

REPORT

# Blue Innovation

Sailing towards the BBNJ Agreement  
to protect marine biodiversity



CHILE  
Peace Boat  
Global Voyage 122  
January - February, 2026

PEACE  
BOATUS



# Ocean Culture

## Science, Art and Innovation



Taking place on Peace Boat's 122nd Global Voyage, Peace Boat US implemented programs on ocean education, maritime culture, science, art, blue innovation, and citizen diplomacy in Chile. The programs took place as the ship sailed through the region from Rapa Nui to Patagonia, while port activities took place in Valparaíso and Punta Arenas, two strategic cities that connect the South Pacific with Antarctica and the Southern Ocean ecosystems.

A series of activities were held on land, at sea, and aboard the ship. Programming integrated community-based experiences, environmental education, ocean sports and activities, public art, citizen science, music and culture, youth leadership, women's inclusion in the maritime-port sector, academic cooperation, and intergenerational dialogue. The programs reaffirmed Peace Boat's support for international ocean governance and the implementation of the United Nations BBNJ Agreement (Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction), known as the "High Seas Treaty", the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation with UNESCO.

### Valparaíso (January 24–26)

- Public art and territory, ocean culture, sport as a tool for inclusion, marine biodiversity, community action, blue innovation, institutional partnerships, and dialogue on the BBNJ Agreement, culminating in the Blue Innovation Reception aboard Peace Boat.

### Punta Arenas – Magallanes Region (February 1)

- A program focused on the conservation of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, integrating biocultural science, environmental education, historical memory, sound art, music and territory, youth leadership, women's inclusion in the maritime-port sector, and regional cooperation. Activities included cultural dialogues, educational programs on Patagonian glaciers, scientific collaboration with the Cabo de Hornos International Center (CHIC), and the Blue Innovation Reception for the Conservation of Antarctica, held aboard the ship at Mardones Pier in Punta Arenas.

Chile is a key territory for ocean culture, international cooperation, and climate action, connecting southern ports, communities, and knowledge from the country's center to its southernmost regions. The programs held in Chile made connections between science, public policy, culture, and citizenship in favor of ocean protection and future generations.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

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## Public Art, Local Identity, and Blue Innovation

January 24 focused on the relationship between art, territory, and ocean science through an ocean-themed mural tour organized by Fundación Conexión Natural, Peace Boat US, INJUV Valparaíso, and Valparaíso City Councilor Lukas Cáceres, within the framework of the first Valparaíso Azul Public and Environmental Art Biennial.

The activity was coordinated by Emilie McGlone, Director of Peace Boat US, together with Mark Minneboo and Carola Moya from Fundación Conexión Natural. Participants included geographer Jorge Negrete (National Geography Award) and academic Hermann Manríquez from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, who reflected on the intersection of science, art, and citizenship. They highlighted how the BBNJ Agreement invites us to rethink the ocean beyond administrative boundaries, from an academic, systemic, and intergenerational perspective.

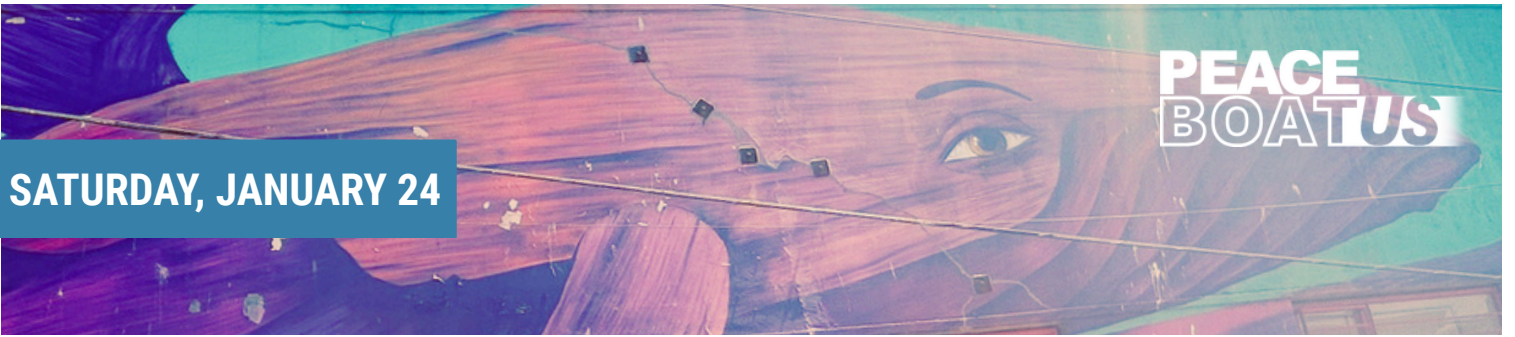
Artist Daniel Marcelli shared live creative processes, emphasizing the role of urban art as a tool for environmental education and cultural mediation. The tour included large-scale ocean-themed murals, interventions in Cerro Lecheros and Templeman Street, and a technical visit to Yene Street Art Studio, concluding with a collective dialogue and Blue Innovation Reception at the Concepción funicular.



