



**INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION  
MARITIME KNOWLEDGE CENTRE (MKC)**

*“Sharing Maritime Knowledge”*

**CURRENT AWARENESS BULLETIN  
AUGUST 2023**

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**MARPOL AT 50**  
OUR COMMITMENT GOES ON

## About the MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)

The aim of the **MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)** is to provide a digest of news and publications focusing on key subjects and themes related to the work of IMO. Each CAB issue presents headlines from the previous month. For copyright reasons, the *Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)* contains brief excerpts only. Links to the complete articles or abstracts on publishers' sites are included, although access may require payment or subscription.

The *MKC Current Awareness Bulletin* is disseminated monthly and issues from the current and the past years are free to download from this [page](#).

[Email us](#) if you would like to receive email notification when the most recent Current Awareness Bulletin is available to be downloaded.

The *Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)* is published by the Maritime Knowledge Centre and is not an official IMO publication. Inclusion does not imply any endorsement by IMO.

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## **IMO NEWS & EVENTS**

### **WHAT'S NEW**

#### **World Maritime Day 28 September 2023**

The World Maritime Day 2023 will take place on 28 September 2023. This year's World Maritime theme is "MARPOL at 50 – Our commitment goes on". [More...](#)

#### **IMO-UNEP-Norway Innovation Forum - 28 September 2023**

Topics will include: Environmental performance; reducing plastic litter from ships; supporting innovation in marine fuel production; decarbonizing the maritime sector; unlocking green finance; and partnerships and collaboration. [More...](#)

#### **Workshop on the Relationship between Energy Efficiency and Underwater Radiated Noise from Ships - 18-19 September**

The workshop seeks to engage participants who work in the greenhouse gas (GHG) and underwater radiated noise (URN) technical, regulatory and policy spaces, to include wide participation from industry with practical experience implementing both GHG/emissions reductions programs as well as those who are interested in or involved in reducing URN. [More...](#)

### **MEETING SUMMARIES AND SCHEDULE**

#### **Previous Meetings**

[IMO Council \(C 129\)](#) 17-21 July 2023

[Sub-Committee on Implementation of IMO Instruments \(III 9\)](#) 31 July – 4 August 2023

#### **Forthcoming Meetings**

Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC 9) 20-29 September 2023

Consultative Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Convention 1972 (LC 45)) and Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Protocol 1996 (LP 18)) 2-6 October 2023

Technical Cooperation Committee (TC 73) 16-20 October 2023

[Programme of Meetings for 2023](#) 

## UNITED NATIONS

**With Overwhelming Support, General Assembly Adopts Two Resolutions on New Oceans Biodiversity Treaty.** *United Nations*. 1 August 2023. Available from:

<https://press.un.org/en/2023/ga12520.doc.htm> The General Assembly today adopted two resolutions — including one on entry into force of a previously adopted agreement on the oceans and conservation of biodiversity — while rejecting an amendment proposed by the Russian Federation that would have deleted three critical paragraphs of the text.

**UN pushes disarmament talks amid fears that drums of nuclear war are beating again.**

*UN News*. 5 August 2023. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/08/1139442>

In a message to mark the 78th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Mr. Guterres urged the international community to learn from the “nuclear cataclysm” that befell the Japanese city on 6 August 1945.

**Yemen: UN concludes removal of one million barrels of oil from decaying tanker.**

*UN News*. 11 August 2023. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/08/1139687>

UN Secretary-General António Guterres welcomed the news of the successful transfer of oil aboard the *FSO Safer* to a replacement vessel, thus “avoiding what could have been a monumental environmental and humanitarian catastrophe.”

## CASUALTIES

**Ship Fire Began in Decks Where Cars Stored, Says Salvage Firm.** Sarah Jacob and Cagan Koc. *Bloomberg*. 3 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/ship-fire-began-in-decks-where-cars-stored-says-salvage-firm-1.1954553> The nearly week-long fire that ravaged a ship off the Dutch coast started in the upper decks where some cars were stored, according to the chief executive of the company handling salvage operations.

**Ukraine sea drone attack damages Russian tanker in the Black Sea near Crimea.** *Euronews*. 5 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/2023/08/05/ukraine-sea-drone-attack-damages-russian-tanker-in-the-black-sea-near-crimea> 🇺🇦 Ukraine launches second sea drone attack in 24 hours as Russia confirms one of its tankers was damaged in the Black Sea near occupied Crimea.

**Sanctioned Russian tanker hit in drone attack south of Kerch Strait.** Richard Meade. *Lloyd's List*. 5 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146159/> A Russia-flagged product tanker has been hit by a suspected naval drone south of the Crimean Bridge in the latest attack targeting shipping in the Black Sea.

**One dead as tugboat sinks in Suez Canal after colliding with tanker.** Zeinab El-Gundy. *Ahram Online (Egypt)*. 6 August 2023. Available from: <https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/1235/506087/Egypt/Urban--Transport/One-dead-as-tugboat-sinks-in-Suez-Canal-after-coll.aspx> One crewmember had died after their tugboat sank following a collision with the LPG tanker *China Gas Legend* in the Suez Canal, Chairman of the Suez Canal Authority (SCA) Osama Rabie said on Saturday.

**Russia promises retaliation after Ukrainian drones hit a Russian tanker in 2<sup>nd</sup> sea attack in a day.** Hanna Arhirova. *Associated Press*. 6 August 2023. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-drones-black-sea-crimea-d6ab9c0d71fe9d3d95e1af5953fe8d8a> Moscow promised retaliation Saturday after Ukrainian drones hit a Russian tanker in the Black Sea near Crimea late Friday, the second sea attack involving drones in one day.

**Hundreds of cars still intact onboard fire-damaged *Fremantle Highway*.** Bojan Lepic. *Splash 247.com*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/hundreds-of-cars-still-intact-onboard-fire-damaged-fremantle-highway/> Regardless of the fire that raged on for days on the *Fremantle Highway* car carrier, reports now claim that some of its cargo is undamaged.

**Major fire on *Fremantle Highway* could have been prevented, expert says.** *NL Times (Netherlands)*. 13 August 2023. Available from: <https://nltimes.nl/2023/08/13/major-fire-fremantle-highway-prevented-expert-says> The major fire on the cargo ship *Fremantle Highway* could have been prevented with the right extinguishing system on board, at least that's what Cor Meedendorp, director of FIFI4Marine, claims.

**Fire on container ship brought under control within two hours.** Farik Zolkepli. *The Star (Malaysia)*. 13 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2023/08/13/fire-on-container-ship-brings-under-control-within-two-hours> The fire on board *MV KMTC Shenzhen* was under control within two hours after rescuers arrived on the scene.

**Firefighters ‘trained extensively’ in handling ship blazes, Newark Fire Department says.**

Michael Juliano. *TradeWinds*. 14 August 2023. Available from:

<https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ports/firefighters-trained-extensively-in-handling-ship-blazes-newark-fire-department-says/2-1-1496762> The Newark Fire Department considers itself adequately trained to fight fires that erupt on ships in port, despite the US Coast Guard’s plan to consider further training after a vessel blaze aboard in early July caused the death of two firefighters.

**Passenger ferries in close encounter.** Dennis O’Neill. *Marine Professional (IMarEST)*.

15 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/troublespot/6939-passenger-ferries-in-close-encounter> In March 2022, two large passenger ferries became engaged in a close-quarters incident a short way outside Rosslare Harbour, Co. Wexford, Ireland, which saw the vessels passing within 100m of each other at a combined closing speed of around 17 knots.

**Engine room fire on LPG carrier *Moritz Schulte* with loss of 1 life.** *UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB)*. 17 August 2023. Available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/maib-reports/engine-room-fire-on-lpg-carrier-moritz-schulte-with-loss-of-1-life> On 4 August 2020, a fire broke out in the engine room of the liquefied petroleum gas/ethylene carrier *Moritz Schulte* when the recently promoted third engineer opened an auxiliary engine’s pressurised fuel filter allowing marine gas oil to spray onto an adjacent auxiliary engine’s hot exhaust.

[MAIB investigation report 4/2023: \*Moritz Schulte\*](#) 

**Inadequate crew training led to LPG carrier death, says MAIB.** Richard Clayton. *Lloyd’s List*.

17 August 2023. Available from:

<https://lloydlist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146295/Inadequate-crew-training-led-to-LPG-carrier-death-says-MAIB> Inadequate training and a lack of supervision led to the death of a third engineer in an engine room fire on the liquefied petroleum gas/ethylene carrier *Moritz Schulte* (IMO: 9220794), according to a Marine Accident Investigation Branch report.

**Gas *Venus* tanker captain charged following oil spill.** *Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation*.

21 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gbc.gi/news/gas-venus-tanker-captain-charged-following-oil-spill> The captain of the *Gas Venus* tanker has appeared at the Magistrates’ Court following the oil spill in the Bay earlier this month.

**Two crew feared dead after fire engulfs product tanker off China.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*.

23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/two-crew-feared-dead-after-fire-engulfs-product-tanker-off-china/2-1-1505401> Flames and smoke enveloped the *Sheng You 229* on Tuesday in the Gulf of Tonkin.

**SCA - Adm. Rabiee: “We’ve immediately handled the breakdowns sustained by an LNG carrier and a tanker..”** *Suez Canal Authority (SCA)*. 23 August 2023. Available from:

[https://www.suezcanal.gov.eg/English/MediaCenter/News/Pages/Sca\\_23-8-2023.aspx](https://www.suezcanal.gov.eg/English/MediaCenter/News/Pages/Sca_23-8-2023.aspx)

Adm. Ossama Rabiee, Chairman and Managing Director of the Suez Canal Authority, has announced that the SCA’s maritime salvage tugboats have successfully immediately handled the navigational emergencies and technical failure sustained by an LNG carrier and a tanker during their transit through the Canal amongst the north convoy in the early morning hours of Wednesday.

**Singapore-Flagged Tanker On Move Again After Running Aground in Suez Canal.**

Dan Murtaugh. *Bloomberg*. 23 August 2023. Available from:

<https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/singapore-flagged-tanker-on-move-again-after-running-aground-in-suez-canal-1.1962304> A Singapore-flagged LNG tanker is under way using its engines after earlier running aground in the Suez Canal, according to vessel-tracking data compiled by Bloomberg.

**Two missing after cargo ship capsizes off western Japan.** *Japan Times*. 25 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2023/08/25/japan/ship-collision-wakayama/> Two crew members from a cargo ship are missing after the vessel capsized late Thursday off Wakayama Prefecture following a collision with another freighter, the coast guard said Friday.

**Cruise ship carrying thousands of Britons crashes into oil tanker in Mallorca.** *Euronews*. 28 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/2023/08/28/cruise-ship-carrying-thousands-of-britons-crashes-into-oil-tanker-in-mallorca> A 300-metre-long tourist cruise ship moored in the Spanish port of Palma de Mallorca collided with an oil tanker on Sunday due to strong winds.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**Regional Taskforce meets to tackle biofouling.** *Pacific Islands News Association (PINA)*. 1 August 2023. Available from: <https://pina.com.fj/2023/08/01/regional-taskforce-meets-to-tackle-biofouling/> Biofouling, which refers to the accumulation of organisms such as algae, barnacles, and mollusks on the surfaces of structures submerged in water, poses serious economic and environmental risks to Pacific communities.

