

Invitation Maritime Salute



28 April 2026, 09.30 hrs. Augusta, Sicily

Dear <personalize>

The board of the Michiel de Ruyter Foundation cordially invites you to attend a maritime salute and the unveiling of a commemorative plaque on Tuesday, 28 April 2026, in Augusta, Sicily.

This salute commemorates the Battle of Augusta during which Dutch Lieutenant Admiral-General Michiel Adriaenszoon de Ruyter was wounded and eventually died in the Bay of Syracuse on 29 April 1676. We commemorate his enduring legacy as a leader in international maritime cooperation, religious tolerance and selfless use of his capacities as a naval commander for the defence of freedom. The mutual respect shown by all participants will be central in this commemoration.

After his death aboard his flagship Eendragt, De Ruyter's body was embalmed and transported to the Netherlands, where he was laid to rest in the Nieuwe Kerk in Amsterdam with full state honours. His entrails, however, were buried in Syracuse, close to the location where he died—an act of dignity and respect by the local authorities and the Church. The Battle of Augusta and subsequent death of De Ruyter have bound the cities of Augusta, Syracuse and the Netherlands in a shared history.

PROGRAM MARITIME SALUTE TUESDAY APRIL 28, 2026, AUGUSTA

09.00 hrs.	Arrival of VIP's at City Hall Augusta
09.30 hrs.	Welcome at Conference Hall "Adm Giuseppe Fioravanzo"
10.00 hrs.	Symposium providing maritime perspectives, unveiling plaque at Maritime Commando
11.00 hrs.	Official "Maritime Salute to Admiral de Ruyter for the Battle of Agosta"
12.00 hrs.	End of program at Augusta.

R.S.V.P.

We kindly ask you to confirm your attendance by emailing the Chair of the Board and descendent, Ir. Frits de Ruyter de Wildt at stichting@deruyter.org

We look forward to welcoming you in Augusta.

With kind regards,

The Board of the Michiel de Ruyter Foundation

Ir. Frits de Ruyter de Wildt – Chair

Robert Kruijt – Treasurer

Martijn de Ruijter de Wildt – Secretary

Graddy Boven – Historian

Roeland Elias – Member

Marijne de Ruyter de Wildt – Member

VADM ret. Matthieu Borsboom – Member extraordinaire

Dress code: respectful (full-size insignia)



EQUALITY

RESPECT

BAND OF HEARTS