



REMARKS ON THE SIDELINES OF THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE OCEAN (UNOC 3)

The article examines the main outcomes of the third United Nations Conference on the Ocean (UNOC 3), held in Nice on 9th -13th June 2025, and the targets it set, above all strengthening the ocean governance and international cooperation, promoting voluntary commitments for marine protection, but also addressing significant and current issues such as biodiversity loss, plastic pollution, illegal fishing and climate change. The emphasis has been put on accelerating the ratification process of the BBNJ Treaty, in view of its entry into force on 17th January 2026, and the negotiations – actually held by the INC-5.2 – of a legally binding Global Plastic Pollution Treaty. The analysis is also focused on the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the “Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change”, dealing with the violation of the human right to a healthy environment by the global warming and its negative effects on the marine ecosystem, and in line with the Human Rights Council Resolution 58/16 on “The human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment: the ocean and human rights”.