

GIUSEPPE NOTARBARTOLO DI SCIARA

BIO

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Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (b. Venice, Italy, 1948) is an Italian marine conservation ecologist who has contributed for 40 years to the advancement of knowledge of the natural history, ecology, behaviour and taxonomy of marine mammals and cartilaginous fishes.

He obtained in 1985 a PhD at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (University of California, San Diego) with a thesis on the taxonomy and ecology of devil rays (of which he described a new species, *Mobula munkiana*).

Later, he progressively moved from science to conservation. Started (1986) the Italian national cetacean stranding network, which he coordinated until 1990. In 1986 he also funded the Tethys Research Institute, which he chaired and directed until 1997 and again from 2010 to 2016. In 1991 he spearheaded the creation of the world's first high-seas marine protected area, the Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals, established in 1999 by a treaty amongst Italy, France and Monaco. He was the President of ICRAM, the Central Institute for Applied Marine Research (1996-2003), a governmental body providing scientific support to Italy's marine conservation policy. He has served from 1999-2004 as the Italian Commissioner at the International Whaling Commission, and from 2002-2010 as Chair of the Scientific Committee of ACCOBAMS. He has taught science and policy of the conservation of marine biodiversity at the University Statale of Milan from 2007 to 2016.

Currently: CoP-appointed CMS Councillor for aquatic mammals (since 2014); Co-chair, IUCN Joint SSC/WCPA Task Force on Marine Mammal Protected Areas (since 2013); Deputy Chair, IUCN Species Survival Commission - Cetacean Specialist Group (since 1991); Member, IUCN Species Survival Commission - Shark Specialist Group (since 1993); Advisor, Pew Fellows in Marine Conservation (since 2003); Member of the Scientific Steering Committee of GOBI, the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (since 2013); Member of the Board of the Society for Marine Mammalogy (since 2012); Regional Coordinator for the Mediterranean and Black Seas, IUCN WCPA - Marine (since 2000).

He has authored over 220 scientific works and several books.

For more details:

www.disciara.org

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giuseppe_Notarbartolo_di_Sciara