



## **Empowering Innovation in Marine Robotics: Leveraging Ocean Testing Facilities, Open Data Initiatives, and Competitions**

Dimitris Zissis, Intelligent Transportation Systems Lab, University of the Aegean

### **Abstract:**

Ocean testing facilities and open data initiatives are pivotal components in advancing marine robotics and autonomous systems. These facilities offer controlled environments for conducting thorough testing of autonomous technologies, while open data initiatives foster collaboration, transparency, and real-world validation. This keynote will delve into the significance of ocean testing facilities and open data initiatives, highlighting the advantages of organizing international real-world competitions that benefit both researchers and industry stakeholders.

### **CV:**

Dimitris Zissis is an Associate Professor of Information and Communication Systems, at the Dept. of Product & Systems Design Engineering, University of Aegean (Greece), and Head of the Intelligent Transportation Systems Lab. He is currently the National Representative to the Horizon Europe Programme Committee (PC) for “Cluster 4: Digital, Industry and Space”, while he has been a member of the High Level Expert Groups on “Business-to-Government Data Sharing” and “Facilitating the use of new data sources for official statistics”. His professional experience includes several senior leadership positions in the deep tech industry. His academic work has been published in more than 100 research papers, while the focus of his publications is on Information and Communications Systems, Big Data, AI and Machine Learning.