

*Address for H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco  
Gala for the Oceans  
Monaco - September 28, 2017*

## ELÉMENTS DE LANGAGE

DEAR LEONARDO DICAPRIO,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,  
DEAR FRIENDS,

LET ME TELL YOU MY GREAT PLEASURE TO  
WELCOME YOU TO THIS WONDERFUL EVENT.

I AM DELIGHTED TO SEE US GATHERED IN  
MONACO TONIGHT WITH THE SAME HOPE: THAT  
OF BUILDING A WORLD IN WHICH HUMANITY WILL  
UNDERSTAND HOW TO LIVE IN HARMONY WITH  
THE GLOBAL OCEAN.

ELEVEN YEARS AGO, ONE OF THE REASONS  
I CREATED MY FOUNDATION WAS TO PURSUE AND  
PROTECT THIS ESSENTIAL RELATIONSHIP  
BETWEEN MY COUNTRY AND THE SEA.

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WE HAVE INITIATED OR SUPPORTED OVER 400 PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. PROJECTS RANGING FROM VERY LOCAL TO GLOBAL ONES. FROM VERY PRACTICAL PROJECTS TO COMPLEX SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS.

60% OF THESE PROJECTS CONCERN THE OCEAN, WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL TO OUR PLANET, TO OUR FUTURE AND THAT OF OUR CHILDREN.

FACED WITH THE CHALLENGE OF PROTECTING THE PLANET, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE WE NEED TO UNITE EVERYBODY'S ASPIRATIONS, TALENTS AND ENERGIES.

INDEED, DESPITE THE DIFFICULTY OF THE SITUATION, THERE IS HOPE.

EVEN THOUGH OUR SEAS ARE ENDANGERED, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE THREATENED BY GLOBAL WARMING, POLLUTION AND OVER-FISHING, PROGRESS CAN ALSO BE PERCEIVED. .. / ..

THIS INCLUDES THE MARINE PROTECTED AREAS FOR WHICH I HAVE BEEN CAMPAIGNING FOR YEARS AND WHICH ARE BEING EXTENDED IN ALL THE WORLD'S SEAS – IN PARTICULAR IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, WHERE MY FOUNDATION IS ACTIVELY SUPPORTING THEM WITH A DEDICATED TRUST FUND INVOLVING A NUMBER OF STATES.

IT INCLUDES INITIATIVES TO FIGHT AGAINST POLLUTION, ESPECIALLY PLASTICS, SUCH AS THOSE IMPLEMENTED BY THE BEMED PROGRAMME, LAUNCHED BY MY FOUNDATION TO DEVELOP GROUND-BASED PROJECTS WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

IT INCLUDES THE INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH I AM INVOLVED, ESPECIALLY AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

IT ALSO INCLUDES THE ONGOING PROGRESS OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WHICH ALLOWS US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE CHALLENGES AND TO BETTER IDENTIFY THE SOLUTIONS. IN THIS RESPECT, THE LAUNCH, IN THE PRINCIPALITY OF MONACO, LESS THAN A YEAR AGO, OF THE IPCC SPECIAL REPORT ON THE OCEAN AND THE CRYOSPHERE, A PROJECT SUPPORTED BY MY FOUNDATION, HERALDS CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS.

THE PROGRESS IS ABOVE ALL THAT OF PUBLIC OPINION, WHICH INCREASINGLY RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE OCEAN, DEMANDS ACTION AND GETS ACTIVELY INVOLVED, AS WE ARE DOING TONIGHT.

I WISH TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRESENCE AND YOUR GENEROSITY, WHICH PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SUPPORT TO OUR COMMON STRUGGLE FOR OUR SEAS, FOR OUR PLANET AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. ..../..

LET ME EXTEND MY THANKS TO MILUTIN GATSBY AND HIS TEAMS, WHO HAVE INVESTED CONSIDERABLE ENERGY, SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH MY FOUNDATION, TO MAKE THIS INAUGURAL EVENT POSSIBLE – AN EVENT THAT I HOPE WILL BE PERPETUATED.

MOST PARTICULARLY, I WISH TO EXTEND MY DEAREST THANKS TO OUR FRIEND LEONARDO DICAPRIO, WHOSE UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO THE PROTECTION OF OUR PLANET DESERVES APPRECIATION FROM US ALL.

I WISH YOU AN EXCELLENT EVENING.

THANK YOU!