

“Just-in-Time arrivals”: The Ports of Genoa at the centre of the EU Mission Project

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Ports of Genoa host EU Mission dedicated to the implementation of Just-in-Time ship arrivals.

The digitalisation of key information, covering the various stages of a ship’s arrival in port, is the focal point of the EU-funded Mission project, *Maritime Just-In-Time Optimisation*, to provide stakeholders with essential data in real-time. The initiative aims to enhance efficiency and safety by reducing vessel waiting times, synchronising port activities and cutting fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. These measures are also expected to deliver major environmental and public health benefits for communities living alongside port areas.

Palazzo San Giorgio, historic headquarters of the Western Ligurian Sea Port Authority, hosted the meeting grouping together the partners involved in the MISSION project, funded under the Horizon Europe programme. Launched in January 2024 and scheduled for completion in June 2027, the initiative brings together over 30 public and private stakeholders, including several leading Mediterranean ports, businesses, universities and research centres, with a total budget of approximately 8.9 million euro and EU funding of 7.4 million euros.

The Ports of Genoa are set to play a central role in the project. Alongside Valencia and Piraeus, the Western Ligurian Sea Port Authority will act as one of three pilot sites for testing the Just-in-Time solutions applied to container traffic, thereby firmly consolidating the Italian port’s position at the forefront of innovation across the maritime supply chain and the wider digitalisation of port activities.

In addition, MISSION seeks to develop an interoperable digital tool capable of connecting shipping companies, ports, terminals and service providers across the integration of new functions into existing systems. This approach is expected to optimise operational planning, without requiring the adoption of new software or dedicated applications.