VALPARAÍSO  
AZUL  
PRIMERA BIENAL DE ARTE PÚBLICO







SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

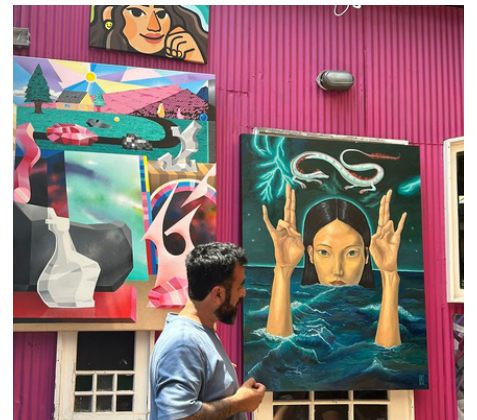


## Urban Art as a Tool for Environmental Education and Cultural Awareness

Promoting the United Nations BBNJ Agreement



Valparaíso, Chile | A Blue City





SATURDAY, JANUARY 24



On the afternoon of January 24, young people from Valparaíso participated in kayaking in the bay of Valparaíso, alongside Ernesto Gómez, Director of the Centro de Estudios Oceánicos, INJUV, and Ganamar, a project of Fundación Acción Azul. Ganamar aims to connect people's lives with the sea through sport, culture, and ocean education. The kayaking activity focused on discussions around Valparaíso's valuable ocean heritage, particularly the underwater cultural heritage present in the bay and beneath the city.

This experience represented a meaningful educational opportunity that promotes the holistic development of youth, strengthening physical, socio-emotional, and collaborative skills within a natural coastal environment surrounded by the sea. The initiative reinforced fundamental values such as perseverance, collaboration, self-care, respect for the marine environment, inclusion, and the creation of community-based opportunities for ocean education.

The day concluded with a visit to the cultural space El Submarino Azul, home and studio of Chilean artist Gonzalo Ilabaca, a renowned painter and engaged citizen of Valparaíso. He reflected on art as the living memory of the port city and, at the same time, as a bridge between culture, territory, and the sea.