**Atlantic orcas 'learning from adults' to target boats.** Victoria Gill and Kate Stephens. *BBC News*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-66384045> A strange, dangerous game of targeting and ramming into small sailing and fishing boats is spreading through a population of orcas off Spain's coast.

**July 2023 confirmed as hottest month on record.** *World Meteorological Organization (WMO)*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://public.wmo.int/en/media/news/july-2023-confirmed-hottest-month-record> The monthly climate monitoring reports from the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service, the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and NASA confirm the extraordinary pace of climate change as a result of heat-trapping greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

**Efforts underway to free entangled whale off Fremantle coast, south of Perth.** Cason Ho. *ABC (Australia)*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-08-09/whale-entangled-fremantle-south-of-perth/102709796> Authorities are attempting to rescue an entangled humpback whale off the coast of Fremantle, south of Perth.

**The desperate race to create a protection zone around the rapidly melting Arctic.** Jimmy Thomson. *The Guardian*. 11 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/aug/11/polar-challenge-as-the-sea-ice-melts-can-countries-come-together-to-protect-the-arctic-ocean> When the Arctic explorer Pen Hadow had to start swimming from ice floe to ice floe, rather than walking, he experienced for himself what scientists and Indigenous peoples of the north have long known: the floating sea ice, which used to reliably cover the Arctic Ocean for most of the year, is disappearing.

**Our oceans are the warmest in recorded history. This is why it's so concerning.** Nicole Mortillaro. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/science/oceans-explainer-1.6937010> And just like when we run a fever, it's indicative that something is very wrong.

**Extreme weather is the “new norm”.** *World Meteorological Organization (WMO)*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://public.wmo.int/en/media/news/extreme-weather-new-norm> Heatwaves are baking large parts of the northern hemisphere, fuelling unprecedented wildfires and disrupting marine ecosystems.

**Protecting sea life from the perils of shipping.** *Green Business Journal*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://greenbusinessjournal.co.uk/protecting-sea-life-from-the-perils-of-shipping/> Tech company Orca AI uses advanced military techniques to help keep global waterways – and potentially marine life – safer and sustainable.

**Investigation underway following sailors shooting at Orcas in the Strait.** *Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC)*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gbc.gi/news/investigation-underway-following-sailors-shooting-orcas-strait> 🗣️ Sailors who appeared to shoot at Orcas in the Strait of Gibraltar have been stopped and searched by Spanish authorities.

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

**Marine Litter: replacing Ghana’s fish stock with plastics.** *Laudia Sawer. Ghana News Agency*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://gna.org.gh/2023/07/marine-litter-replacing-ghanas-fish-stock-with-plastics/> At first glance, it looks like some mudfish swimming in an aquaculture farm are coming to the surface of the water to take their share of feed thrown into the water, but a closed look at the sea water heading towards the shore brings the reality home.

**Port responds to oil spill incident in bay - 512/2023.** *Government of Gibraltar*. 1 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gibraltar.gov.gi/press-releases/port-responds-to-oil-spill-incident-in-bay-5122023-9098> The Captain of the Port has suspended operations at the Gibraltar Port this morning following an oil spill incident in the bay.

**Aerosols: are SO2 emissions reductions contributing to global warming?** *Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS)*. 1 August 2023. Available from: <https://atmosphere.copernicus.eu/aerosols-are-so2-emissions-reductions-contributing-global-warming> 🗣️ The question of whether reduced aerosol loading contributes to global warming is not new to atmospheric scientists, but it has recently resurfaced with the extreme heatwaves across the North Atlantic and many areas of Europe.

**ESG laments consequences of oil spill for marine life.** *Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC)*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gbc.gi/news/esg-laments-consequences-oil-spill-marine-life> 🗣️ The Environmental Safety Group says it is shocked at the latest oil spill, barely days after the departure of the OS35.

**Captain of oil spill gas tanker arrested.** *Gabriella Peralta. Gibraltar Chronicle*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.chronicle.gi/captain-of-oil-spill-gas-tanker-arrested/> The captain of a gas tanker involved in an oil spill in the Bay of Gibraltar on Tuesday has been arrested, the Royal Gibraltar Police confirmed on Wednesday morning.

**Japan eyes Fukushima water release between late Aug. and early Sept.** *Kyodo News (Japan)*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2023/08/eb2a7336ae80-urgent-japan-eyes-fukushima-water-release-between-late-aug-and-early-sept.html> Japan is considering beginning the release of treated radioactive water from the Fukushima nuclear power plant into the sea between late August and early September, even though local fishermen and some countries remain opposed to the plan, government sources said Monday.

**Plastic litter in oceans overestimated but could persist longer than expected, study suggests.** Linnea Pedersen. *Phys.org*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://phys.org/news/2023-08-plastic-litter-oceans-overestimated-persist.html> There is less plastic littering the ocean than scientists previously thought, but what is there could persist for a long time, a new study said Monday.

**Not out of this world: The danger posed by invasive species.** Henrylito D. Tacio. *Manila Bulletin*. 11 August 2023. Available from: <https://mb.com.ph/2023/8/11/not-out-of-this-world-the-danger-posed-by-invasive-species> Cargo ships and other large vessels have a special hidden compartment called a ballast tank. These are empty when the ship is loaded with cargo.

**Restoration begins in Louisiana years after the world's largest marine oil spill, but will it work?** *Euronews*. 11 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/green/2023/08/11/restoration-begins-in-louisiana-years-after-the-worlds-largest-marine-oil-spill-but-will-i> Works are underway to restore damage done by the world's biggest marine oil spill in 2010, but rising sea levels are likely to complicate efforts.

**Japan to begin contentious Fukushima radioactive water release Aug. 24.** Satoshi Iizuka. *Kyodo News (Japan)*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2023/08/392c38447ad6-japan-to-formally-decide-on-start-date-for-fukushima-water-release.html> Japan will start releasing treated radioactive water from the crippled Fukushima nuclear power plant into the sea on Thursday, weather conditions permitting, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said, despite concerns among local fishermen and persistent opposition from China.

**Pacific Islands Forum remains silent on Fukushima issue.** Vijay Narayan. *Fiji Village*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.fijivillage.com/news/Pacific-Islands-Forum-remains-silent-on-Fukushima-issue-fxr548/> The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat remains silent on Japan's planned dumping of the Fukushima treated nuclear wastewater – which is expected to start as early as tomorrow.

**S. Koreans condemn Japan's nuke wastewater dumping decision.** *Xinhuanet (China)*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://english.news.cn/20230823/533b63f3c6724677ab97aec87492b138/c.html> South Korean activists and politicians on Tuesday condemned Japan's decision to start dumping nuclear-contaminated wastewater from the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant into the ocean later this week.

**Reaction to Japan's release of water from Fukushima nuclear plant.** *Reuters*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/reaction-japans-release-water-fukushima-nuclear-plant-2023-08-24/> Here are some reactions to Japan's release of treated radioactive water from its destroyed Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant on Thursday.

**China bans seafood from Japan after the Fukushima nuclear plant begins its wastewater release.** Mari Yamaguchi. *Associated Press*. 25 August 2023. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/japan-fukushima-nuclear-radioactive-water-release-04d2423accd508e57afcd9e1eb6714ab> The tsunami-wrecked Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant has begun releasing its first batch of treated radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean — a controversial step that prompted China to immediately ban seafood from Japan.

**Tritium not detected in samples from waters off Fukushima plant.** *Kyodo News (Japan)*. 25 August 2023. Available from: <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2023/08/dd0369255f12-seawater-sampling-stepped-up-day-after-fukushima-water-release.html> No detectable amount of tritium was found in seawater samples taken from off the site of the wrecked Fukushima nuclear power plant, where Japan began disposing of treated radioactive water into the nearby sea, the plant's operator said Friday.

**Despite Pacific territories' concerns, U.S. backs Japan's nuke water discharge.** *Pacific Islands News Association (PINA)*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://pina.com.fj/2023/08/29/despite-pacific-territories-concerns-u-s-backs-japans-nuke-water-discharge> Pacific island nations and territories must stick together to hold the Japanese government accountable for any consequences that might result from its release of advanced liquid processing system-treated water from the Fukushima power plant into the Pacific Ocean, Guam Lieutenant Governor Josh Tenorio said.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

**'Food poisoning' causes emergency Brittany Ferry diversion as ambulances rush to scene.** *ITV News (UK)*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/2023-08-08/ambulances-rush-to-diverted-brittany-ferry-after-food-poisoning-incident> A passenger ferry travelling from Spain to Plymouth has been forced to divert following a "food poisoning" incident.

**COVID-19: WHO tracking EG.5 'variant of interest'.** *UN News*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/08/1139617> "The risk remains of a more dangerous variant emerging that could cause a sudden increase in cases and deaths," he said.

**TALKING POINT: Healthy, enjoyable food for all on board.** *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2023/talking-point-healthy-enjoyable-food-for-all-on-board> We all know how vital good, tasty food is to seafarers – it is something that always comes up when seafarers are surveyed.

## IMO

**UCL students visit at the IMO.** *All About Shipping*. 3 August 2023. Available from: <https://allaboutshipping.co.uk/2023/08/03/ucl-students-visit-at-the-imo/> 50 international UCL students of Dr. Evangelos Markopoulos, studying International Business and Strategic Management & Leadership attended, as observers, the III (Implementation of IMO Instruments) meeting on July 31st 2023, at the headquarters of the IMO, the Temple of International Shipping, at the south bank of Father Thames, diagonally opposite the Parliament.

**Government inertia continues to hold back casualty investigation reform.** Richard Meade. *Lloyd's List*. 4 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146157> A second attempt to overhaul widespread failures by flag states to adequately investigate serious casualties started to work its way through the International Maritime Organization this week.

**Is the IMO Turning the Tide on Transition?** Emmy Hawker. *ESG Investor*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.esginvestor.net/is-the-imo-turning-the-tide-on-transition/> With global trade highly dependent on shipping, achieving net zero may put wind in the sails of other industries' climate ambitions.

**FPCL aims to become the “Smart Green Gateway”.** John Mitchell. *Fiji Times*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.fijitimes.com/fpcl-aims-to-become-the-smart-green-gateway/> Fiji Ports Corporation Limited recently had the pleasure of hosting a delegation from the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC).

**Ukraine formalises alternative shipping corridor through Romanian waters at IMO.** Eric Priante Martin. *TradeWinds*. 25 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/bulkers/ukraine-formalises-alternative-shipping-corridor-through-romanian-waters-at-imo/2-1-1507112> Ukraine has filed a letter with the International Maritime Organization formalising an alternative route for shipping after Russia pulled out of the Black Sea Grain Initiative.

