

Table S3. Recent key initiatives in Greece in support of insular regions

Legislative Action	Description
Law 4582/2018 [108]	Defines a range of alternative tourism forms and the way these should be implemented in the Greek tourism scenery. Cultural tourism, as an experienced-based form, is considered quite beneficial for the country's tourism product.
Law 4688/2020 [110]	Offers a specific reference and detailed description of diving activity, unleashing opportunities for enriching the tourism product by natural and cultural underwater routes.
Law 4875/2021 [111]	Through this legislation, the concept of the "Prototype Integrated Management Tourist Destinations" is introduced as a label to identify destinations that fulfil a number of quantitative and qualitative criteria. As such are considered the: natural and cultural wealth, accessible services and infrastructure, fruitful ground for the development of alternative forms of tourism, to name a few. Responsible for implementing such a process is the local municipality in cooperation with expert teams and organisations.
Law 4770/2021 [112]	Sets forward an integrated maritime policy in the islands' area that: takes into account the uniqueness of the Greek archipelago and the inseparable relationship between islands and the marine world; considers the particular social, economic and environmental dimensions of islands and their diversity across distinct island contexts; captures the critical developmental issues of small and remote islands; is combined with Integrated Maritime Planning (IMP) in the insular territory; and constitutes the first National Policy Directions with an emphasis on the Greek islands [113].
National Climate Law 4936/2022	Islands play a prominent role in achieving climate neutrality and energy transition goals set for 2030 and 2040. Through the strategic GRECO Islands initiative [114], islands are perceived as laboratories of energy autonomy, overcoming drawbacks of intermittent energy supply. Additionally, protection of the islands' natural and cultural environment as well as promotion of the tourism sector and the blue economy is predicted [115: Article 21].
Common Ministerial Decision 92225/2022 [74]	Opening of 91 shipwrecks to the diving community – promotion of the underwater cultural heritage as a valuable cultural resource.
National Maritime Strategy (NMS) 2022 [116]	NMS is currently in the process of being evaluated and finalized. Within this policy, emphasis is placed on the strong relationship between the islands' land and the marine environment; and its importance when it comes to local and regional sustainable development. Transportation, energy autonomy and environmental protection constitute key priorities when it comes to insular regions. In addition, UCH is considered as a resource that can add value to cultural tourism, contributing to the sustainable development in island regions.

Source: Own elaboration