

## **IslaLink and Elettra announce the construction of the IONIAN system**

IslaLink, an independent telecom fibre infrastructure platform owned by Fiera Infrastructure, and Elettra, a fully owned subsidiary of Orange announced today the construction of the IONIAN submarine cable system.

The IONIAN submarine cable will connect Crotona, Italy, with Preveza, Greece. The submarine infrastructure will be complemented by two terrestrial fibre rings connecting the system to the cities of Milan and Rome in Italy and Athens and Thessaloniki in Greece.

The system will offer a high capacity, reliable, international fibre route linking Athens with Milan. This new connectivity will support the growth of ultra-broadband services in Greece and the development of Athens and Thessaloniki as regional hubs for cloud, content and telecommunication services. IONIAN will offer wholesale capacity, optical spectrum and dark fibre to telecommunication operators and content providers.

“IONIAN is a natural step in the expansion of IslaLink”, said Esther Garcés, CEO of IslaLink. “IONIAN leverages on our experience in the development of new subsea projects and in providing best-in-class services to our customers. We believe the Greek broadband market is bound for growth in the coming years, and firmly believe Athens will become a regional hub for cloud services. IslaLink wants to contribute to this growth by bringing a modern, state-of-the-art, high-capacity international system to the market that will service the needs of operators and content providers on an independent and neutral basis”.

Didier Dillard, President of Elettra added: “Bringing enhanced connectivity through the installation of new submarine cables is one of our main missions, sometimes we do it on the other side of the Earth, but sometimes we do it close to our home country. This will be the case for the IONIAN cable, and we are very pleased and proud to contribute to this project working with IslaLink, with our marine survey and marine installation capabilities. ”



**About Fiera Infrastructure:**

Fiera Infrastructure is a leading global mid-market direct infrastructure investor operating across all subsectors of the infrastructure asset class. Led by a team of highly experienced and specialized professionals, the firm leverages strong global relationships, with a local presence in Toronto, London and New York. Its rigorous approach to investment and asset management aligns with its long-term approach. Fiera Infrastructure has assets under management and commitments of C\$2.7 billion as at March 31, 2021. Fiera Infrastructure has invested in 41 infrastructure assets across utilities, telecommunications, transportation, renewables and PPPs. For further information, please visit <http://www.fierainfrastructure.com>

**About IslaLink**

Headquartered in Madrid, Spain, IslaLink is an independent and neutral fibre infrastructure provider, specialized in submarine fibre-optic cables and related activities. IslaLink provides fibre infrastructure in and around the Balearic Islands, operating the only route-redundant fibre infrastructure connecting Mallorca and Ibiza with the Spanish mainland, as well as a terrestrial fibre ring in Mallorca, providing local operators with neutral and independent fibre infrastructure services. For further information, please visit <http://www.islalink.com>

**About Elettra**

Elettra Tlc SpA is an Italian company, based in Rome and belonging to the Orange Group. Elettra is specialised in marine works related to optical submarine cable systems: marine installation, cable maintenance, and oceanographic surveys are its core business using its fleet of cable ships and survey vessel, as well as the provision of “Turn Key” submarine cable system solutions. Since 1996 Elettra has successfully carried out more than 100,000 km of marine surveys and 72,000 km of marine installation for the main world players. For further information, please visit <http://www.elettratlc.it>.