## **LAW & POLICY**

**Climate litigation more than doubles in five years, now a key tool in delivering climate justice.** *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*. 27 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/climate-litigation-more-doubles-five-years-now-key-tool-delivering> The total number of climate change court cases has more than doubled since 2017 and is growing worldwide. [Global Climate Litigation Report: 2023 Status Review](#)

**WTO issues 2023 edition of the World Trade Statistical Review.** *World Trade Organization*. 31 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news23\\_e/stat\\_31jul23\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news23_e/stat_31jul23_e.htm) The World Trade Statistical Review 2023 presents recent trends in international trade at a time of geopolitical and macroeconomic strains and technological challenges affecting the global economy and supply chains. [WTO Statistical Review 2023](#)

**Unified platform for transport and logistics sector to accelerate Saudi Arabia’s digital transformation.** *Arab News (Saudi Arabia)*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2347326/business-economy> To facilitate the ease of doing business, Saudi Arabia’s transport and logistics activities will be unified under the digital platform Logisti.

**ASEAN launches inaugural edition of ASEAN Maritime Outlook at 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF).** *Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)*. 1 August 2023. Available from: <https://asean.org/amo/> ASEAN Maritime Outlook 2023 takes stock of the ongoing cooperation efforts undertaken by ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, mechanisms, and processes dealing with various aspects of maritime-related issues. [ASEAN Maritime Outlook 2023](#)

**Seychelles hosts meeting on ocean governance.** *Seychelles Nation*. 1 August 2023 Available from: <https://www.nation.sc/articles/18780/seychelles-hosts-meeting-on-ocean-governance> A six-day meeting to enhance ocean governance in the western Indian Ocean is taking place at the Savoy Seychelles Resort and Spa since Sunday.

**Türkiye will continue ‘intense’ efforts for resumption of Black Sea grain deal: President Erdogan.** Diyar Guldogan. *Anadolu Agency (Türkiye)*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/politics/turkiye-will-continue-intense-efforts-for-resumption-of-black-sea-grain-deal-president-erdogan/2959854> Türkiye will continue to carry out “intense” efforts and diplomacy for the resumption of the Black Sea grain deal, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told his Russian counterpart on Wednesday.

**MoCCAE organises workshop on national strategy for sustainability of marine environment and fisheries.** *Emirates News Agency (UAE)*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://wam.ae/en/details/1395303183435> As part of the Year of Sustainability and in preparation for COP28, the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MoCCAE) held a workshop to develop the national strategy for the sustainability of the marine environment and fisheries.

**Four-year saga comes to an end as operator pleads guilty in *Hibernia* oil spill case.** Melisa Cavcic. *Offshore Energy*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/four-year-saga-comes-to-an-end-as-operator-pleads-guilty-in-hibernia-oil-spill-case/> In July 2022, the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board laid three charges against Hibernia Management and Development Company for alleged offences related to a spill of petroleum from the *Hibernia* platform in the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador offshore area on 17 July 2019.

**Gender Considerations at the Maritime Task Force.** *United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://unifil.unmissions.org/gender-considerations-maritime-task-force> Only 5% of the 627 peacekeepers on board UNIFIL's Maritime Task Force ships are women.

**Maritime stakeholders back unbundling of transport ministry.** Godwin Oritse. *Vanguard (Nigeria)*. 3 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2023/08/maritime-stakeholders-back-unbundling-of-transport-ministry/> Following the hints of moves by the Federal Government to restructure the Ministry of Transport, maritime stakeholders have said an unbundled Ministry will not only enhance the growth of the industry, it will also improve the implementation of directives and policies.

**EPA Settles with World's Third Largest Shipping Container Company over Claims of Clean Water Act Violations.** Michael Brogan. *US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)*. 3 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-settles-worlds-third-largest-shipping-container-company-over-claims-clean-water> The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has settled with CMA CGM, the world's third largest shipping container company, over claims of violations of EPA's Vessel General Permit issued under the Clean Water Act.

**Forging Maritime Partnerships: Sierra Leone's Progressive Push for the Blue Economy.** *News Ghana*. 4 August 2023. Available from: <https://newsghana.com.gh/forging-maritime-partnerships-sierra-leones-progressive-push-for-the-blue-economy/> In the wake of a successful electoral season, the dynamic Maritime Chief, Mr. Paul Sobba Massaquoi, wasted no time returning to action, leaving a significant impact on the annual general conference of the Regional Maritime University (RMU).

**Turkish army appoints first female admiral.** *Hurriyet Daily News (Türkiye)*. 4 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-army-appoints-first-female-admiral-185249> The Supreme Military Council has appointed Staff Colonel Gökçen Fırat, hailing from the Naval Forces Command, as the Turkish Armed Forces' first female admiral in its history.

**€11 million worth of cocaine found on ship at Freeport.** *Times of Malta*. 6 August 2023. Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/11-million-worth-cocaine-found-ship-freeport.1048039> Ninety-seven kilograms of cocaine with a market value of €11 million have been intercepted by the police and customs in a joint operation.

**Geneva Declaration on Human Rights at Sea Commentary Issued.** *Human Rights at Sea*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/news/geneva-declaration-human-rights-sea-commentary-issued> The Geneva Declaration on Human Rights at Sea (the Declaration) is a civil society initiated soft law instrument designed to bring greater legal certainty and clarity to the emerging topic and narrative of 'human rights at sea', itself intimately linked to the protection of all persons at sea without exception. [Commentary](#) 

**As climate crisis alters their lands, Indigenous Peoples turn to the courts.** *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/climate-crisis-alters-their-lands-indigenous-peoples-turn-courts> The territory of the Wet'suwet'en Indigenous Peoples sits in the shadows of Canada's snow-capped western Coast Mountains.

**Ship's Operator, Captain, and Chief Engineer Sentenced for Environmental Crimes Aboard a Rhode Island-Bound Oil Tanker.** *US Department of Justice*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ri/pr/ships-operator-captain-and-chief-engineer-sentenced-environmental-crimes-aboard-rhode> The Greek company that owned and operated the *Galissas*, its captain, and chief engineer were each sentenced in U.S. District Court in Rhode Island today for environmental crimes committed in February 2022, announced U.S. Attorney Zachary A. Cunha.

**Metals bosses enjoy front row seat at UN deep-sea mining negotiations.** Matteo Civillini. *Climate Home News*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2023/08/08/deep-sea-mining-isa-kingston-lobbying-the-metals-company/> Climate Home News identified at least 33 executives and employees of companies directly involved in the nascent deep-sea mining industry on the list of state delegations at the International Seabed Authority (ISA) annual meeting.

**ICJ extends submission deadline for Advisory Opinion on climate change.** Sanjeshni Kumar. *Pacific Islands News Association (PINA)*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://pina.com.fj/2023/08/09/icj-extends-submission-deadline-for-advisory-opinion-on-climate-change/> A new timeline has been approved by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for written statements and comments on the landmark Advisory Opinion on the legal responsibilities of countries fighting climate change.

**Oil spill gas tanker released from detention after operator pays £1.5m bond.** *Gibraltar Chronicle*. 10 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.chronicle.gi/oil-spill-gas-tanker-released-from-detention-after-operator-pays-1-5m-bond/> The gas tanker that leaked fuel oil into the Bay of Gibraltar last week during a bunkering operation was released from detention on Thursday and allowed to sail from the Rock after its operator deposited a £1.5m bond to cover clean-up costs.

**Paris prosecutors take over investigation into migrant Channel deaths.** *France 24*. 13 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20230813-paris-prosecutors-take-over-investigation-into-migrant-channel-deaths> Prosecutors in the channel port of Boulogne opened an investigation on Saturday, hours after the tragedy, but the investigation was switched to Paris, officials in both offices told AFP.

**The Black Sea's role in Russia's war on Ukraine.** Thomas Latschan. *Deutsche Welle (Germany)*. 13 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.dw.com/en/the-black-sea-plays-a-key-role-in-russias-war-on-ukraine/a-66517223> Since the end of the grain deal between Russia and Ukraine, both countries have increased attacks on each other's merchant ships on the Black Sea.

**19 arrests for smuggling migrants within the EU.** *EUROPOL*. 13 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/19-arrests-for-smuggling-migrants-within-eu> An investigation led by the Spanish National Police (Policía Nacional), supported by Europol and involving the German Federal Police (Bundespoleizei) led to the dismantling of an organised crime group facilitating the secondary movements of irregular migrants from Spain to Germany and Norway.

**Kyiv's plan to use abandoned ships to move grain in trouble.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 14 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/bulkers/kyiv-s-plan-to-use-abandoned-ships-to-move-grain-in-trouble/2-1-1500563> A plan hatched last week by Ukraine to use vessels remaining trapped at its Black Sea ports to ship grain looks like it would have access to a limited amount of tonnage.

**Montana judge hands young plaintiffs significant victory in landmark climate trial.** Ella Nilsen. *CNN*. 14 August 2023. Available from: <https://edition.cnn.com/2023/08/14/us/montana-kids-win-climate-trial/index.html> A Montana judge handed a significant victory on Monday to more than a dozen young plaintiffs in the nation's first constitutional climate trial, as extreme weather becomes more deadly and scientists warn the climate crisis is eroding our environment and natural resources.

**Africa's rise as a global supply chain force: UNCTAD report.** *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*. 16 August 2023. Available from: <https://unctad.org/news/africas-rise-global-supply-chain-force-unctad-report> African economies can become major participants in global supply chains by harnessing their vast resources of materials needed by high-technology sectors and their own growing consumer markets, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said in its Economic Development in Africa Report 2023 launched today in Nairobi. [Economic Development in Africa Report 2023](#)

**Rainbow Warrior sails Pacific seeking evidence for World Court climate case.** Sera Sefeti. *Pacific Islands News Association (PINA)*. 16 August 2023. Available from: <https://pina.com.fj/2023/08/16/rainbow-warrior-sails-pacific-seeking-evidence-for-world-court-climate-case/> International environmental campaign group Greenpeace's flagship *Rainbow Warrior* is currently sailing across the Pacific, calling at ports and collecting evidence to present to the International Court of Justice - the World Court - during a historic hearing in The Hague next year.

**UN climate summit host UAE failed to report methane emissions to UN.** Damian Carrington. *The Guardian*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/aug/17/un-climate-summit-host-uae-failed-report-methane-emissions> The United Arab Emirates, which will run the crucial Cop28 UN climate summit in December, has failed to report its emissions of the powerful greenhouse gas methane to the UN for almost a decade, the Guardian can reveal.

**Channel migrants: France arrests four people over fatal sinking.** Tom Symonds and Kathryn Armstrong. *BBC News*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-66538638> Four people have been arrested and charged with involuntary manslaughter in France following the fatal sinking of a migrant boat in the Channel.

**Dutch court rules huge carbon capture project can go ahead.** Bart Meijer. *Reuters*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/construction-major-dutch-carbon-storage-project-can-continue-high-court-2023-08-16/> The Netherlands' highest court on Wednesday ruled that construction of a major carbon capture project in the Rotterdam port area can go ahead, despite objections by environmental activists.

**Court dismisses complaint seeking to block Fukushima water release.** Choi Si-young. *Korea Herald (South Korea)*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20230817000582> The Busan District Court on Thursday dismissed a complaint seeking to block Japan from releasing its wastewater from the destroyed Fukushima nuclear power plant, saying the court has no jurisdiction to review the case.

