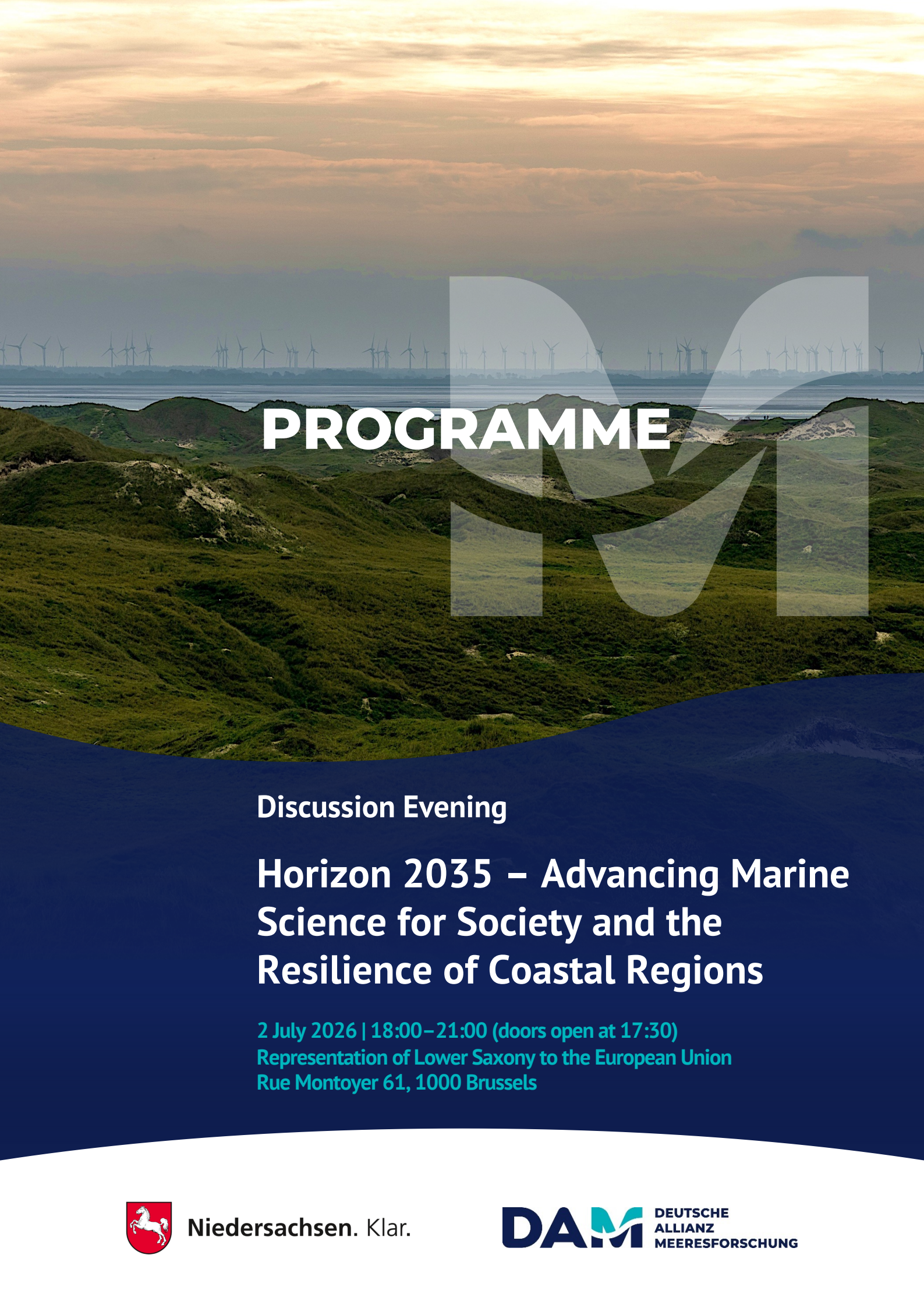




PROGRAMME

Discussion Evening

Horizon 2035 – Advancing Marine Science for Society and the Resilience of Coastal Regions

2 July 2026 | 18:00–21:00 (doors open at 17:30)

**Representation of Lower Saxony to the European Union
Rue Montoyer 61, 1000 Brussels**



Niedersachsen. Klar.

DAM **DEUTSCHE
ALLIANZ
MEERESFORSCHUNG**

PROGRAMME

Europe faces a pivotal moment for marine research. With a landmark ocean legislative proposal and accompanying strategies as well as budget negotiations for the next research framework programme underway, the EU will take decisions over the next 18 months that will shape European marine science up to 2035 and beyond; defining what coastal communities and society can expect from marine and coastal research.

The marine science community welcomes the European Commission's June 2025 launch of the European Ocean Pact: an ambitious initiative encompassing a proposed Ocean Act directive, the OceanEye Initiative, as well as strategies to strengthen marine research and innovation, coastal communities, islands, overseas territories, maritime industries and more.

Set against profound geopolitical, economic, and societal change, a fundamental question arises: What can coastal communities and society expect from marine and coastal research in 2035? The German Marine Research Alliance (DAM) and the Representation of Lower Saxony invite you to explore this question alongside scientists representing the full breadth of marine and coastal sciences.

Please register [here](#)

Programme

Welcome

Melanie Walter, Minister for Europe and Regional Development, State of Lower Saxony

Torsten Schlurmann, Member of the DAM Executive Board, Head of the Ludwig Franzius Institute of Hydraulic, Estuarine and Coastal Engineering, Leibniz University Hannover

Keynote

James Morrison, Director, Healthy Planet, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

Panel Discussion

Moderation

James Morrison

Bronwyn Cahill, Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research

Estradivari, Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research

Helmke Hepach, GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel

Sabine Horn, Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research

Katrin Kleemann, German Maritime Museum, Leibniz Institute for Maritime History

Dennis Oberrecht, Lower Saxony Department for Water, Coastal and Nature Conservation

Lucas Porz, Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon

Christian Windt, Technical University of Braunschweig

Final Remarks

Torsten Schlurmann

Networking Reception



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