



PRESS RELEASE OF 21 MARCH 2025

**ASSOPORTI and ASSOLOGISTICA ANNOUNCE THE SIGNING
OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND
TRANSPORTATION**

Rome, March 21, 2025 - Assoporti, the Association of Italian Ports, and Assologistica, the Italian Association of Logistics Companies, general warehouses, and refrigerated storage, as well as Port, Interport, and Airport Terminal Operators, have today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Florida Department of Commerce, the Florida Department of Transportation, and the Florida Port Council. This agreement aims to promote cooperation between Florida's ports, facilitating international trade and improving logistics operations. A U.S. mission had previously visited Italy last November, led by Florida Governor Ron DeSantis. During discussions with Assoporti in Rome and Assologistica in Milan, the signing of a Protocol of Understanding was agreed upon.

The MOU provides for the exchange of information and best practices, the promotion of customs procedure optimization, and collaboration with universities to develop training programs that meet the needs of the maritime sector. Assoporti and Assologistica are ready to embark on this new adventure and work alongside our American partners to ensure a future of greater collaboration for the supply chains of both countries.

"We are very pleased with this path, which is based on shared intentions of collaboration and growth. We are confident that dialogue among operators is essential, especially at this historical moment," stated Assologistica President Umberto Ruggerone. "During our mission in Florida in April, there will be an opportunity to delve into the specifics of the individual themes and projects managed by the working groups outlined in the agreement."

After the signing, the President of Assoporti emphasized, "I consider the initiation of collaboration with Florida's ports an excellent outcome for Italian ports, which have always strived to establish information exchanges and expedite processes in search of new markets, reinforcing the role of port operations in the new global competition. We have all worked together to find common points of interest for both ports and logistics, and today we are launching this activity. At the Seatrade Cruise Global

ITALIAN
PORTS
ASSOCIATION



Fair in Miami, we will have the opportunity to kick off the activities of the already scheduled working group, starting with the exchange of best practices. Naturally, the agreement can be implemented with other sector memberships."