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## Sailing to Barcelona!

Together to protect our oceans

**Background:** In October 2008, several dozen boats will set sail for the Spanish port of Barcelona in the name of marine conservation. Their destination is IUCN's World Conservation Congress (5-14 October 2008). Their message is one: we can and must protect our seas, oceans and coasts. The boats are not just ordinary sailing vessels. Each boat is living proof that something can be done to protect the extraordinary blue world that covers more than two thirds of our planet.

**What's happening:** The *Jadran*, a stunning 75-year-old three-master, will sail from the Adriatic coast representing the conservation efforts of South Eastern Europe, a region with over 6,000 km of coastline. Scholar ship *Jadran* will promote nature protection initiatives: Dinaric Arc, European Green Belt and Countdown 2010. Celebrating its 75. anniversary, *Jadran* will gain media attention contributing to raising public awareness on the need to make concrete steps towards marine and coastal ecosystems protection. The sailing itself will offer the training of the journalists on specific issues related to nature conservation onboard. The journalists will have an opportunity to get in-depth knowledge on emerging issues for the region as well as globally and learn more about initiatives and programmes being undertaken by partner organisations and institutions.

**Why it's happening:** Sailing to Barcelona is an action-oriented initiative linking the worlds of sailing and conservation. Its sole goal is to help advance the protection of coastal and marine biodiversity globally. Sailing to Barcelona will give a voice to creative marine conservation efforts from various corners of the world, while helping to build new and innovative partnerships for future action, and raise awareness beyond the conservation community.



Ministry of Defense of Montenegro *Jadran*

### Programme of Sailing to Barcelona:

- 24.09.2008.** Kotor, Montenegro. Round table on nature conservation followed by the press conference
- 29.09.2008.** Cagliari, Italy. Integrated Coastal Management Seminar.
- 03.10.2008.** Barcelona, Spain.
- 04-09.10.2008.** *Jadran* opened for the public visits

Should you be interested to take part in this initiative or receive more information please contact IUCN SEE office at +381 11 2272 411 or [see@iucn.org](mailto:see@iucn.org)

### About IUCN

IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges by supporting scientific research; managing field projects all over the world; and bringing governments, NGOs, the UN, international conventions and companies together to develop policy, laws and best practice. IUCN is the world's oldest and largest global environmental network. IUCN is a democratic union with more than 1,000 government and NGO member organizations, and almost 11,000 volunteer scientists in more than 160 countries. IUCN's work is supported by over 1,000 professional staff in 60 offices and hundreds of partners in public, NGO and private sectors around the world. [www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org).