**As Washington celebrates law offering climate dollars, shipping has yet to apply.** Eric Priante Martin and Sean Pribyl. *TradeWinds*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/esg/as-washington-celebrates-law-offering-climate-dollars-shipping-has-yet-to-apply/2-1-1502878> © The Biden Administration has been celebrating the one-year anniversary of the Inflation Reduction Act, the US law that included some \$783bn in spending on green energy and climate change.

**Pacific Environment Commends Governor Newsom for Action on Shipping, Port Decarbonization.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/pacific-environment-commends-governor-newsom-for-action-on-shipping-port-decarbonization/> Governor Gavin Newsom and The Honorable Dr. Kevin Rudd, Australia's Ambassador to the United States, announced a new climate partnership between California and Australia.

**Special envoy urges Pacific nations to 'ratify and implement' oceans agreements.** Samantha Magick. *Islands Business (Fiji)*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://islandsbusiness.com/news-break/special-envoy-urges-oceans-agreements/> The United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean says while great strides have been made towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG14) on sustainable ocean management and conservation, the focus now needs to be on ratification and implementation.

**Republic of Philippine Navy Assumes Command of Multinational Counter-Piracy Task Force.** *Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://combinedmaritimeforces.com/2023/08/21/republic-of-philippine-navy-assumes-command-of-multinational-naval-task-force-counter-piracy-middle-east/> The Republic of Philippine Navy assumed command of a multinational counter-piracy task force during a change-of-command ceremony Aug. 21 at the U.S. Navy base here.

**US Coast Guard charges engineer with sexual assault on Maersk ship as Justice declines to prosecute.** Eric Priante Martin. *TradeWinds*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/us-coast-guard-charges-engineer-with-sexual-assault-on-maersk-ship-as-justice-declines-to-prosecute/2-1-1505065> The US Coast Guard has filed sexual assault charges against a marine engineer accused in the high-profile Midshipman X case that shined a light on risks to cadets at sea, although the development means he has avoided criminal prosecution in the case.

**Ocean Vessel Operator Pleads Guilty, Agrees to Pay \$2 Million for Marine Environmental Crimes.** *US Department of Justice*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/ocean-vessel-operator-pleads-guilty-agrees-pay-2-million-marine-environmental-crimes> Ocean vessel operating company Zeaborn Ship Management (Singapore) PTE. LTD. (Zeaborn) pleaded guilty to maintaining false and incomplete records relating to the discharge of oily bilge water and garbage on board the vessel *Star Maia*.

**The Legal Fight Over Deep-Sea Resources Enters a New and Uncertain Phase.**

Daniel Rosenberg. *EJIL:Talk! Blog of the European Journal of International Law*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.ejiltalk.org/the-legal-fight-over-deep-sea-resources-enters-a-new-and-uncertain-phase/> The past month was a flashpoint in the future of deep-sea exploitation – a future inexorably linked to the transition to a decarbonized economy.

**Biden Trims Gulf Oil Lease Area to Protect Rare Whale Habitat.** Jennifer A. Dlouhy. *Bloomberg*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/biden-trims-gulf-oil-lease-area-to-protect-rare-whale-habitat-1.1962748> The Biden administration plans to auction 67 million acres in the Gulf of Mexico for oil and gas development in a lease sale next month, cutting 9% from the initial proposal.

**MARINA vows to lobby measures key to improving PH maritime sector.** Jel Santos.

*Manila Bulletin*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://mb.com.ph/2023/8/24/marina-vows-to-lobby-measures-key-to-improving-ph-maritime-sector> During the recently concluded three-day mid-year performance assessment and planning conference, the agency pledged to lobby for the Amendment of RA 9295 or the Domestic Shipping Development Act of 2004; Shipbuilding Ship Repair Development Act; Philippine Ship Registry Act; and the Maritime Industry Act to amend Presidential Decree No. 474.

**New global biodiversity fund launched in Vancouver.** *Global Environment Facility (GEF)*.

24 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/new-global-biodiversity-fund-launched-vancouver> In good news for nature in a challenging moment, representatives of 185 countries agreed at the Global Environment Facility's Seventh Assembly in Canada to launch an innovative new fund for biodiversity that will attract funding from governments, philanthropy, and the private sector.

**Spain Makes Record Cocaine Seizure in Reefer Boxes Arriving From Ecuador.** *Maritime Executive*.

25 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/spain-makes-record-cocaine-seizure-in-reefer-boxes-arriving-from-ecuador> Spanish authorities are reporting the largest cocaine seizure in the history of the country was made earlier this week in refrigerated containers arriving from Ecuador.

**Advancing sustainability: The EU's drive for cleaner maritime operations.** Hafsa Shafiq.

*Power Engineering International (PEI)*. 28 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.powerengineeringint.com/emissions-environment/shore-to-ship-power-systems-eu-drive-for-cleaner-maritime-operations/> The European Union has embarked on an inspiring path that advocates for the adoption of shore-to-ship power systems in the maritime sector.

**U.S. and Republic of Palau sign agreement to strengthen ties with new chapter in maritime security and stewardship in the Pacific.** *United States Coast Guard*.

29 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.news.uscg.mil/Press-Releases/Article/3507950/us-and-republic-of-palau-sign-agreement-to-strengthen-ties-with-new-chapter-in/> As part of a continued commitment to enhancing maritime governance and promoting regional sovereignty, representatives of the United States and the Republic of Palau signed an expanded bilateral law enforcement agreement on Aug. 23, 2023, on the sidelines of the Joint Heads of Pacific Security conference in Palau.

**Magistrates' Court fines Gas Venus captain £20,000 following oil spill.** *Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC)*.

29 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gbc.gi/news/magistrates-court-fines-gas-venus-captain-20000-following-oil-spill> The captain of the *Gas Venus* tanker has been fined £20,000 after the vessel spilled thousands of litres of oil earlier this month during a bunkering operation.

**A new *Titanic* expedition is planned. The US is fighting it, says wreck is a grave site.**

Ben Finley. *Associated Press*. 30 August 2023. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/titanic-expedition-rmst-marconi-radio-ce027ac27d8f4804304b5f33fa471dda> The U.S. government is trying to stop a planned expedition to recover items of historical interest from the sunken *Titanic*, citing a federal law and an international agreement that treat the shipwreck as a hallowed gravesite.

## MARINE TECHNOLOGY

**Striving towards paperless global trade.** *Digital Container Shipping Association (DCSA)*.

25 July 2023. Available from: <https://dcsa.org/newsroom/resources/striving-towards-paperless-global-trade/> Imagine a world with a seamlessly digital sustainable supply chain where all parties from shippers to carriers, financiers, freight forwarders and beyond collaborate for efficiency, the best customer experience and reduced environmental impact.

**Implications of an e-fuel mandate for UK shipping.** *Transport & Environment*. 31 July 2023.

Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/discover/implications-of-an-e-fuel-mandate-for-uk-shipping/> In 2021, UK shipping used almost 7 million tonnes of fossil marine fuel oil, and produced almost one fifth of all UK transport emissions. [Briefing](#) 

**Feasibility study for the development of a software tool to support Member States on oil pollution response operations at sea.** *European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)*. 31 July 2023.

Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/mu3shuns> This report is the result of an external study to evaluate the feasibility of the development of an enhanced tool to support Member States in their preparedness and operational decision-making process of mobilising and deploying oil pollution response resources at sea. [Report](#) 

**'World-class' study highlights CCUS potential for North Sea 'super basin'.** *University of Aberdeen*.

31 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/news/22148/> A research study led by the University of Aberdeen has identified areas of a North Sea gas 'super basin' with the greatest potential for storing industrial carbon emissions, a key aim of the energy transition.

**Blending biofuel with conventional marine fuel shown to improve CII ratings.** Richard Halfhide

and Panos Koutsourakis. *Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA)*. 3 August 2023. Available from: <https://rina.org.uk/publications/the-naval-architect/blending-biofuel-with-conventional-marine-fuel-shown-to-improve-cii-ratings/> With reporting of data in compliance with the IMO's Carbon Intensity Indicator (CII) regulation well underway, shipowners and operators are focused on how to optimise their operations and gain improvement in CII ratings.

**MOL joins GCMD as Impact Partner to accelerate decarbonisation in maritime industry.**

*Global Centre for Maritime Decarbonisation (GCMD)*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gcformd.org/post/mol-joins-gcmd-as-impact-partner-to-accelerate-decarbonisation-in-maritime-industry> The Global Centre for Maritime Decarbonisation (GCMD) and Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Ltd. (MOL) announced today the signing of a five-year Impact Partnership agreement.

**OCIMF's Transition to Digitalised Tanker Inspections Gathers Pace.** *Hellenic Shipping News*.

9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/ocimfs-transition-to-digitalised-tanker-inspections-gathers-pace/> The Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF) has successfully completed the first phase of the 'four-phased' roll-out and testing of the digitalised tanker inspection regime, SIRE 2.0, which will replace all existing SIRE inspections for tankers.

**Crowley, Port of San Diego Celebrate Groundbreaking for All-Electric Tugboat Charging Station.** *Crowley Maritime*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/5e3287ce>  
The charging station is a microgrid charging facility that will allow vessels to recharge quickly while reducing peak loads on the community energy grid.

**Issuance of ‘Research Report of Material Compatibility for Liquid Hydrogen Storage on Marine Application’.** *Korean Register*. 9 August 2023. Available from: [https://www.krs.co.kr/eng/Exclusive/Tech\\_ETC\\_View.aspx](https://www.krs.co.kr/eng/Exclusive/Tech_ETC_View.aspx) Interest in low-carbon and carbon-free fuels is increasing to decarbonize shipping within this century and major developed countries are pushing for a hydrogen economy to meet their carbon-neutral goals. [Report](#) 📄

**Korean Gov’t Launches CCS R&D Project in East Sea’s Ulleung Basin.** Yoon Young-sil. *Business Korea (South Korea)*. 14 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.businesskorea.co.kr/news/articleView.html?idxno=120235> As the importance of carbon neutrality has been growing globally, major Korean companies are focusing on the carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) business.

**GCMD’s third biofuel supply chain trial involves inline tracer dosing and onboard blending.** *Global Centre for Maritime Decarbonisation (GCMD)*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gcfomd.org/post/gcmd-s-third-biofuel-supply-chain-trial-involves-inline-tracer-dosing-and-onboard-blending> 📄 The Global Centre for Maritime Decarbonisation (GCMD) successfully bunkered the third supply chain of a biofuel blend as part of its pilot to develop a quality, quantity and GHG abatement assurance framework for drop-in green fuels on 24 July.

**UK legislation will boost global eBL uptake, says DCSA.** James Baker. *Lloyd’s List*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146262/UK-legislation-will-boost-global-eBL-uptake-says-DCSA> The UK’s Electronic Trade Documents Act, which received Royal Assent last month, may not look like an obvious game changer for global trade.

