



The European manifesto of solidarity sailing

1. The European movement of solidarity sailing is part of a much bigger international movement towards peace, and its aim is to bring our attention to the needs of the weak and the last.
2. The main aim of the European movement of solidarity sailing is to improve the quality of life for everyone, especially for those who are socially, mentally or physically challenged, as they are usually unable to enjoy the benefit of a normal social life.
3. Those of us involved in this European movement of solidarity sailing support and advocate also the integration between people with different abilities and the socially disadvantaged. Within our programs we encourage experiencing self and mutual help.
4. We use the carefreeness of sailing and the solidarity aboard as a way to avoid any form of stigma and exclusion and to avoid privileges of the few against the disadvantages of many.
5. We experience that on a boat, different abilities become a wealth and never an impediment. Everyone with their own abilities can offer a valid contribution to life on board and in navigation. Back on shore, this experience will give new meanings and insights to every day life.
6. We are also convinced that life aboard and sailing itself can significantly contribute in lightening the sense of isolation and help to avoid the 'victim' syndrome.
7. The European movement of solidarity sailing wants to promote and implement all the sporting, cultural and social initiatives in order to convince the governative institutions, in particular those involved in Education, Justice and Health, to allow wider spaces and opportunities in using sailing as an educational, rehabilitative and therapeutic instrument.
8. The European movement of solidarity sailing opposes the isolation of the disabled and socially disadvantaged and their containment in 'special areas' and 'specialised centers' especially for those with minor disabilities.
9. The European movement of solidarity sailing promotes experiences and treatment programs, not entertainment of those who are disabled. We are opposed to episodic experiences, lacking in proved effectiveness and even more to the beneficence .
10. The European movement of solidarity sailing intends to create a network for exchanging experiences with the other European Associations who use sailing for physical, mental, sensorial or social disabilities.

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