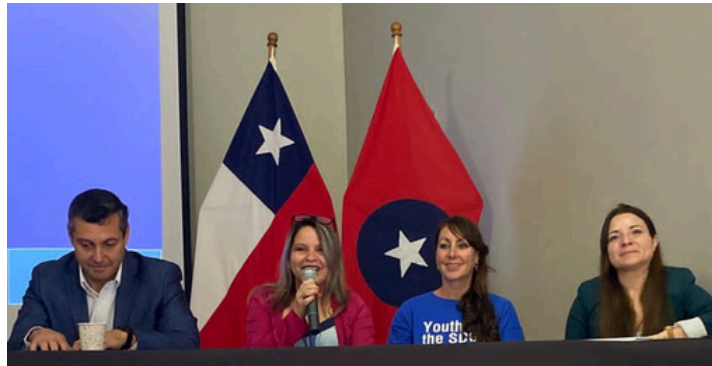




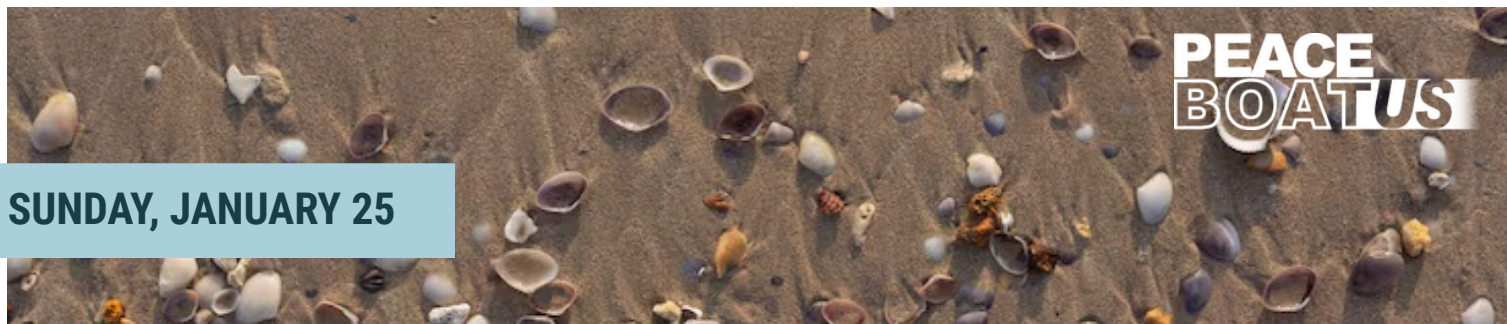
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

## Ocean Education, Biodiversity, and Community Action

January 25 focused on science, the promotion of ocean culture, and territorial action. With the support of Fundación Mascarona and the Yacht Club of Chile, marine biologist Raiza Carvajal Cid delivered a talk on local marine biodiversity. The discussion was followed by a maritime tour of the bay with young leaders as a hands-on learning experience about the marine flora and fauna of the region. Participants came from various educational programs, including the “Sea Explorers” and “Youth for the SDGs” program for the UN Ocean Decade, a Peace Boat US educational initiative for the UN Sustainable Development Goals and ocean science.







## Community Action and Ocean Culture

In coordination with the University de Valparaíso at Montemar, the Armada de Chile, Directmar, Parley for the Oceans, Escuela del Océano Chile, SOA Chile, INJUV, Simi Planeta Chile, Espacio Mejor, Voces Verdes, among other partners, a beach clean-up was held. This activity reinforced the principle of shared responsibility and the connection between scientific knowledge and citizen action as a fundamental basis for ocean protection.

The beach clean-up took place in the Montemar area, where the academic campus of the School of Marine Biology of the Universidad de Valparaíso is located, and brought together more than one hundred participants of all ages.

The activity was conducted in collaboration with a wide range of public and private organizations and included educational and science outreach spaces.

**"The beach clean-up was wonderful. This is the third time we have carried out this activity together with Peace Boat, and the number of participants practically doubled compared to last year. Children, older adults, and entire families took part, all highly collaborative,"** highlighted Pilar Muñoz from the Universidad de Valparaíso, and member of UNESCO's International Group of Experts on Ocean Culture.







## Blue Innovation Reception and Support for the BBNJ Agreement

Aboard Peace Boat in Valparaíso, Chile



With the arrival of Peace Boat at the Port of Valparaíso, the “Blue Innovation Reception: Sailing Toward the BBNJ Agreement” was held onboard. The event brought together public authorities, experts, youth representatives, organizations, and artists to promote marine conservation and the blue economy.

Guests visited the ship including a special tour of the outreach edition of the Nobel Peace Center’s Nobel Peace Prize Exhibition “A Message to Humanity,” introducing the work of Nihon Hidankyo, recipient of the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize.

