

# The European Ocean Pact - Summary

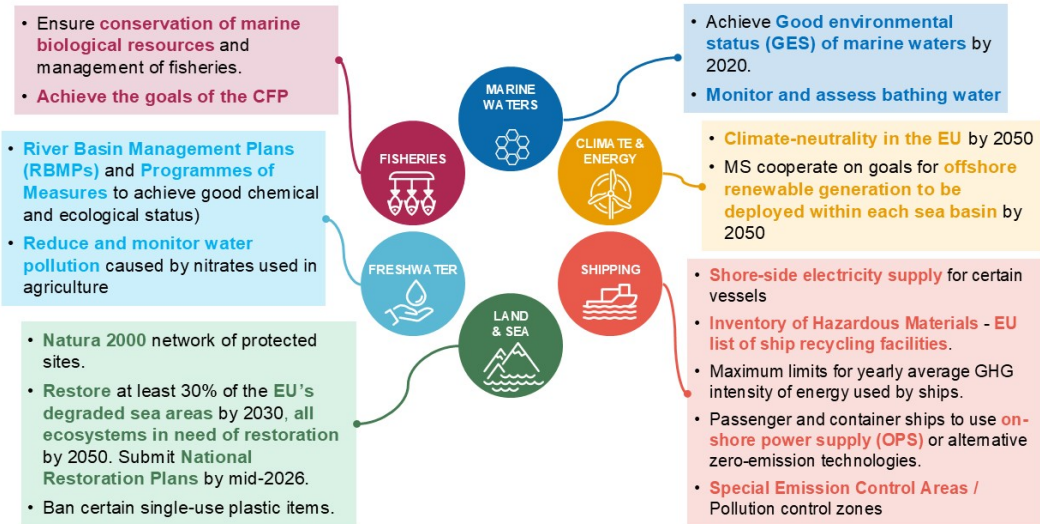
Launched by the EC on 05/6/2025  
COM(2025) 281

WG1 Coordinator: Gian Ludovico Ceccaroni



# Main objectives

## OCEAN-RELATED TARGETS IN EU LEGISLATION AND POLICY – a selection



Source: COM (2025) 281

## EU strategy

- to protect the ocean,
- to promote a sustainable blue economy,
- to strengthen European leadership in ocean governance.