**IBIA on Mass Flow Meters: ‘The Benefits Have Been Proven’.** Siti Noraini Zaini. *Ship & Bunker*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/985201-ibia-on-mass-flow-meters-the-benefits-have-been-proven> IBIA supports greater transparency in the bunker sector, with the Coriolis Mass Flow Meter (“MFM”) as one of the solutions.

**Pioneering wind-powered cargo ship sets sail.** Tom Singleton. *BBC News*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-66543643> A cargo ship fitted with giant, rigid British-designed sails has set out on its maiden voyage.

**Factbox: Shipowners, port operators ramp up methanol-fuelling projects.** Carman Chew and Jeslyn Lerh. *Reuters*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/shipowners-port-operators-ramp-up-methanol-fuelling-projects-2023-08-21/> Interest in methanol as an alternative fuel has grown in the shipping industry, which seeks to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

**Generative AI likely to augment rather than destroy jobs.** *International Labour Organization (ILO)*. 21 August 2023. Available from: [https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS\\_890740/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_890740/lang--en/index.htm) Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) is more likely to augment than destroy jobs by automating some tasks rather than taking over a role entirely, a new study from the International Labour Organization (ILO) has found. [Study](#) 📄

**World's largest battery vessel gives shipping a glimpse of possible electric future.** Adis Ajdin. *Splash 247.com*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/worlds-largest-battery-vessel-gives-shipping-a-glimpse-of-possible-electric-future/> The world's largest battery-driven ship is under construction in Australia, in a breakthrough for decarbonising global shipping.

**Use of Internal Azure OpenAI Chatbot Based on Azure OpenAI Service Begins in Japan.** *Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, Ltd ("K" LINE)*. 28 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.kline.co.jp/en/news/other/other6107068682684437586/main/0/link/230828EN.pdf>  Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, Ltd. ("K" LINE) is pleased to announce that in Japan it has today started using Alplicity Chat Powered by ChatGPT API (hereinafter "Alplicity Chat") provided by Japan Business Systems, Inc. across "K" LINE offices in Japan.

**South Korea takes the next step forward in autonomous shipping.** Adis Ajdin. *Splash 247.com*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/south-korea-takes-the-next-step-forward-in-autonomous-shipping/> The shipping industry has taken another important step towards the era of unmanned ships with the delivery of an LNG-powered capesize bulk carrier in South Korea fitted with artificial intelligence (AI)-based machinery monitoring and safety systems.

**When blue fuels masquerade as green.** Andrew Craig-Bennett. *Splash 247.com*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/when-blue-fuels-masquerade-as-green/> Andrew Craig-Bennett questions who's going to properly certify the origins of all these new fuels hitting the market.

**Ocean-based negative emissions technologies: A governance framework review.** *Phys.org*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://phys.org/news/2023-08-ocean-based-negative-emissions-technologies-framework.html> The ocean will play a key role in efforts to tackle the climate crisis, according to scientists and IPCC.

**Wärtsilä offers onboard carbon capture and storage feasibility studies.** *Wärtsilä Corporation*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.wartsila.com/media/news/29-08-2023-wartsila-offers-onboard-carbon-capture-and-storage-feasibility-studies-3315848> Technology group Wärtsilä is now offering carbon capture and storage (CCS) feasibility studies to shipowners and operators, in another milestone on its journey to research, develop and bring to market maritime CCS technologies.

## **MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING**

**WMU and Japan boost strategic partnership on global maritime and oceans education, research and capacity building.** *World Maritime University (WMU)*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.wmu.se/news/wmu-and-japan-boost-strategic-partnership-on-global-maritime-and-oceans-education-research-and-capacity-building> In a courtesy call on 29 June with Dr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, President Mejia personally thanked Chairman Sasakawa for the long-standing support WMU has received from the Foundation since 1987.

**Welcome on board – Hapag-Lloyd welcomes 69 new apprentices.** *Hapag-Lloyd*. 1 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.hapag-lloyd.com/en/company/press/releases/2023/07/hapag-lloyd-welcomes-69-new-apprentices.html> Today, 69 young men and women are starting their training at Hapag-Lloyd in Hamburg.

**Understanding autonomous and remote-controlled shipping can dispel job loss fears.**

*Riviera Maritime*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/understanding-autonomous-and-remote-controlled-shipping-can-dispel-job-loss-fears-77201>

With a dedicated 18-year tenure in the Coast Guard, Mr Conde has built a solid foundation in regulatory compliance, ensuring safety and environmental protection within the maritime industry.

**Setting crew welfare priorities: Industry should not expect from seafarers to be more resilient than others.**

Steven Jones. *Safety4Sea*. 3 August 2023. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-setting-crew-welfare-priorities-industry-should-not-expect-from-seafarers-to-be-more-resilient-than-others/> In this regard, training on cutting-edge technologies and alternative fuels is essential, coupled with a strategic plan and clear communication.

**Combating Maritime Corruption through WMU Curriculum.** *World Maritime University (WMU)*.

4 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.wmu.se/news/combating-maritime-corruption-through-wmu-curriculum> On 3 July, the Maritime Business Integrity and Corruption Awareness (CORA) Seminar took place at WMU in partnership with the Maritime Anti-Corruption Network (MACN), a global business network working towards the vision of a maritime industry free of corruption.

**Seafarers to benefit from enhanced oil and gas training.** *Kaieteur News (Guyana)*.

15 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.kaieteurnews.com/2023/08/15/seafarers-to-benefit-from-enhanced-oil-and-gas-training/> With the aim of offering enhanced training to seafarers and upgrading the country's workforce, Guyana's premier maritime training school – the Atlantic Alliance Maritime and Offshore Training Institute (AAMOTI) – inked an MoU with a Dominican Republic-based University.

**There's no training facility for Port State Control officers in West, Central Africa — Umoren.**

*Ships & Ports*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://shipsandports.com.ng/theres-no-training-facility-for-port-state-control-officers-in-west-central-africa-umoren/> The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships, Ballast Water and Sediments is used to prevent the spread of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ship ballast water from one region to the other.

**Nigeria signs MoU with 16 countries on seafarers' certificate recognition.** Adaku Onyenucheya.

*Guardian (Nigeria)*. 16 August 2023. Available from: <https://guardian.ng/business-services/nigeria-signs-mou-with-16-countries-on-seafarers-certificate-recognition/> The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) have disclosed that it signed memorandum of understandings (MoUs) with 16 countries in three years on the recognition of Certificate of Competency (CoC) and Training of seafarers.

**RMU, GMA launch Train-the-Trainer course on maritime safety.** Mabel Awuku. *GhanaWeb*.

16 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/regional/RMU-GMA-launch-Train-the-Trainer-course-on-maritime-safety-1826072> The Regional Maritime University (RMU) has inaugurated the Train-the-Trainer Course on the Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping Course for Fishers (STCW-F) course.

**Disney Wish Becomes a Classroom for Bahamian Students.** *Cruise Industry News*.

21 August 2023. Available from: <https://cruiseindustrynews.com/cruise-news/2023/08/disney-wish-becomes-a-classroom-for-bahamian-students/> The Disney Wish served as a classroom for a group of Bahamian students who embarked on the ship to learn first-hand about careers at sea from Disney Cruise Line crew members.

**Sailors' Society Maritime Schools' Conference gives new insight into Gen Z seafarers.**

*Sailors' Society*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.sailors-society.org/news/sailors-society-maritime-schools-conference-gives-new-insight-into-gen-z-seafarers> Sailors' Society has launched its 2023 Maritime Schools' Conferences with record numbers of cadets and new insight into the minds of Generation Z seafarers.

**Liberian Registry establishes 'The Yoram Cohen Memorial Scholarship' at WMU.**

Michele Labrut. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/regulation/liberian-registry-establishes-yoram-cohen-memorial-scholarship-wmu>

The scholarship will promote wide-ranging research in maritime and ocean-related studies, focusing on areas such as safe decarbonisation of international shipping, innovation and seafarer safety and well-being.

**UNODC empowers female officers in maritime law enforcement with pioneering vessel navigation training.**

*United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)*. 25 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/frontpage/2023/August/unodc-empowers-female-officers-in-maritime-law-enforcement-with-pioneering-vessel-navigation-training.html> In a historically male-dominated field such as maritime law enforcement, female officers face various difficulties in their mundane operations that eventually also transpire to limitations on their career prospects.

**Sierra Leone maritime administration partners RMU to train seafarers.**

*Business Ghana*. 26 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.businessghana.com/site/news/news/292587/General> The Ag. Vice Chancellor of the Regional Maritime University (RMU), Dr. Jethro W. Brooks Jnr. has signed a memorandum of understanding with Sierra Leone Maritime Administration (SLMA) in its bid to strengthen maritime education across member countries and within the sub region.

**Ro-ro owners need to retool training regimes around fire safety, experts say.**

Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 30 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/ro-ro-owners-need-to-retool-training-regimes-around-fire-safety-experts-say/2-1-1509212> Ro-ro owners need to step up training of on board firefighting to combat new threats from electric vehicle fires.

**Seamanship – not dying, but dynamic.**

*Nautical Institute*. 30 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.nautinst.org/resources-page/free-article-seamanship-not-dying-but-dynamic.html> The Nautical Institute Webinar report : Seamanship is not dying but dynamic, concluded a recent Nautical Institute webinar to mark the launch of the latest edition of The Admiralty Manual of Seamanship.

**WMU President Maximo Mejia seeks better balance among students.**

Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 30 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146429/> Professor Maximo Mejia Jr, who assumed office in June as the eighth president of the World Maritime University, based in Malmö, Sweden, has set out his key aspirations for the future of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)-supported university.

## MARITIME SAFETY

### **Joint Concentrated Inspection Campaign on Fire Safety.** *Tokyo MOU on Port State Control.*

1 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tokyo-mou.org/doc/Press%20release%20on%202023%20CIC%20on%20Fire%20Safety-p.pdf>

The Member Authorities of the Tokyo and the Paris Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) on Port State Control will launch a joint Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on Fire Safety.

### **Insurers demand names of dozens of newbuildings fitted with potentially unsafe fire panels.**

David Osler and Rob Willmington. *Lloyd's List*. 2 August 2023. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146121/> Marine insurers are demanding the names of all ships fitted with a specific type of fire-resistant panel manufactured by Finland's Paroc, following the withdrawal of its safety certification.

### **Urgent review of STCW fire safety training needed after Fremantle Highway blaze, says Stream Marine Training.** *Ship Management International*. 3 August 2023. Available from:

<https://shipmanagementinternational.com/urgent-review-of-stcw-fire-safety-training-needed-after-fremantle-highway-blaze-says-stream-marine-training/> Leading safety maritime training provider Stream Marine Training has called for an urgent need for updated fire safety training following the death of a seafarer in the *Fremantle Highway* blaze last week.

### **Indonesia, Singapore, and Malaysia discuss shipping safety.** *Antara News (Indonesia)*.

4 August 2023. Available from: <https://en.antaranews.com/news/290250/indonesia-singapore-and-malaysia-discuss-shipping-safety> The Indonesian Transportation Ministry's Directorate General of Sea Transportation, along with the Singaporean and Malaysian governments, conducted a discussion to increase safety of navigation and maritime protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS).