### Program Themes

- Climate Action and Blue Economy
- Ocean Culture, Innovation, and Art
- Blue Maritime Transport and the Future of Ports
- Strategic Partnerships for the UN Ocean Decade
- International Year of Glaciers’ Preservation with UNESCO
- BBNJ Agreement, Blue Governance, and National Commitments





# RECEPTION OF BLUE INNOVATION Sailing towards the BBNJ Agreement



## ON BOARD PEACE BOAT – PORT OF VALPARAÍSO PROGRAM

### 13:00-13:30 | Registration Opening

Check-in at the Valparaíso Cruise Terminal (VTP)  
*Only registered participants with a confirmation QR code and a valid ID card or passport will be allowed to enter*

### 13:30 – 13:45 pm

- Tour of Peace Boat and visit to the Nobel Peace Prize Exhibition
- Welcome Remarks at the “Vista Lounge”
- Screening of a video on the BBNJ Agreement

### 14:00 | Opening of the Program and Welcome Aboard

- Emilie McGlone, Director of Peace Boat US
- Presentation on Peace Boat and the importance of the United Nations BBNJ Agreement

### BBNJ Agreement, Blue Governance, and National Commitments

- Julio Cordano, Director of Environment, Climate Change and Oceans

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile

- Panel on Marine Protected Areas and the BBNJ Agreement: Pablo Manríquez Angulo, Mayor of Juan Fernández
- Moderator: Jacko González-Garcés, Youth for the SDGs, Sustainable Ocean Alliance (SOA) Chile

### Climate Action and the Blue Economy

- Gonzalo Muñoz, Ambition Loop, UN High-Level Climate Champion
- Ismaela Magliotto Quevedo, Uno.Cinco

### International Year of Glaciers’ Preservation – UNESCO

- Constanza Espinosa, Chilean Glaciers Foundation
- Bernadita Vásquez, National Committee for the Defense of Flora and Fauna of Chile (CODEFF)
- Panel: Navigating the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development  
Participants from the Youth for the SDGs Program: 1, Antonia Olivares, Jacko González-Garcés

### Ocean Culture, Innovation, and Art

- Dialogue: Martín Shopf, Francisco Polla, Luis Miranda, Emilie McGlone
- Dialogue: “Valparaíso Azul” Public Art Biennial  
Mark Minneboo, Pilar Muñoz, Daniel Marcelli

### Blue Maritime Transport and the Future of Ports

- Raquel Meza, Fundación Mascarona
- Peace Boat Ecoship: Maritime Decarbonization

### Strategic Partnerships for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

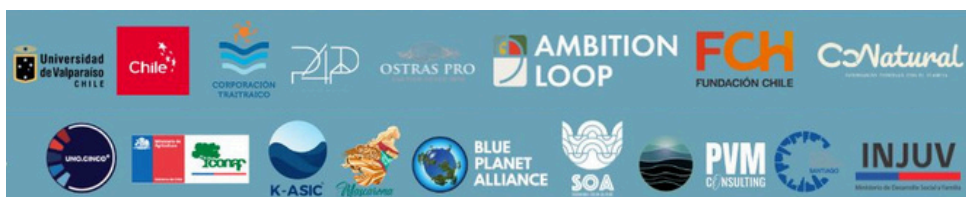
- Paola Vega, PVM Consulting Chile
- Octavia Barra, Fundación Chile

### 16:30 - Closing and Networking

Closing Remarks and Networking Session  
Opportunity for exchange among participants

### 17:00 pm - End of the Program and Disembarkation

Visual Art by: Luis Barrera, aka Anatómico | Pixelmaker



### EXHIBITIONS

- OSTRAS PRO
- PEACE BOAT US
- WINEBOX VALPARAÍSO
- ART BEAMIN POR SOA CHILE
- UNIVERSIDAD DE VALPARAÍSO (VR)
- BIENAL DE ARTE PÚBLICO VALPARAÍSO AZUL



MONDAY, JANUARY 26

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Artistic and innovation initiatives also included visual artist Luis Barrera (Anatómico, Pixelmaker), exhibitions from the University of Valparaíso, Global Shapers Valparaíso, and works by Art Beamin and Daniel Marcelli.





