

# PRESS RELEASE

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## EU agencies meet on future activities of the European Coast Guard

**On 11-12 April 2018, the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) hosted the first European Annual Coast Guard event which took place in La Toja, Spain. It was co-organised by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), the European Fisheries Control Agency and the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) and brought together more than 120 participants from Member States' national authorities responsible for the various coast guard functions, the three relevant EU agencies as well as the European Commission.**



The event provided participants with the opportunity to give insight into the activities relevant for the five areas of interagency cooperation: information sharing to improve maritime situational awareness to facilitate operations at sea; maritime surveillance and communication services; capacity building such as training and risk assessment strategies, and sharing of capacity in the form of multipurpose operations. The discussions provided the three agencies with valuable feedback on the current cooperation activities and input for the planning of possible joint actions to be incorporated in the Annual Strategic Plan for 2019.

“The event was extremely useful as it offered the rare possibility to bring together the stakeholder communities of the three agencies, to raise awareness of what we have done and what we can do to support them and most importantly to hear what their expectations are,” said EMSA Executive Director Markku Mylly. “Together with EFCA and Frontex, we will strive to address their needs in the 2019 Annual Strategic Plan as best as we can within the legal and operational constraints.”

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