



## PRESS RELEASE



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The ERASMUS+ program “YOU4BLUE - Young generations for sustainable blue growth” is an educational program for high school students that takes place in three different Mediterranean islands (Sardinia, Crete and Majorca) from three different E.U. nations: Italy, Greece and Spain. This project aims to promote a broad experience of the students centered on the sustainability of the seas, where marine resources are not only considered as a food source, but also as a source of recreation, spirituality, culture, sports activities, etc.

On the frame of “WP2 – WE ALL LEARN”, HCMR’s team of scientists welcomed students from IEK MORFI on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 on its facilities in *CretAquarium THALASSOKOSMOS*, in Heraklion, Crete, where they carried out *three (3) in-situ scientific activities*.

Starting with the 1<sup>st</sup> In-situ activity “BIODIVERSITY – PLAKTON”, the students of IEK Morfi discovered the incredible biodiversity of the tiny plankton. They had the opportunity to observe phytoplanktonic organisms using microscopes and zooplanktonic ones using stereoscopes.

«YOU4BLUE - Young generations for sustainable blue growth»

WP2: WE ALL LEARN  
2.2: In-situ learning

Scientific Activity 1

**Biodiversity-Plankton**

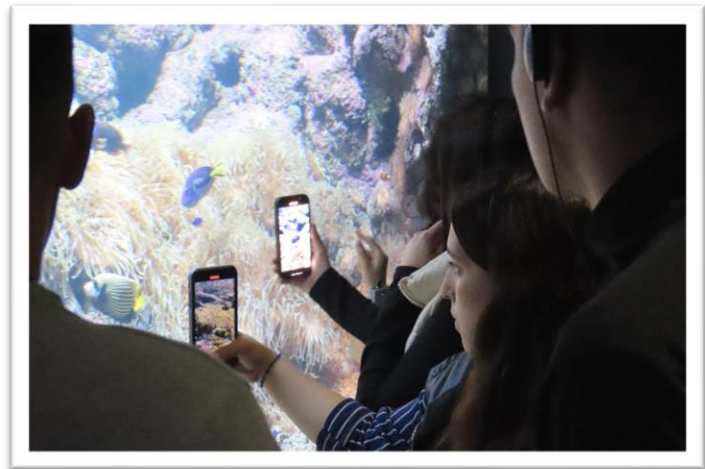
#you4blue #Erasmus+  
#hcmr #IEKMORFI

<https://www.instagram.com/you4blue/?hl=en>

Funded by the European Union



Then, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> In-situ activity “**BIODIVERSITY of FISH**”, the students of IEK Morfi were immersed in the vast underwater world of the Mediterranean Sea and its inhabitants, during a guided tour in the CretAquarium. They had the opportunity to learn, observe and photograph cartilaginous and bony fishes, non-native (alien) species and many more aquatic organisms.



In closing, we completed the day's program of **YOU4BLUE** in-situ Activities with the 3<sup>rd</sup> In-situ activity “**MARINE LITTER – Part 1**”. The students of IEK Morfi were informed about the tremendous threat to the world's marine ecosystems posed by marine litter.