**Means of embarkation and disembarkation from ships in port.** *Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)*. 11 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/about/regulations-and-standards/202306-means-embarkation-and-disembarkation-ships-port> Accessing a vessel while at berth or anchor is a routine activity which is sometimes taken for granted.

**Romania Reports Mine Explosion as Efforts Seek to Expand Ukrainian Exports.** *Maritime Executive*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/romania-reports-mine-explosion-as-efforts-seek-to-expand-ukrainian-exports> Romanian's Navy and Coast Guard confirmed that they believe a wayward mine exploded on the country's seaside on Monday not far from the primary port of Constanta.

**Annual CIC has extra edge as ship fire safety levels deteriorate.** Nick Savvides. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ship-operations/annual-cic-has-extra-edge-ship-fire-safety-levels-deteriorate> As the burnt-out hull of the *Fremantle Highway* settles in the Dutch port of Eemshaven the Paris and Tokyo Memoranda of Understanding are collaborating to inspect the fire safety arrangements on the world's fleet over a period of three months starting on 1 September.

**S. Korea calls on N. Korea to withdraw plan to launch satellite.** Song Sang-ho. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20230822000754325> South Korea's foreign ministry on Tuesday called on North Korea to abandon its plan to launch a satellite, as the North reportedly notified Japan of its plan to put a satellite into orbit in the coming days.

**S. Korea issues maritime safety warnings over N.K. satellite launch plan.** Oh Seok-min. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20230822004351320> South Korea on Tuesday issued a navigational warning for vessels over North Korea's planned launch of a satellite later this month.

**Application of human factors principles essential to help lower risks of ammonia as a shipping fuel.** *Lloyd's Register*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/knowledge/insights-articles/application-of-human-factors-principles-essential-to-help-lower-risks-of-ammonia-as-a-shipping-fuel/> A joint study by the LR Maritime Decarbonisation Hub and the Mærsk Mc-Kinney Møller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping has found that while the shipping industry is able to build upon existing experience with using low-flashpoint fuels and transporting ammonia as cargo, it is critical that the various safety risks, including those associated with human factors, are understood so that appropriate operational and design safeguards can be put in place. [Human Factors Considerations: Ammonia Fuel End-of-Stage Report](#) 

**Top UN aid official in Ukraine deplores latest wave of 'massive Russian attacks'.** *UN News*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/08/1140007> Denise Brown issued a statement deploring this "new wave of massive Russian attacks", and appealed for the violence to end.

**Reputation management lies behind failure to report safety incidents.** Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146347/> A 2020 survey found 95.5% of seafarers thought near-misses should be reported, but just 38.5% reported each observed near-miss.

**Missed opportunities? Enhancing maritime safety through the EU's 2023 maritime package.** Christian Bueger, Jan Stockbruegger and Vonintsoa Raffaly. *Safe Seas*. 25 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.safeseas.net/eu-maritime-safety/> The European Union is a major player in ensuring the safety of marine transport.

## **MARITIME SECURITY**

**EU to share maritime security info with PH amid rising tensions in Indo-Pacific.** *CNN Philippines*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2023/7/31/eu-commits-sharing-info-on-maritime-security.html> European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said the European Union (EU) is ready to extend more assistance to the Philippines, including sharing data to beef up its maritime security, as she warned that the illegal use of force in the Indo-Pacific cannot be tolerated.

**Britain extends weapons removal deadline for floating armouries.** Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds*. 1 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/britain-extends-weapons-removal-deadline-for-floating-armouries/2-1-1493584> The British government has extended a deadline for removing 3,000 weapons from three unlicensed floating armouries following a possible Russian sanctions breach after the industry warned that the plan was unworkable.

**MPA cautions Singapore-registered ships while operating off Coast of West Africa.** *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 3 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/mpa-cautions-singapore-registered-ships-while-operating-off-coast-of-west-africa/> There have been ongoing security concerns for ships operating off the coast of West Africa, including the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) due to piracy and hijacking incidents.

**US military may put armed troops on commercial ships in Strait of Hormuz to stop Iran seizures.** Lolita C. Baldor and Jon Gambrell. *Associated Press*. 4 August 2023. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/persian-gulf-tensions-us-armed-guards-57295a81dc45c9e0755bd6a83ece86d9>

The U.S. military is considering putting armed personnel on commercial ships traveling through the Strait of Hormuz, in what would be an unheard of action aimed at stopping Iran from seizing and harassing civilian vessels, American officials told The Associated Press on Thursday.

**Ukraine sea drone strike triggers warning of new Black Sea shipping threat.** Thomas Harding. *The National (UAE)*. 4 August 2023. Available from:

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/europe/2023/08/04/ukraine-sea-drone-strike-triggers-warning-of-new-black-sea-shipping-threat/> Worldwide shipping will have to take new measures to ward off kamikaze sea drone attacks following the use of the weapons in Ukraine's war against Russia, naval experts have told The National.

**Royal Navy warship assists West African nations with maritime security.** *Royal Navy*.

4 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/news-and-latest-activity/news/2023/august/04/230804-trent-in-africa> A Royal Navy warship has deployed to West Africa to deliver training to countries across the region, aiding the fight against maritime crime, including piracy and armed robbery.

**Shipowners keep their cool in wake of Black Sea drone strikes.** Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds*.

7 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/shipowners-keep-their-cool-in-wake-of-black-sea-drone-strikes/2-1-1497238> Seaborne drone attacks on a Russian naval vessel and product tanker are unlikely to herald a campaign against commercial shipping but may dissuade owners from joining the lucrative trade from the country's Black Sea oil ports, analysts said on Monday.

**U.S. Forces Arrive to Support Deterrence Efforts at Strait of Hormuz.** *US Department of Defense*.

7 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/3485733/> Sailors and Marines with the Navy's Bataan Amphibious Ready Group and the 26<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit arrived in the Middle East yesterday as part of a pre-announced deployment to support deterrence efforts in the Strait of Hormuz and elsewhere, said Pentagon Press Secretary Air Force Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder.

**3,000 Sailors and Marines Arrive in Middle East aboard *USS Bataan*, *USS Carter Hall*.**

*United States Navy*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.navy.mil/Press-Office/News-Stories/Article/3484776/> More than 3,000 U.S. Sailors and Marines of the Bataan Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) and 26<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) arrived in the Middle East, Aug. 6, as part of a pre-announced Department of Defense deployment.

**Ghana hosts ECOWAS Inter-Departmental meeting to check illicit maritime activities.**

*Ghana News Agency*. 10 August 2023. Available from: <https://gna.org.gh/2023/08/ghana-hosts-ecowas-inter-departmental-meeting-to-check-illicit-maritime-activities/> Ghana is hosting an inter-departmental meeting of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to dissect the draft Supplementary Act aimed at suppressing illicit maritime activities in the sub-region.

**Warning Issued Over Increase in Sea Robberies in Singapore Strait.** *Maritime Executive*.

10 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/warning-issued-over-increase-in-sea-robberies-in-singapore-strait> The monitoring and reporting organization ReCAAP based in Singapore is reporting four incidents in the past three days with a strong increase in incidents so far in 2023.

**Video Shows Russians Boarding Neutral Freighter in the Black Sea.** *Maritime Executive.*

14 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/video-shows-russians-boarding-neutral-freighter-in-the-black-sea> 📺 A new video from the freighter *Sukro Okan* appears to show the moment that a Russian boarding team flew onto the ship by helicopter.

**UNOWAS, UNOCA and UNODC support the Development of Action Plans for the Evaluation of the Code of Conduct and Architecture of the Gulf of Guinea Maritime Security.** *United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS).*

16 August 2023. Available from: <https://unowas.unmissions.org/unowas-unoca-and-unodc-support-development-action-plans-evaluation-code-conduct-and-architecture> The United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel, the United Nations Office for Central Africa and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, supported the organization of a meeting whose objective was to develop action plans to evaluate the provisions and strategies of the Yaoundé Code of Conduct.

**Republic of Philippine Navy Assumes Command of Multinational Counter-Piracy Task Force.** *United States Navy.*

21 August 2023. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/ruh3txah> The Republic of Philippine Navy assumed command of a multinational counter-piracy task force during a change-of-command ceremony Aug. 21 at the U.S. Navy base here.

**Indonesia Is Becoming a Center of Excellence in the Fight Against Maritime Crime.**

*United Nations Indonesia.* 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://indonesia.un.org/en/243355-indonesia-becoming-center-excellence-fight-against-maritime-crime> As the Indonesian Coast Guard's dinghy buzzed the fishing vessel's starboard side, sea spray arced from the green glassy waters of the Singapore Strait.

**Royal Saudi Navy Assumes Command of Combined Task Force 152.** *US Naval Forces Central Command.*

27 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.cusnc.navy.mil/Media/News/Display/Article/3506455/royal-saudi-navy-assumes-command-of-combined-task-force-152/> The Royal Saudi Navy assumed command of a multinational naval task force focused on maritime security in the Arabian Gulf during a ceremony here, Aug. 27.

**MMEA in joint exercise with US to enhance maritime security in region.** *Fuad Nizam.*

*New Straits Times (Malaysia).* 28 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2023/08/948310/mmea-joint-exercise-us-enhance-maritime-security-region-nsttv> 📺 The Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) is ramping up efforts for maritime enforcement preparedness and operations through a joint exercise with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) in the South China Sea.

**ReCAAP Holds Industry Dialogue on Robberies in Singapore Strait.** *Maritime Executive.*

28 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/corporate/recaap-holds-industry-dialogue-on-robberies-in-singapore-strait> In early August, the ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) held a dialogue with representatives of global and regional shipping associations, as well as shipping companies based in Singapore and Malaysia.

**Ghana leads Gulf of Guinea nations to discuss maritime security.** *Stephen Asante and Christiana Afua Nyarko.*

*Ghana News Agency.* 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://gna.org.gh/2023/08/ghana-leads-gulf-of-guinea-nations-to-discuss-maritime-security/> President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo has advised nations within the Gulf of Guinea to put premium on issues relating to maritime security and safety.

## MIGRANTS

**At least 16 people killed in refugee shipwrecks off North Africa.** *Al Jazeera*. 7 August 2023.

Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/8/7/at-least-16-people-killed-in-refugee-shipwrecks-off-north-africa> At least 16 people have died in shipwrecks off Tunisia and Western Sahara as North Africa faces a spike in Europe-bound sea crossings.

**Save lives, UN agencies appeal, after yet another tragedy in the Mediterranean.** *UN News*.

10 August 2023. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/08/1139622> The International Organization for Migration (IOM); the UN refugee agency, UNCHR; and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) also called for coordinated search and rescue mechanisms.

**IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF: Deepest Condolences for those Involved in Yet Another Shipwreck in the Mediterranean Sea.** *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 10 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.iom.int/news/iom-unhcr-unicef-deepest-condolences-those-involved-yet-another-shipwreck-in-mediterranean-sea> The IOM, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and UNICEF express their deepest condolences for the loss of dozens of lives following another deadly shipwreck that occurred between Thursday 3 and Friday 4 August in the Mediterranean Sea.

