

**BY**  
GIUDITTA VENDRAMÉ

**CATEGORY**  
AGENCY

**#**  
#CITIZENSHIP, #HIGH SEAS,  
#TOS, PUBLIC SPACE

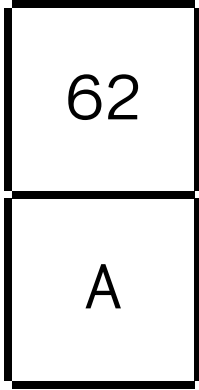
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[traderstalk.org/contribution/what-is-the-purpose-of-your-visit-a-journey-towards-to-the-high-seas](http://traderstalk.org/contribution/what-is-the-purpose-of-your-visit-a-journey-towards-to-the-high-seas)

## “WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR VISIT? – A JOURNEY TOWARDS TO THE HIGH SEAS”

“What is the purpose of your visit? – A journey towards to the high seas” is a performative response within an ongoing research on the complex relations between the state, the individual and the territory. It addresses and questions the concept of citizenship today.

In May 2015 I undertook a fourteen-hour journey on a fishermen boat in the Mediterranean sea, departing from the southernmost village of Italy reaching the high seas, defined by UNCLOS (United Nation Convention on the Law of the Sea) as a portion of sea where no State can claim sovereignty. The purpose of this journey is the collection of fifty litres of international water, which I transported to the Netherlands (Eindhoven, Maastricht, Amsterdam) as first destinations.

This symbolic gesture suggests a spatial opportunity. A moving portion of high seas becomes a temporary exception zone, like an embassy without nationality. I intend the high seas as a zero degree space, where it might be possible to re-imagine the relations between state, individual and territory, and therefore citizenship status.



# DISCUSSION

## *“WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR VISIT? – A JOURNEY TOWARDS TO THE HIGH SEAS”*

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