

# Maritime Spatial Planning Directive

<b>Official reference</b>	Directive 2014/89/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning	
<b>Relevant dates</b>	Document	23/07/2014
	Publication	28/08/2014
	Entry into force	17/09/2014
	Implementation by Belgium	20/03/2014*
	Implementation deadline	18/09/2016
<b>Policy level</b>	European	
<b>Type of instrument</b>	Directive	
<b>Geographical reach</b>	EU Member States	
<b>European contact point</b>	Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE)	
<b>Competent authorities in Belgium</b>	Federal authorities; FPS Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, DG Environment, Marine Environment Service	
<b>Transposition on the federal level</b>	(Koninklijk besluit van 20 maart 2014 tot vaststelling van het marien ruimtelijk plan)	

\* The Royal Decree of 20 March 2014 had already been published before Directive 2014/89/EU was published (cf. Art. 4 §6 of the directive)

## // abstract:

This directive creates a framework for maritime spatial planning which aims to promote the sustainable growth of maritime economies, the sustainable development of marine areas and the sustainable use of natural marine resources. Within the *integrated maritime policy* (COM (2007) 575; p.66), maritime spatial planning was described as a key tool for sustainable decision-making within an integrated management framework.

Each Member State should set up a maritime spatial plan that takes into account (1) the land-sea interaction, (2) the characteristics of marine regions, (3) the relevant existing and future activities and uses and their impact on the environment and (4) natural resources.

The Member States take into account socio-economic and ecological aspects in order to ensure sustainable development and growth in the maritime sector, and apply an ecosystem-based approach. Cross-border cooperation between Member States (and third countries) is of great importance to these developments.