**Rescue ship saves 600 migrants in Mediterranean: NGO.** *France 24*. 11 August 2023.

Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20230811-rescue-ship-saves-600-migrants-in-mediterranean-ngo> Rescue ship *Ocean Viking* has saved more than 600 migrants adrift in the Mediterranean over the last two days, the organisation that runs it, SOS Mediterranee, said Friday.

**Greece safely evacuates dozens of migrants from a sailboat off the southern coast.**

*Ekathimerini (Greece)*. 11 August 2023. Available from:

<https://www.ekathimerini.com/news/1217607/greece-safely-evacuates-dozens-of-migrants-from-a-sailboat-off-the-southern-coast/> Greek authorities said Friday they safely evacuated dozens of migrants from a sailboat reported in trouble off the southern coast of Greece, amid a rise in migration to the Mediterranean country.

**Pope prays for migrant shipwreck victims, calls for solidarity.** Thaddeus Jones. *Vatican News*.

13 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2023-08/pope-prays-for-migrant-shipwreck-victims-calls-for-solidarity.html> After leading the recitation of the Angelus, Pope Francis recalled the "tragic shipwreck" late last week when 41 migrants died off the Italian island of Lampedusa after their departure from Tunisia.

**At least six people dead and dozens rescued as migrant boat crossing Channel capsizes.**

*Sky News*. 13 August 2023. Available from: <https://news.sky.com/story/at-least-one-person-dead-and-dozens-rescued-as-migrant-boat-crossing-channel-capsizes-12938447> At least six people have died and dozens of others have been rescued after a migrant boat crossing the English Channel capsized.

**Over 60 dead in migrant boat sinking off Cape Verde: UN agency.** *France 24*. 16 August 2023.

Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20230816-over-60-dead-in-migrant-boat-sinking-off-cape-verde-un-agency> More than 60 people are believed to have died after a migrant boat from Senegal was found off West Africa's Cape Verde islands, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said Wednesday.

**‘Ocean Viking’ saves over 400 migrants on Mediterranean in two days.** *Radio France Internationale (RFI)*. 26 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.rfi.fr/en/europe/20230826-sat-pm-ocean-viking-saves-over-400-migrants-on-mediterranean-in-two-days> According to the Marseille based NGO, the rescues took place in international waters off the coasts of Libya and Tunisia.

**Nearly 170 rescued Senegalese migrants returned after Mauritania refused to take them in.** Zane Irwin. *Associated Press*. 30 August 2023. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/senegal-migrants-saint-louis-spanish-boat-mauritania-c36056458e206edcd31db14aaed5428b> Nearly 170 migrants returned to Senegal on Wednesday after spending almost a week in limbo on a Spanish rescue boat.

## NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

**Europe’s Most Important Trade Route Is at Risk Due to Climate Change.** Petra Sorge, Wilfried Eckl-Dorna and Carolyn Look. *Bloomberg*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/europe-s-most-important-trade-route-is-at-risk-due-to-climate-change-1.1952740> The Rhine River has been a reliable shipping lane for centuries, helping spawn industrial giants along its banks.

**NATO Task Groups unite for multi-threat mine counter measures exercise in the Mediterranean Sea.** *NATO Allied Maritime Command (MARCOM)*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://mc.nato.int/media-centre/news/2023/nato-task-groups-unite-for-multithreat-mine-counter-measures-exercise-in-the-mediterranean-sea> The combined forces of Standing NATO Maritime Group 2 (SNMG2) and Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group 2 (SNMCMG2) joined in the Central Mediterranean to test themselves against the challenging exercise scenario of a minefield at sea, 27 July.

**What future for shipping in the Arctic region?** Gordon Feller. *Canadian Mining Journal*. 1 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.canadianminingjournal.com/featured-article/what-future-for-shipping-in-the-arctic-region/> Climate models project continued and dramatic sea ice reductions in the Arctic, including nearly ice-free summer conditions by the mid-21<sup>st</sup> century.

**GCC chief stresses importance of partnership with US in securing freedom of maritime navigation.** *Arab News (Saudi Arabia)*. 3 August 2023. Available from: <https://arab.news/cwuve> The secretary-general of the Gulf Cooperation Council stressed the importance of the strategic partnership between the bloc and the US in enhancing maritime security in the region and securing freedom of maritime navigation on Thursday.

**Captain Explains How He Docks the World’s Biggest Cruise Ship.** *Wall Street Journal*. 5 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9hfgVrVlSyU> Royal Caribbean’s *Wonder of the Seas* is the largest cruise ship in the world, coming in five times larger than the Titanic.

**Chinese coast guard fired water cannons at PH vessels en route to Ayungin Shoal – PCG.** *CNN Philippines*. 6 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2023/8/6/chinese-coast-guard-water-cannons-ph-vessels-ayungin-shoal.html> A China Coast Guard (CCG) vessel blocked and fired water cannons at Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) vessels on the way to Ayungin Shoal for a resupply mission, the PCG said in a statement on Sunday.

**Shipping in the dark as Black Sea battle intensifies.** Bojan Lepic. *Splash 247.com*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/shipping-in-the-dark-as-black-sea-battle-intensifies/> With Ukraine effectively opening up a new naval front with its enemy Russia by declaring six Russian ports as war-risk areas last Friday and then promptly attacking a Russian tanker, the situation in the Black Sea has gone from bad to worse with many international shipowners now avoiding the area.

**Black Sea exporters struggle to clear Danube shipping backlog.** Jonathan Saul and Nigel Hunt. *Reuters*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/article/ukraine-crisis-shipping-danube/black-sea-exporters-struggle-to-clear-danube-shipping-backlog-idUSL1N39P1LS> Dozens of ships are backed up around critical Danube arteries close to Ukraine's river gateways days after Russian drone attacks on the country's ports, shipping data showed on Tuesday.

**After attacking Ukraine wheat exports, Russia faces own shipping challenge.** Jonathan Saul and Nigel Hunt. *Reuters*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/after-attacking-ukraine-wheat-exports-russia-faces-own-shipping-challenge-2023-08-08/> Russia's lack of ships and Western grain traders' shrinking appetite for business with Moscow are adding to rising costs of moving Russian wheat, at a time when the war in Ukraine has spilled perilously close to vital Black Sea supply routes.

**Russia's Black Sea Fleet Has Never Been More Vulnerable.** Brendan Cole. *Newsweek*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.newsweek.com/russia-ukraine-black-sea-fleet-strikes-vulnerability-1818270> Two strikes on Moscow's ships in the Black Sea in consecutive days were followed by a warning from Kyiv that Russian ports in the region were at "war risk" signalling how Ukraine was taking its fight against occupation to the water.

**PH to get P433-M Japan grant for maritime communication system.** Joyce Ann L. Rocamora. *Philippine News Agency (PNA)*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1207388> Japan and the Philippines signed an exchange of note for a 1.1 billion Japanese yen or approximately PHP433 million to help the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) procure a state-of-the-art satellite data communication system.

**'This is going to get worse before it gets better': Panama Canal pileup due to drought reaches 154 vessels.** Lori Ann LaRocco. *CNBC (US)*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.cnbcm.com/2023/08/09/panama-canal-shipping-pileup-due-to-drought-reaches-154-vessels.html> The number of vessels waiting to cross the Panama Canal has reached 154, and slots for carriers to book passage are being reduced in an effort to manage congestion caused by ongoing drought conditions that have roiled the major shipping gateway since the spring.

**Ukraine to open 'humanitarian corridor' for ships stuck in Black Sea ports.** *Al Jazeera*. 11 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/8/11/ukraine-to-open-humanitarian-corridor-for-ships-stuck-in-black-sea-ports> Ukraine announced it will open a "humanitarian corridor" in the Black Sea to release cargo ships trapped in its ports since the outbreak of war, a new test of Russia's de facto blockade since Moscow abandoned a deal last month to let Kyiv export grain from its sea ports.

**Ukraine opens registration of ships for passage through temporary corridors - Naval Forces.** *Interfax-Ukraine*. 12 August 2023. Available from: <https://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/928417.html> Ukraine, having announced on August 8 temporary corridors for merchant ships going to or from the Black Sea ports of Ukraine, has already opened registration for passage by them, said Dmytro Pletenchuk, the spokesman for the Naval Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

**Migrant boats in the Mediterranean: Why are so many people dying?** Alice Cuddy. *BBC News*. 12 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-66478091> In grainy photographs shot from a plane circling overhead, four people adrift in a small, metal boat in an expanse of the Mediterranean Sea wave their arms in distress.

**Russian warship fires warning shots at cargo ship in Black Sea.** Guy Faulconbridge, Huseyin Hayatsever and Dan Peleschuk. *Reuters*. 13 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russian-warship-fires-dry-cargo-ship-black-sea-defence-ministry-2023-08-13/> A Russian warship on Sunday fired warning shots at a cargo ship in the southwestern Black Sea as it made its way northwards, the first time Russia has fire on merchant shipping beyond Ukraine since exiting a landmark UN-brokered grain deal last month.

**Shippers warned to stay away from Iranian waters over seizure threat as US-Iran tensions high.** Jon Gambrell. *Associated Press*. 13 August 2023. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/persian-gulf-tensions-hormuz-iran-us-shipping-6d33ae164cb5f89a0347634b2ed45ae7> Western-backed maritime forces in the Middle East on Saturday warned shippers traveling through the strategic Strait of Hormuz to stay as far away from Iranian territorial waters as possible to avoid being seized, a stark advisory amid heightened tensions between Iran and the U.S.

**Matson Adjusts Its Sailing Schedule to Increase Whale Safety.** *MarineLink*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/matson-adjusts-sailing-schedule-increase-507242> U.S.-based Pacific shipping company Matson announced it has adjusted its sailing routes to help reduce the risk of whale strikes off the coast of California.

**Hong Kong-flagged boxship the first to break out of Odesa.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 16 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/hong-kong-flagged-boxship-the-first-to-break-out-of-odesa/> The *Joseph Schulte*, a 10-year-old, 9,400 teu boxship, will be today's most watched ship via multiple vessel tracking sites as it becomes the first ship to trial Ukraine's recently announced 'humanitarian corridor' to allow the many international ships stranded since war began in February 2022.

**Drilling rig arrives to start search for Lebanese energy reserves.** Jamie Prentis. *The National (UAE)*. 16 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/lebanon/2023/08/16/drilling-rig-arrives-to-start-search-for-lebanese-energy-reserves/> An offshore drilling rig has arrived in Lebanese waters to begin oil and gas exploration, 10 months after a landmark deal that mapped out the hotly contested maritime boundary between Lebanon and Israel.

**Boxship Completes Trip from Ukraine as Turkey Warns Russia on Intervention.** *Maritime Executive*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/boxship-completes-trip-from-ukraine-as-turkey-warns-russia-on-intervention> The first international ship to break out of the Ukrainian seaports on the Black Sea arrived in Turkey around midnight on August 17 without incident.

**More stranded ships set to leave Ukraine.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/more-stranded-ships-set-to-leave-ukraine/> As the *Joseph Schulte* nears its safe harbour destination in Turkey, other ships in Ukraine are readying their voyage plans to exit the war-torn country having been stranded for more than 530 days.

