli, Italy)

Marchini, Agnese (Univ. of Pavia, Italy)

Mineur, Frédéric (Queen's Univ. Belfast, UK)

Nawrot, Rafal (Univ. of Vienna, Austria)

Occhipinti-Ambrogi, Anna (Univ. of Pavia, Italy)

Ojaveer, Henn (Univ. of Tartu, Estonia)

Otero, Maria del Mar (IUCN Malaga, Spain)

Petrocelli, Antonella (IAMC-CNR, Italy)

Pierri, Cataldo (Univ. of Bari, Italy)

Piraino, Stefano (Univ. del Salento, Italy)

Procaccini, Gabriele (SZN Napoli, Italy)

Rinkevich, Baruch (NIO, Israel)

Rubino, Fernando (CNR IAMC Taranto, Italy)

Teixido, Nuria (SZN Napoli, Italy)

Tempesti, Jonathan (Univ. of Pisa, Italy)

Urcun, Sera Ovgu (S. Demirel Univ., Turkey)

Uttieri, Marco (Univ. Parthenope Napoli, Italy)

Vella, Adriana (Malta U., Malta)

Vella, Noel (Malta U., Malta)