MONDAY, JANUARY 26

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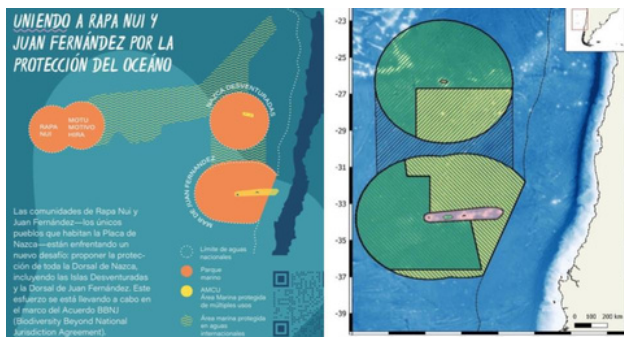
## Panel Discussion for Marine Protected Areas and the BBNJ onboard



Panel sobre  
Áreas Marinas  
Protegidas  
y el BBNJ:

Pablo Manríquez Angulo  
Alcalde de Juan Fernández.

Moderadora: Jacko González-Garcés  
Jóvenes por los ODS, SOA Chile



As one of the most important marine protected areas in Chile, the Mayor of Juan Fernández Islands, Pablo Manríquez Angulo, is leading the way for the BBNJ Treaty. In a discussion onboard with “Youth for the SDGs” alumni, Jacko Gonzalez, he shared his vision for a sustainable and inclusive ocean for all. With the creation of the Juan Fernández Marine Park in 2018 following the establishment of the Nazca-Desventuradas Marine Park in 2016, Chile has become one of the countries with the largest marine conservation areas in history.



Their seabeds host a vast biomass of fish and one of the most unique marine faunas on the planet, with nearly all fish species found there being endemic. Aware of the richness of their waters, the responsibility to uphold sustainable fishing practices, and the threat posed by industrial fishing to endangered species that inhabit the land and gather around the seamounts of Juan Fernández, the local community proposed the protection of the entire surrounding marine area through the establishment of a marine park and an expanded zone designated for local use.





MONDAY, JANUARY 26



Following the reception, the program concluded with a Blue Innovation Dinner with partners, including the participation of Chile's Minister of the Environment, Maisa Rojas, who emphasized the importance of multisectoral collaboration to advance ocean protection and the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement. Collectively, these activities strengthened links between science, public policy, culture, and citizenship, reaffirming a shared commitment to continue fostering collaborative action for the ocean and future generations.





SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

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## Blue Innovation Reception for the Conservation of Antarctica

Aboard Peace Boat in Punta Arenas, Magallanes

On Sunday, February 1, 2026, the Blue Innovation Reception for the Conservation of Antarctica was held onboard Peace Boat as it was docked at Mardones Pier, Port of Punta Arenas. The event formed part of Peace Boat's contributions to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030) and was also organized within the framework of the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation, promoted by UNESCO. Peace Boat sails to Antarctica and Patagonia each year, visiting the glaciers of the Southern Ocean, and learning from experts about the impacts of climate change on this fragile ecosystem.

The program began with a guided tour of the ship and a visit to the Nobel Peace Center's exhibition "A Message to Humanity", dedicated to the work of Nihon Hidankyo, an organization of survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (Hibakusha) and recipient of the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize. The exhibition invited reflection on memory, resilience, and intergenerational responsibility, highlighting the role of civil society in promoting nuclear disarmament and building a culture of peace. Through personal testimonies, photography, and sensitive narratives, the exhibition connects past experiences with contemporary challenges related to human security, environmental justice, and planetary protection, reinforcing the message that peace, life, and sustainability are deeply interconnected.

**"It is deeply moving to learn about such a dehumanizing event through such a profoundly human perspective,"** commented Eduardo Barros from the Cape Horn International Center - CHIC.