**Coordination and enforcement of existing legislation**

# Strengthening Governance Framework

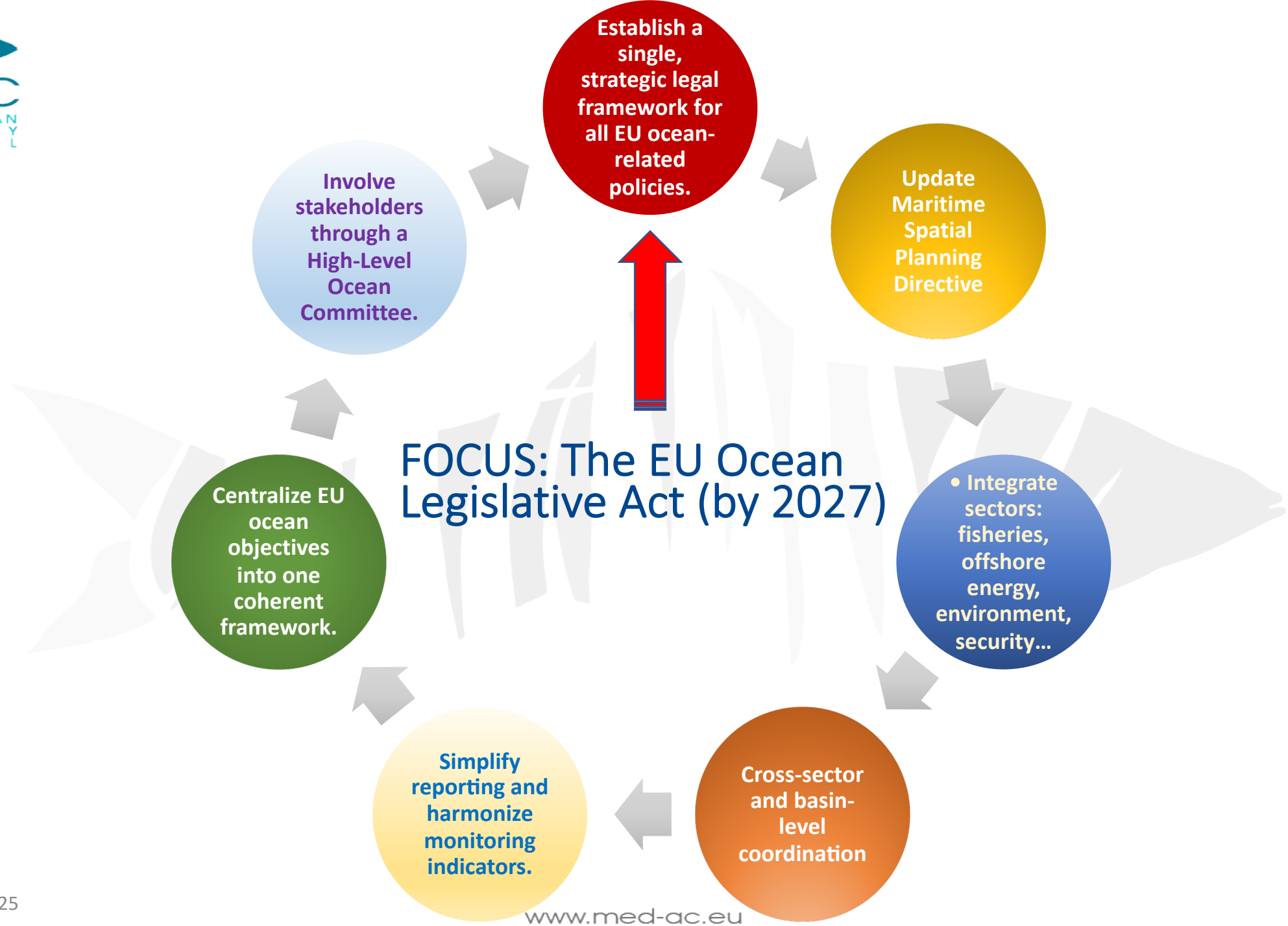
**EU Ocean legislative Act by 2027** – (see focus) modernized  
Maritime Spatial Planning

**EU Ocean Pact Operational Framework** to monitor and report  
progress on the Pact's relevant indicators and targets

**High-Level Ocean Committee** (as EBAF in Agriculture) to  
coordinate stakeholders

Regional focus: **a new Pact for the Mediterranean**, building on  
the foundations of the 2021 Agenda for the Mediterranean

