

*Address for HSH the Prince  
Arrival of London  
Monaco, 27th September 2016*

Dear friends,

Although environmental protection often brings its fair share of bad news and difficult times, fortunately it sometimes offers welcome and unexpected opportunities too. Such is the case of our meeting today and the pleasure I have in welcoming you to Monaco at the end of this 1.500 km journey, which is the result of a unique blend of lucidity, originality and determination.

At the beginning of your initiative, there was a clear awareness of the tragic situation of our oceans, of the overfishing which is depleting them, of the pollution damaging them and of the global warming weakening them. There was the concern that these beautiful and mighty expanses - so vital for us – will be threatened in their future.

Such awareness is particularly important for me and for the whole of the Principality of Monaco which, as you have seen, has always had its eyes turned towards the sea.

Whether with my Government or my Foundation, whether through our local action or at UN level, whether through education efforts with the Oceanographic Museum or by raising the awareness of the business community, we are doing everything we possibly can to save our seas.

Because in order to combat the dangers hanging over the marine environment, the involvement of each and every one of us is essential. That is why we need to mobilize opinion as widely as possible, to alert our contemporaries and to convince the undecided...

How? By every means possible, including the one you have chosen.

Your adventure is a particularly unique and pleasant way of drawing attention and, to a greater extent, of raising awareness. Above all it is a way of demonstrating that everyone can do something.

You have thus set an example. Every single kilometer you covered since setting off from the Tower of London was felt, I think, in your legs. Remember that this will also bear weight on the resources used by the Blue Marine Foundation to promote our seas...

That is why I was keen to welcome and congratulate you today on your commitment. On behalf of the Blue Marine Foundation whose outstanding work I greatly appreciate. And more importantly on behalf of all our seas which so badly need you.

Thank you and well done!