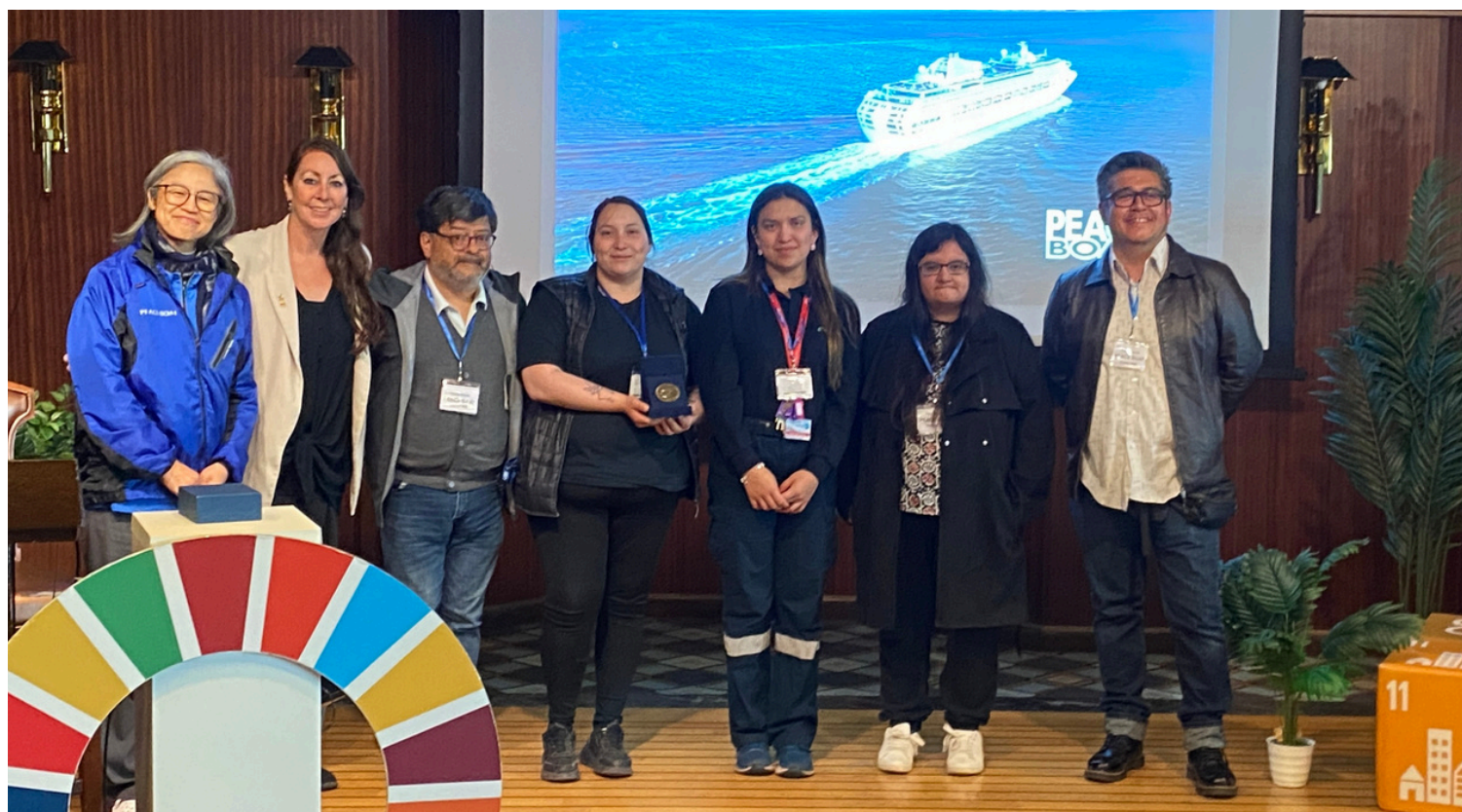




SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1



The subsequent onboard program brought together prominent regional voices towards the conservation of Antarctica and the Southern ice fields. Participants included Eduardo Ulises Barros González, associate professional at the Cape Horn International Center (CHIC) and member of Fundación Omora, who offered a biocultural perspective on the relationship between communities and nature, emphasizing the importance of knowledge dialogue between science and other disciplines. Emilie McGlone, Director of Peace Boat US, highlighted the organization's international work in ocean governance, cooperation, and education for sustainability. Eduardo Velásquez, from the Planeko project, presented his work on sound art and acoustic landscapes as tools for environmental awareness and territorial connection and ocean conservation through music.