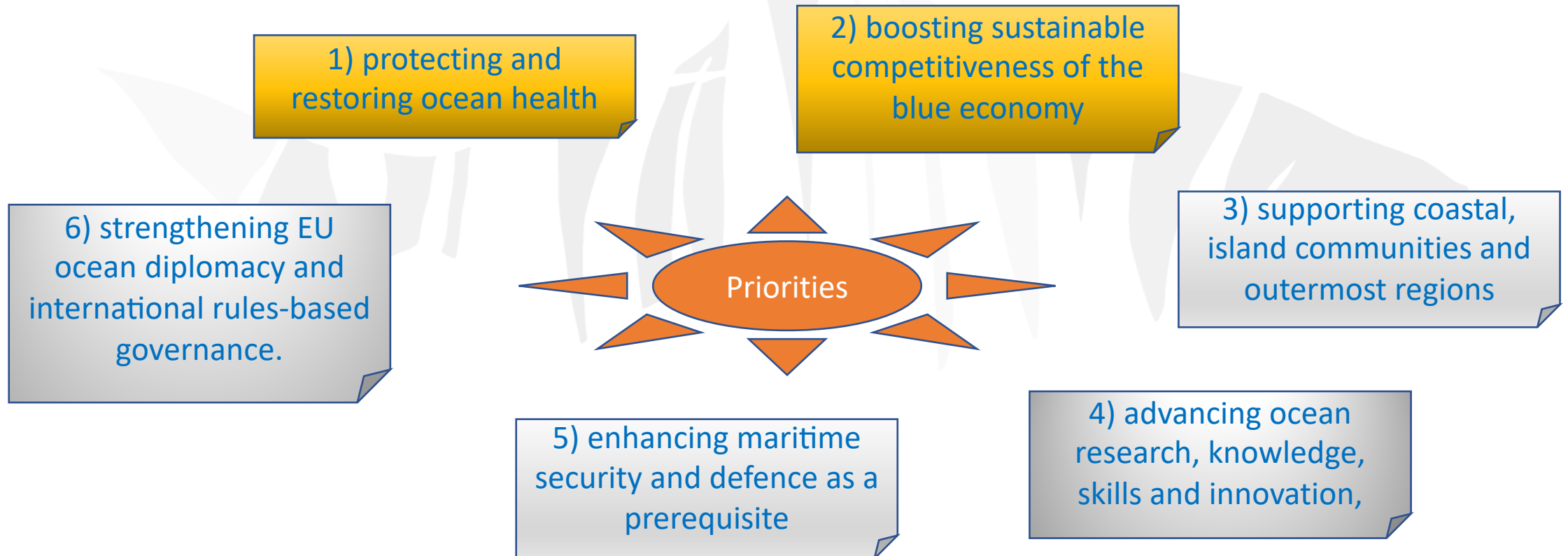
Financing via InvestEU, BlueInvest, ETS revenues





# Priorities of the Ocean Pact

The European Ocean Pact builds on existing legislation and initiatives, introducing a single reference framework aimed at streamlining coordination processes, simplifying reporting obligations and offering a strategy for implementing existing legislations and achieving policy goals more coherently across sectors.



# Integrated approach for ocean health and sustainability

The Pact proposes actions based on these key principles:



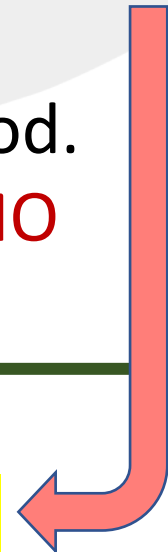
- ❖ 20% habitat restoration by 2030; all by 2050 (Reg. Nature Restoration Regulation)
- ❖ **Marine Protected Areas: 30% (10% strict)(EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030)**
- ❖ 50% plastic & nutrient pollution by 2030 (the EU Zero Pollution Action Plan)
- ❖ **Cleaner shipping (FuelEU, CleanSeaNet)**

# Sustainable Blue Economy & Competitiveness

## Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture - Objectives:

- ✓ Strengthen **food sovereignty** and the sustainability of fisheries.
- ✓ **Decarbonise** the fleet and **modernise** equipment.
- ✓ **Improve selectivity and reduce bycatch.**
- ✓ Promote **small-scale fishing** and transparency in quota management.
- ✓ Encourage **seaweed production** and the blue bioeconomy.
- ✓ By 2027: EU campaign on the benefits of sustainable seafood.
- ✓ **Revision of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)** and the CMO Regulation.

**EC will consider the establishment of a SSF dedicated new Advisory Council**



# Other issues – fishing related

## International Ocean Governance and Diplomacy

- ❖ explore how to improve the **sustainability of imported fisheries and aquaculture products** under the Autonomous Tariff Quota (ATQ) regime
- ❖ **To reduce the accidental catch of sea turtles in 2026**
- ❖ **Ratification and full implementation of international instruments (ex. WTO Fisheries Subsidies Agreement on prohibiting harmful subsidies)**
- ❖ **to uphold high standards of sustainability in fisheries management in Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs)**

# Other issues – fishing related

## International Ocean Governance and Diplomacy

- ❖ Proposition of a new generation of Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements (SFPAs) most notably for Africa and the Indo-Pacific
- ❖ zero-tolerance approach to **Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU)** fishing based on dialogues with third countries
- ❖ Promotion of the implementation of its updated fisheries control rules on the global stage

Thank you for your attention!