

O95. EMODNET MED AND BLACK SEA CHECK POINTS ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF OIL PLATFORMS LEAKS

George Zodiatis¹, Liubartseva Svitlana²

¹*Oceanography Center, University of Cyprus, OC-UCY, Cyprus,* ²*Centro Euro- Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici, CMCC, Italy*
oceanosgeos@gmail.com

The coastal seas, including offshore are important economic zones, where access to marine data can assist in issues related to environment, maritime safety, exploitation of resources. To address the access of marine data the EC has established the European Marine Observation and Data Network-EMODnet, that provides access to data from the EMODnet thematic portals, the Copernicus Marine Service and other initiatives. In order to evaluate how comprehensive and accurate are the data available through these portals, at the Mediterranean and Black seas, 11 challenges were defined. These challenges are of paramount importance for the blue economy sector (offshore industries, fisheries, recreational facilities); environment variability (eutrophication, ocean climate change); emergency management (oil spills); preservation of natural resources and biodiversity (marine protected areas). The chosen challenges provide a way to value the marine data and make choices about suitability of a dataset to solve particular problem. The challenge “oil platform leaks” aims to provide oil spill predictions within 24 and 72 hours for the next 72 hours that determine the likely trajectory of the oil slick and the statistical likelihood that sensitive beaches will be affected. The “oil platform leaks” challenge handles the ability to produce oil spill predictions in the Mediterranean and Black Sea, where the EC generates the oil leak alert on-line. In the framework of this challenge, oil spill predictions can be connected to existing oil spill monitoring platforms (EMSA-CSN) using the well established oil spill modeling systems of MEDSLIK and MEDSLIK II and the data from Copernicus Marine Service, ECMWF or other meteo services and EMODnet portal data.