The reception also included the participation of women from the female inclusion program in the maritime-port sector led by the Mascarona Foundation, which promotes gender equality and women's participation aboard vessels and in maritime leadership roles.

In addition, local actors from the arts and sciences in the Magallanes region took part, including Fundación Lenga and the Universidad de Magallanes Conservatory of Music. The event highlighted the convergence of science, culture, education, gender equity, and international cooperation, underscoring the role of Antarctica and the southern ocean as fundamental pillars for global climate action and the construction of a sustainable ocean future.







## Dialogue on Territory and Music with Peace Boat at the University of Magallanes Conservatory of Music, Punta Arenas



Prior to the arrival of Peace Boat, the NGO organized a dialogue with artists and music producers, including Eduardo Velásquez, a Magallanes-based musician who participated in a Peace Boat voyage in 2013 as part of the Young Leaders for Sustainability program and is currently a member of the bands Dispersiones Sonoras and Sub/Luz. From New York, Lauren Ritter, a Brooklyn-based producer and resident artist at ReSolute NYC and All Day I Dream, participated in the discussion and shared her experiences collaborating as an artist with Peace Boat for their onboard events and supporting youth education through music.

As part of Patagonica Tour Vol. 17, with the non profit organization Parties4Peace, which invites international artists to engage in environmental and conservation activities focused on Patagonia's pristine nature, participants delivered a strong message on climate action. The program also featured the debut in Punta Arenas of Martín Schopf, known as Dandy Jack, an influential musician and producer recognized for blending electronic music with Latin sounds. Alongside Jorge González, he was among the first to explore the fusion of cumbia and electronic music and carries his sound on Ruta 5.

The dialogue on music and territory also included Nicolás Gómez Ampuero, a.k.a. ruta.midi, a Punta Arenas based musician and producer and member of the academic team at the Universidad de Magallanes in the Speech Therapy program. His work explores electronic composition combined with field recordings of migratory and resident bird species in Patagonia, highlighting the acoustic identity of the territory.

Within the framework of the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation, Peace Boat seeks to promote connection with nature through music and art as part of its environmental initiatives.





## Onboard Environmental Education Program International Year of Glaciers' Preservation – UNESCO

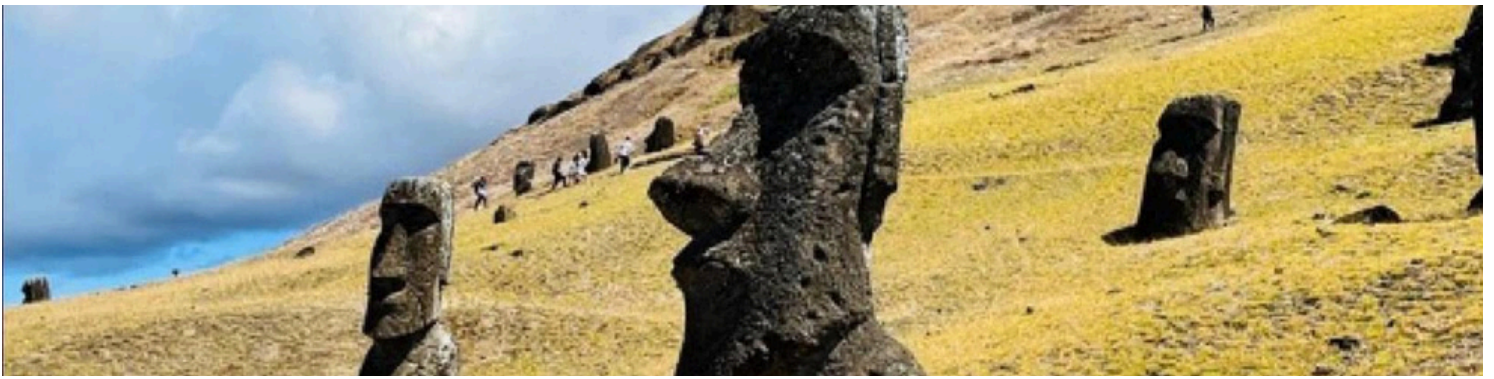


Aboard Peace Boat, guest speaker Luis Miranda, a nature guide who leads specialized programs to explore the pristine natural environment of Chilean Patagonia, delivered several educational talks on the flora and fauna of the Magallanes region, including Torres del Paine National Park. A graduate of the Explora Guides School, Miranda has collaborated with Peace Boat since 2008, helping raise funds for the “Youth for the SDGs” scholarship program, which focuses on empowering young leaders to work towards ocean and climate action.

