

SPLIT RESOLUTION
21st –22nd SEPTEMBER 2000
FORUM OF THE MAYORS OF ADRIATIC AND IONIAN CITIES

The Forum of the mayors of Adriatic and Ionian cities convened in split on 21st 22nd September 2000, after reaffirming the principles in the **Charter of Ancona**, and taking note of the final commitments coming from the **Conference for the Adriatic and Ionian development and security**, convened on 19th – 20th May in Ancona, has marked out the necessity to make powerful a multimodal transport system as condition for the economic, social and cultural development in the area and as positive contribution to European integration process.

In a new Europe, the role of the local systems of urban and metropolitan areas, are heightened.

It is therefore necessary to make powerful the Adriatic harbour systems, sharing the logistics and the conduction traffics, that is to create an Adriatic harbour system developing a specialized cabotage network.

The integration of the Adriatic harbour system is the necessary condition for a gradual harmonization of control and monitoring nets, regarding the transport of dangerous and polluting materials.

The **Forum** will stimulate the **Harbour Authorities** in order to provide the Harbour themselves with equipments and ships for urgent actions in case of heavy ecological damage.

The traffic development among the European Union Countries, the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea Area, the Middle East and the Far East, has to face up, building or making powerful the intermodal infrastructural net, that link the Adriatic Harbours with the inland areas and the North Europe ones, and also equipping the whole Adriatic area.

The opening speech and the large number of people featuring in the Forum, have pointed out the necessity to carry out some projects and make them effective and real;

Particularly, the Adriatic passage inside the transeuropean networks, the cross **Italy-Ploce-Sarajevo-Budapest, the Passage 8** that links Bari – Brindisi- Durazzo and Varna, that is to say the Adriatic Sea and the Black Sea; the carrying out of modern road and railway links towards East-West in the North Adriatic area, are considered essential condition for the development and strengthening of collaboration among the cities and harbours of Trieste, Koper, and Rijeka.

It is also considered important to integrate what the European Union has already planned, (ten/pen)

With the fulfilment of the Adriatic and Ionian motorway, linking vertically, the transversals already scheduled in the Transeuropean nets;

Particularly, this has to do with the necessity to link **Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, Greece.**

To this end, the initiative of the Government of the Republic of Croatia has been positively considered. It has planned, by beginning of the year 2000, the convocation of a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Adriatic and Ionian enterprise, which will take place in Split.

Privileged interlocutors to fulfil the targets of this strategy are the **European Union – Stability Pact for the European South-East;**

One of the instruments is represented by a decentralized cooperation, that, through programs already existing, such as *Intereg, Twinning and Obnova*, can guarantee the necessity resources, stimulating the coo-financing.

Quoting the paragraph 9 and 10 of the *Charter of Ancona*, it appeals so that, the Adriatic – Ionian initiative starts to develop projects with the European Community support its development, fighting against any illegal form and granted security.

The Forum of the year 2001, that will be held in Bari, and it will be on the themes of the Adriatic development and safeguard, and its resources and territory.

The forum has also decided to have a **Statute** in order to guarantee the work continuity and the control of the undertaken commitment.

The Forum thanks ANCI for the support given, and hopes that the relationships among cities, the collaboration with the Associations of Districts on the Adriatic Sea and Districts and Regions of Europe Council will develop.

Finally, the Forum has agreed to the proposal of the European Press to start the Adriatic and Ionian Journalist Association.