

**Review of the paper entitled:**

**New insights into the organic carbon export in the Mediterranean Sea from 3-D modeling.**

**Manuscript Number: Biogeosciences Discuss., 12, C3234-C3236, 2015**

From the editor's recommendation and from the authors' answer to it I see that this manuscript is now in the 3<sup>rd</sup> review stage. I am myself a physical oceanographer and from this fact and the fact that the manuscript was already reviewed several times, I consider necessary now to prove if all objections of the reviewers and the editor were incorporated. This has indeed been done. Also English writing was improved so that the manuscript is clearly readable. But one objection still remains, which was claimed by both reviewers and which I also think, is critical: the manuscript is much too long. In my opinion this is not only a technical objection but it makes the manuscript only interesting for a small group of researchers as it is going into detail too much concerning biogeochemical modeling. A solution can be, to split the paper into two: one describing the technics and reliability of the model and one describing the results and consequences for the Mediterranean Sea.

I recommend the paper to be worthwhile for publication but with the restriction that the paper is too long. It should be left to the editor, if he thinks that it is relevant in its present form for publication in the journal.