



[city logo]

CAMPAIGN "ON THE PART OF THE RIGHTEOUS" FOR THE HUMANITARIAN MARINE RESCUE OF MIGRANTS

Having regard to the recognized right deriving from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions in order to protect the safety of navigation, in particular the safeguarding of human life at sea without distinction depending on nationality or legal status:

- *Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), London, 1974*
- *Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue (SAR), Hamburg, 1979*
- *Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL), London, 1967*
- *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), Montego Bay, 1982*

Given that the "Protocol on the smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air" (Palermo, 2000), supplementary to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which protects the rights of migrants and aims at combatting the smuggling of persons;

Given that:

- the "*Guidelines on the treatment of persons rescued at sea*" of the Maritime Safety Committee (Reg. MSC.167-78 / 2004) specifying that the guarantor Government for the region SAR where survivors have been recovered is responsible for ensuring that a "*safe place*", that is, a place where survival security is no longer threatened and primary human needs can be met. It also emphasizes in particular how the disembarkation of asylum seekers and refugees, retired at sea, in areas where their lives and their freedom would be threatened should be avoided;
- Article. 33 of the Geneva Convention establishing the "*non-refoulement principle*" prohibiting any form of forced removal to an unsafe country where life or liberty may be threatened, regardless of whether the person is formally recognized as a refugee or the formal refugee request is recorded;
- EU Regulation n.656 / 2014 expressly providing for search and rescue obligations and EU Regulation No 1624/2016 on monitoring and surveillance at the external borders and in the Mediterranean Sea;

Given that:

- since the beginning of the 2000s, in the Central Mediterranean Sea, the main migratory routes from the Libyan coasts and from Egypt to Lampedusa, Pantelleria, Sicily and Malta, while the greek islands of the Aegean Sea have become the destination of the migratory flows from Turkey, in particular in Lesvos, Chíos, Samos, Kos, Rhodes and Leros;
- there is no effective response to the dismantling of the criminal and institutional network that operates illegal immigration in countries that do not guarantee the fundamental rights of the human person from the right of asylum;
- the only sea victims of illegal migration are migrants fleeing the horrors of war, the stumbling blocks of endless travel, economic and sexual exploitation, increasingly with makeshift, old fishing or precarious boats;
- there are not enough maritime resources in the field of Maritime Search and Rescue Services (SAR) along the main migratory routes and there is the lack of an international humanitarian policy that establishes humanitarian channels and legal and protected access routes for major migratory maritime routes;
- the dramatic balance of deaths or official dispersions in the Mediterranean Sea from 2011 to 2017 is a total of more than 15.000 refugees (sources: Open Migration, OIM);

- all victims of illegal immigration are entitled to professional SAR assistance, provided with the greatest speed and efficiency possible;

Given that:

- for several years, total 66 subjects from 19 different nations have been present along the Mediterranean migratory routes: non-governmental organizations and other worthy persons, which have continuously activated, during the “Refugees crisis”, maritime rescue means along the migratory routes of the Central Mediterranean Sea and the Aegean Sea, to provide a humanitarian response to the protection of the lives of migrants, motivated by the universal principle that every person in danger at sea must be rescued and treated with dignity:
 1. MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES - Switzerland
 2. MIGRANT OFFSHORE AID STATION - Malta
 3. CORPO ITALIANO DI SOCCORSO DELL'ORDINE DI MALTA - Italy
 4. EMERGENCY ONG ONLUS - Italy
 5. CROCE ROSSA ITALIANA - Italy
 6. SEA-WATCH E.V. - Germany
 7. HUMANITARIAN PILOTS INITIATIVE - Switzerland
 8. SEA-EYE E.V. - Germany
 9. PROACTIVA OPEN ARMS - Spain
 10. HUMANITY CREW - Israel
 11. DUTCH BOAT REFUGEE FOUNDATION - Holland
 12. SAVE THE CHILDREN - United Kingdom
 13. SOS MÉDITERRANÉE - Germany, France, Italy
 14. MÉDECINS DU MONDE - France
 15. JUGEND RETTET E.V. - Germany
 16. GERMAN MARITIME SEARCH AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION - Germany
 17. GERMAN LIFE-SAVING SERVICE - Germany
 18. HELLENIC RESCUE TEAM - Greece
 19. LIFE BOAT GGMBH I.G. - Germany
 20. CADUS REDEFINE GLOBAL SOLIDARITY E.V. - Germany
 21. ELPIS NAVE OSPEDALE ONLUS - Italy
 22. WOMEN AND HEALTH ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL - France
 23. RAINBOW FOR AFRICA ONLUS - Italy
 24. MISSIONLAND ONLUS - Italy
 25. ENGIM INTERNAZIONALE - Italy
 26. VOLUNTEER SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM - Greece
 27. SAILORS WITHOUT BORDERS - Poland
 28. SWEDISH SEA RESCUE SOCIETY - Sweden
 29. ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION - United Kingdom
 30. NORWEGIAN SOCIETY FOR SEA RESCUE - Norway
 31. ROYAL NETHERLANDS SEA RESCUE INSTITUTION - Holland
 32. BODRUM SEA RESCUE ASSOCIATION - Turkey
 33. LIFEGUARD HELLAS SAVE & RESCUE VOLUNTEER TEAM - Greece
 34. INTERNATIONAL SURF LIFESAVING ASSOCIATION - Usa
 35. BETHELLS BEACH SURF LIFE SAVING PATROL - New Zealand
 36. LIFEGUARDS WITHOUT BORDERS - Usa
 37. GREENPEACE INTERNATIONAL - Holland
 38. EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE INTERNATIONAL - Greece
 39. VANCOUVER SEARCH AND RESCUE - Canada
 40. PROEM-AID OCEAN RESCUE TEAM - Spain
 41. PLATANOS RESCUE TEAM - Greece
 42. SALVAMENTO MARÍTIMO HUMANITARIO - Spain
 43. F.E.O.X. RESCUE TEAM - Greece
 44. REFUGEE RESCUE - United Kingdom

45. CANADIAN MARINE RESCUE ASSISTANCE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY - Canada
46. TEAM HUMANITY - Denmark
47. SAMOS DIVERS ASSOCIATION - Greece
48. ELITE SPECIAL TASK FORCE EGALEO - Greece
49. BOMBEROS EN ACCIÓN ONGD - Spain
50. ATLANTIC PACIFIC INT. RESCUE BOAT PROJECT - United Kingdom
51. THE WORLDWIDE TRIBE SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM - United Kingdom
52. ZENTRUM FÜR POLITISCHE SCHÖNHEIT - Germany
53. Mr. IOANNIS POLYCHRONOPOULOS - Piraeus, Greece
54. DISTRETTO DELLA PESCA E CRESCITA BLU - Mazara del Vallo, Italy
55. CONSORZIO PESCATORI LAMPEDUSA E LINOSA - Lampedusa, Italy
56. ASSOCIATION "LE PECHEUR" POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT ET L'ENVIRONNEMENT - Zarzis, Tunisia
57. Mr. RECEP EVRAN - Kusadasi, Turkey
58. Mr. PANAGIOTIS KAPABETIS - Alexandroupolis, Greece
59. Mr. STRATIS KASSOS - Lesvos, Greece
60. Mr. NIKOS KATAKOUZINOS - Lesvos, Greece
61. Mr. BABIS MANIAS - Rodos, Greece
62. Mr. THANASIS MARMARINOS - Lesvos, Greece
63. Mr. GIORGOS MAVRIPIDIS - Lesvos, Greece
64. Mr. KOSTAS PINTERIS - Lesvos, Greece
65. Mr. STRATIS VALIAMOS - Lesvos, Greece
66. Mr. STEFANOS ZANNIKOS - Chios, Greece

Given the international honouring already recognized by some NGOs:

- the Ong Migrant Offshore Aid Station (MOAS) received several awards for its humanitarian relief work, including: Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana, Medal for Service to the Republic of Malta, Geuzen Medal;
- the Ong Proactiva Open Arms (POA) received several awards for its humanitarian relief work, including: European Citizen's Prize, Alba/Puffin Award, Olof Palme Medal, Hero Awards International, Canary Gold Medal, Plácido Fernández Viagas Prize, UNICEF Spanish Committee Transforma Award;
- the Ong Hellenic Rescue Team (HRT) has received several awards for its humanitarian relief work, including: Unhcr Nansen Refugee Award;
- the Ong SOS Méditerranée has received numerous awards for its humanitarian relief work, including: Schwarzkopf Europe Award, Unesco Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize and EESC Civil Society Prize;
- the Ong Proem-Aid Ocean Rescue Team has received several awards for its humanitarian relief work, including: Premio Corazón de Olavidia and Premio Clavel de la Prensa;
- the Ong Humanity Crew (HC) has received several awards for its humanitarian relief work, including: Refugees Rights Defenders;
- the Ong Emergency Response Centre International (ERCI) has received several awards for its humanitarian relief work, including: Special Contribution AMVER Awards;

Given the international honouring already recognized by some private individuals:

- the Environmental Protection Engineering S.A. has received several awards for his humanitarian relief work, including: Bravo Sustainability Awards;
- the Fishing Fleet of Mazara del Vallo has received several awards for his humanitarian relief work, including: Medaglia di bronzo al merito di Marina della Repubblica Italiana, Premio Unhcr "Per Mare", Premio Testimone di Pace, European Citizen's Prize;
- the Fishing Fleet of Lampedusa and Linosa received several awards for his humanitarian relief work, including: Premio Pavese Azzurro, Premio Internazionale per la Pace Colombe d'Oro;

Given that:

- an international group of citizens in Parma (Italy) founded the Committee for the nomination for the joint candidature of this network of solidarity (www.nobel-righteous-mediterraneansea.info);
- the term 'Righteous' comes from the Bible, which states that "*whoever saves a life saves the whole world*" and it was applied for the first time in Israel with reference to those who rescued Jews from Nazi persecution in Europe. The context is different, but there is though one common point though. The Holocaust Righteous and the rescuers who help the refugees at sea answer the call of the other's face. Probably, in their life, they would have done something completely different, but then something compelled them to act. They have not planned to do good, they have not gone out to do some volunteer work, nor decided to sacrifice their lives as missionaries, but in the face of people demanding help they have decided to act, as if they had received an order;
- the Committee intends to honor the humanitarian effort of a network of people who have not hesitated to help and save thousands of refugees and who have been in the last few years providing relief and first reception in often prohibitive sea conditions: fishermen, volunteers, artists, seamen, doctors, lifeguards, nurses, pilots, shipmasters, rescuers have opened their hearts to save refugee children, men and women fleeing war and terror;

Given that:

- the Committee start up the Campaign "*ON THE PART OF THE RIGHTEOUS*", addressed to the mayors of european cities who intend to declare the public administration support to the nomination;
- the Committee sended a official communication with the request of support/patronage to the campaign "*On the part of the Righteous*";
- The Committee does not require any economic burden for own activity, absolutely non-profit and voluntary;

Having regard to:

- the Nobel Peace Prize would be an important acknowledgment for an international community made up of humanitarian organizations and common people solely by attempting to actively testify of respect for human dignity and peace, since every brave and helpful contribution to the sacrifice shows the victims a human face and a source of hope for reconciliation and peaceful coexistence;
- the Peace cannot be defined solely by the absence of war or conflict, but also by protecting and promoting the dignity and respect of all people. Faced with the greatest refugee crisis in Europe after the Second World War, nobody deserves to drown at sea.

THE MAYOR OF (city)
..... (nation)

PATRONIZE THE CANDIDATION FOR THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR PEACE 2018 OF

**"THE RIGHTEOUS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA"
FOR THE HUMANITARIAN MARINE RESCUE OF MIGRANTS"**

Place and date _____

The Mayor of
Stamp and signature

Copy of this document will send to:

- Norwegian Nobel Committee
(postmaster@nobel.no)
- Committee for the nomination of "*The Righteous of the Mediterranean Sea*" to Nobel Peace Prize 2018
(committee@nobel-righteous-mediterraneansea.info)