Drawing on his firsthand experience, he emphasized the fragility hidden behind the landscapes we explore and advocated strongly for their conservation. During the voyage from Callao, Peru, to Valparaíso and Punta Arenas, he spoke about Chile’s extraordinary natural diversity, with particular emphasis on glaciers, geology, and the importance of conserving Patagonia.







## A Journey through the music of Rapa Nui with Mahani Teave

Peace Boat visited the port of Hanga Roa in Rapa Nui during the Global Voyage and had the great honor of welcoming internationally renowned pianist and humanitarian Mahani Teave aboard. Traveling with Peace Boat from Yokohama to her ancestral homeland, Mahani served as a cultural bridge, offering participants a rare and profound insight into Rapa Nui (Easter Island) that extends far beyond its iconic moai statues.

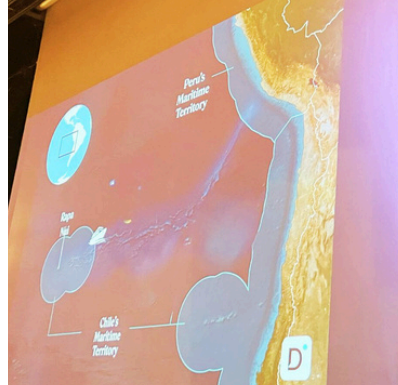


Through a series of stunning piano concerts, screenings of her documentary *Song of Rapa Nui*, and lectures on environmental activism, she shared the “natural pianism” and “magnificent artistic talent” described by BBC Music Magazine qualities that propelled her debut album to the top of the Billboard charts and earned her international recognition.

Mahani also shared her inspiring mission as co-founder of Toki Rapa Nui, the island’s first music school. This self-sustaining ecological marvel not only nurtures musical talent but also educates the next generation about renewable resources and the preservation of their endangered cultural heritage.







## A Historic Day for the Ocean, Celebrated on the High Seas

On January 17, 2026, while Peace Boat was sailing between Rapa Nui and Peru on the high seas, a long-awaited milestone for ocean protection was reached: the Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement), commonly known as the UN High Seas Treaty, officially entered into force. This historic treaty establishes, for the first time, a comprehensive global framework to protect biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction - the so-called international waters, or high seas.

As part of Peace Boat's educational and advocacy work in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ocean protection remains a central priority for SDG14, Life Below Water. While navigating international waters, we had the unique opportunity to commemorate the treaty's entry into force from the very seas it seeks to protect a moment both symbolic and deeply meaningful.

To mark this historic occasion, passengers gathered on deck dressed in blue, reflecting a shared commitment to the ocean. The celebration included an inspiring talk and dialogue session led by Stefanie Torres, marine biologist and ocean educator, President of SOA Peru, and "Youth for the SDGs" 2024 alumni.

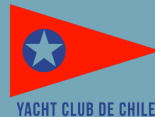






# PEACE BOATUS

## PARTNERS:



## RESOURCES:

- Peace Boat: [www.peaceboat.org](http://www.peaceboat.org)
- BBNJ: [www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en](http://www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en)
- Peace Boat US: [www.peaceboat-us.org](http://www.peaceboat-us.org)
- Partners for the UN Ocean Decade: <https://peaceboat-us.org/programs/ocean-decade-programs>



**Sailing towards the  
Treaty on Biodiversity  
Beyond National  
Jurisdiction (BBNJ),  
a Historic Agreement to  
Protect the Oceans in  
International Waters.**

**PEACE  
BOATUS**

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