



CONFERENCE ON MARCH 9,2010 BY **Giussepe Notarbartolo**

Topic: Ecology and conservation. Role of the sharks in ambinetes sailors

Title: Is there room in the Mediterranean for top marine predators?

Summary:

The Mediterranean Sea is home to a considerable diversity of apex marine predators, which includes sharks, cetaceans, and large pelagic fishes such as bluefin tuna and swordfish. These species have coexisted with millennia with humans in this semi-enclosed sea, but in recent decades the balance has been destroyed by poor management of human activities – fishing in particular. An effort to understand these species’ ecological needs and role in the ecosystems, including the distribution of their critical habitats, will support their conservation – amongst other things – through the establishment of networks of protected areas throughout the Mediterranean basin.

