**The session Stakes and trends in the future structures at sea will address 2 themes**

This session is organized by Franck Schoefs and Jean-Christophe Gilloteaux

1. **Legal, economic and technological issues for multi-use on offshore wind farms: utopia or future?**

Limited available nearshore space, difficulties of planning activities, such as fishing, energy production, environmental preservation and tourism, make necessary a spatial and time planning that considers synergies of different user groups – a multi-use or co-activity. The term ulti-use means both: several activities on the same site as well as several activities on the same structure. Multi-use offshore platforms are one of the integrated concepts that offer the compatibility of activities; floating offshore wind turbines are one example to fulfill this concept. Emerging issues, such as the technical realization, the impact on existing markets as well as employment and the marine resource use of the site must be addressed in view to measure the global potential effect on social acceptability.

1. **Future trends in Maritime Structures: Science Fiction or reality?**

Currently many projects aimed at the development of maritime and offshore structures radically different from what we have experienced so far. These structures can be fixed or floating and are intended for various applications. Several projects are related to the development of marine energy conversion systems (wave energy systems, tidal turbines, ocean thermal energy converters), others to the exploitation of wind energy in an environment close to or far from the shore. Other projects are related to the evolution of maritime transport, including autonomous ships or the development of hybrid propulsion systems. The development of these different systems will increase the need for marine infrastructures facilitating installation and maintenance operations. This is why several offshore multi-use platform projects are also under development.

The objective of this session is to present projects about the development of novel structures that may populate coastal and maritime areas in the coming years. A wide range of technologies such as the ones mentioned above can be presented. Presentations on the social and legal aspects are also welcome.