



## PRESS INFORMATION

### **“Plastic Pirates” – On a mission to fight plastic waste**

"Plastic Pirates - Go Europe!" is a European citizen science project for clean oceans, rivers and aquatic nature. The goal is to raise awareness of the importance of protecting our rivers as natural resources and to highlight the value added of international research collaboration.

The campaign calls upon children and adolescents aged between 10 and 16 years to investigate the subject of plastic waste in the environment, particularly in and near various bodies of waters. The accompanying teaching materials, worksheets and the project booklet provide guidelines on the campaign and are available free of charge. The next sampling period starts in May and runs through June 2022.

During the German EU Council Presidency in 2020, the campaign was extended to the countries of the Trio Presidency, and was implemented in the period 2020 to 2021 as a joint action of the Ministries of Education, Science and Research of Germany, Portugal and Slovenia. Since January 2022, the campaign has been extended to other EU Member States with the support of the EU Commission.

The Department of Research on Learning and Instruction at Ruhr-Universität Bochum is conducting supportive research to underline the scientific and societal benefits of the campaign. Their research focus is on the following questions: What effect does the action "Plastic Pirates - Go Europe!" have on participating teachers, pupils and youth groups? For whom does it work, under what conditions and to what extent?

#### **Further information:**

Website: [plastic-pirates.eu/](https://plastic-pirates.eu/)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/plasticpiratesgoeurope](https://facebook.com/plasticpiratesgoeurope)  
Instagram: [instagram.com/plasticpiratesgoeurope](https://instagram.com/plasticpiratesgoeurope)

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