**Black Sea congestion worsens as Russia targets shipping.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insurance/black-sea-congestion-worsens-as-russia-targets-shipping/2-1-1502568> 📰 The backlog of ships at anchorage outside Ukraine's Danube river ports is growing following the recent targeting of the region by Russian military forces.

**Shippers need to be prepared for Rhine River disruption.** Nick Savvides. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/containers/shippers-need-be-prepared-rhine-river-disruption> Xeneta Chief Analyst Peter Sand highlighted the Rhine which serves Rotterdam and Port of Antwerp-Bruges with river barges beyond the Duisburg inland terminal and as far inland as Basel in Switzerland.

**The 'dark fleet' of tankers shipping Russian oil in the shadows.** Andrew Roth. *The Guardian*. 19 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2023/aug/19/the-dark-fleet-of-tankers-shipping-russian-oil-in-the-shadows> Nearly 500 ships, many of them old tankers with murky ownership and obscure insurers, could be playing an integral role in moving Russian crude to China and other ports in Asia, because of a G7 price cap meant to keep foreign-currency oil revenues out of the Kremlin's hands.

**Container ship which set sail from Ukraine's Odesa port reaches Istanbul Strait.** Muhammed Gencebay Gur. *Anadolu Agency (Türkiye)*. 19 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/container-ship-which-set-sail-from-ukraine-s-odesa-port-reaches-istanbul-strait/2970910> A container ship, named *Joseph Schulte*, which set sail from Ukraine's Odesa port earlier this week, has reached the Istanbul Strait.

**Russia's ghost ships and the evolution of a grain-smuggling operation.** *Lloyd's List*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146312/> On June 3, 2023, bulk carrier *Mikhail Nenashev* (IMO: 9515539) was heading north in the Black Sea towards the Kerch Strait between occupied Crimea and Russia.

**Connectivity and interconnectedness.** Carlos Salinas. *Manila Times*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2023/08/23/business/maritime/connectivity-and-interconnectedness/1906524> Today, psychologists stress the importance of emotional connections among humans, animals and nature, and meteorologists underscore the drastic effect of an infinitesimal change in one place on weather conditions in a distant place.

**Forest fire shuts Turkey's Dardanelles Strait for maritime traffic.** Ece Toksabay. *Reuters*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/forest-fire-shuts-down-turkeys-dardanelles-strait-maritime-traffic-2023-08-22/> Maritime traffic from the Aegean Sea to the Sea of Marmara has been suspended due to the ongoing forest fire in the Turkish northwestern province of Canakkale, the transport ministry and a shipping agency said on Tuesday.

**NGOs urge action to reduce emissions as high levels persist over Grand Harbour.** Jessica Arena. *Times of Malta*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/ngos-urge-action-reduce-emissions-high-levels-persist-grand-harbour.1050982> BirdLife Malta and the German Nature Biodiversity and Conservation Union (NABU) are urging the Maltese government to support efforts in the European Union to reduce nitrogen levels in fuel used by ships.

**Türkiye's Çanakkale Strait resumes maritime traffic.** *Daily Sabah (Türkiye)*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkiye/turkiyes-canakkale-strait-resumes-maritime-traffic/news> The Çanakkale Strait resumed maritime traffic from the Aegean Sea to the Marmara Sea (south-north) as of 11:00 a.m. after it was suspended due to the ongoing forest fire in the northwestern province of Canakkale, the Transport Ministry and a shipping agency said Thursday.

**Ship queue lengthens in Turkey as forest fire rages on.** *TradeWinds*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/news/ship-queue-lengthens-in-turkey-as-forest-fire-rages-on/2-1-1505890> An unrelenting blaze in Turkey's Canakkale region has been blocking ship traffic for a third day at the Turkish Straits.

**The economic impact of the Panama Canal jam: Inflation and shipping losses.** Isabella Cota. *El País (Spain)*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/3ps9e3k9> More than 100 cargo ships are waiting to cross the Panama Canal, which has been forced to reduce capacity due to a devastating drought.

**Second vessel leaves Odesa through temporary Black Sea corridor: Minister.** Dan Peleschuk. *Reuters*. 27 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/second-vessel-leaves-odesa-through-temporary-black-sea-corridor-minister-2023-08-27/> A vessel carrying steel products to Africa has left Ukraine's Odesa port through a temporary Black Sea corridor, the second ship to do so since Russia withdrew last month from a U.N.-brokered deal that allowed for grain to be safely exported, a senior Ukrainian government official said on Sunday.

**Ukraine grain exports: Second ship safely reaches Istanbul despite Russia blockade.** Philip Turle. *France 24*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/video/20230829-ukraine-grain-exports-second-ship-safely-reaches-istanbul-despite-russia-blockade> 🇺🇦 Russia pulled out of the grain deal last month, and has threatened to attack ships containing Ukrainian grain.

**Merchant Ships Including Maersk and Hapag Caught in Gabon's Coup.** *Maritime Executive*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/merchant-ships-including-maersk-and-hapag-caught-in-gabon-s-coup> Multiple merchant ships, including containerships operating for Maersk and Hapag-Lloyd, are reportedly caught in the unfolding coup in the central African country of Gabon.

**Ships caught up in Gabon military coup.** Adis Ajdin. *Splash 247.com*. 30 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/ships-caught-up-in-gabon-military-coup/> Movements in and out of Gabon have been closed down after a group of senior military officers announced a coup following the country's presidential election result.

**P&I Picks its Way Through Challenges on Ukraine's Danube River Routes.** Nick Taylor. *Maritime Executive*. 30 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/p-i-picks-its-way-through-ukraine-s-danube-routing-challenges> Drone attacks on the Danube estuary ports in late August broadened Russian attempts to prevent Ukraine from exporting grain, but other rising risks to regional maritime safety are also calling for special attention from P&I, according to Nick Taylor, Head of Coastal & Inland, NorthStandard.

**Ripples From Putin's Invasion Reach the Arctic.** Benjamin Valentino Martin and Krista Viksnins. *Center for European Policy Analysis*. 30 August 2023. Available from: <https://cepa.org/article/ripples-from-putins-invasion-reach-the-arctic/> 🇺🇦 The damage done by Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine is hard to quantify.

## PIRACY

**Tunisian piracy case creates precedent in Italy -- Agrigento prosecutor.** *InfoMigrants*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/50791/tunisian-piracy-case-creates-precedent-in-italy--agrigento-prosecutor> Italian authorities are considering how to tackle the crime of piracy which in Italy lacks legal codification.

## PORT STATE CONTROL

**Antwerp detains 'dark fleet' Gatik tanker after STS transfers with Greece-owned ships.** Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146085/> A tanker, which is part of the high-profile Gatik Ship Management fleet of Russia-trading vessels, was detained in Antwerp last week after carrying out three ship-to-ship transfers during the past three months with Greece-owned ships in international waters in the Red Sea.

**Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during July 2023 under Paris MOU.** *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-flagged-ships-detained-in-the-uk-during-july-2023-under-paris-mou> During July, there were five new detentions of a foreign flagged vessel in a UK port.

**One-year ban for bulk carrier for appalling treatment of seafarers.** *Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://media.amsa.gov.au/media-release/one-year-ban-bulk-carrier-appalling-treatment-seafarers> Following a tip-off from the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), AMSA inspected the ship at the Port of Hay Point, in Queensland, and found evidence of several violations of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006.

**Bulk carrier banned from Australian waters after AMSA finds mistreatment of workers.** Hannah Walsh and Ashleigh Bagshaw. *ABC (Australia)*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-08-24/bulk-carrier-banned-australian-waters-asma-finds-mistreatment/102770338> A bulk carrier has received a one-year ban from Australian waters after an Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) investigation found issues of wage theft and worker mistreatment.

**Revision of the Port State Control Directive.** *European Parliament*. 28 August 2023. Available from: [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS\\_BRI\(2023\)751431](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_BRI(2023)751431) On 1 June 2023, the European Commission presented a legislative package to modernise and reinforce maritime rules on safety and pollution prevention. [Briefing](#) 

**South Korea to monitor Fukushima ballast water on ships.** Carol Yang and Cichen Shen. *Lloyd's List*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146401/> South Korea has imposed checks on ships taking ballast water near Fukushima amid concerns about Japan releasing treated wastewater from the nuclear power plant into the Pacific Ocean.

**Spliethoff and MSC respond to ship bans in Australia.** Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 31 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146436/> Australia's banning of the Liberia-flagged bulk carrier *MSXT Emily* (IMO: 9929302) from its waters for one year is the latest, and most serious of several by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, which has stepped up enforcement in recent years.

## PORTS & HARBOURS

**Ukraine and Croatia agree on use of Croatian ports for grain exports.** Anna Pruchnicka. *Reuters*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/ukraine-croatia-agree-use-croatian-ports-grain-exports-2023-07-31/> Ukraine and Croatia have agreed on the possibility of using Croatian ports on the Danube and the Adriatic Sea for the export of Ukrainian grain, Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said after talks with his Croatian counterpart.

**Irish ports will need to spend €20m each to provide green power for cruise liners.** Sean O’Riordan. *Irish Examiner*. 1 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/arid-41196058.html> Irish ports must invest up to €20m each to provide electricity power points for visiting cruise liner ships by 2030 or be restricted to no more than 25 visits a year.

**Valenciaport studies the creation of the first large-scale vertical photovoltaic park in Spain.** *Port Authority of Valencia (PAV)*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.valenciaport.com/en/valenciaport-studies-the-creation-of-the-first-large-scale-vertical-photovoltaic-park-in-spain/> The Port of València is testing the use of solar panels on a strip of wall in the North Dock in order to check the viability and efficiency of the installation on a small scale.

**Russia strikes Ukraine’s Danube port, driving up global grain prices.** *Reuters*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/article/ukraine-crisis-odesa-idAFKBN2ZD05Z> Russia attacked Ukraine’s main inland port across the Danube River from Romania on Wednesday, sending global food prices higher as it ramped up its use of force to prevent Ukraine from exporting grain.

**Izmail Seafarers’ Centre hit in drone attack.** *ITF Seafarers’ Trust*. 2 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.seafarerstrust.org/news-and-press-releases/news/izmail-seafarers-centre-hit-drone-attack> Izmail Seafarers Centre was hit by a Russian drone attack in the early hours of 2 August.

**Insurers Pull Back After Strikes on Ukraine’s Danube Grain Ports.** *Maritime Executive*. 3 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/insurers-pull-back-after-strikes-on-ukraine-s-danube-grain-ports> Ukraine’s Danube River ports are a lifeline for the nation’s grain export trade, but persistent Russian drone attacks have put their future into question.

**Ship movements halted as key Russian Black Sea port attacked by sea drones.** Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds*. 4 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/ship-movements-halted-as-key-russian-black-sea-port-attacked-by-sea-drones/2-1-1496418> Sea-based drones have attacked Russian navy ships near the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk, a key hub for the country’s oil exports.

**Fremantle Highway: Last port of call for auto freighter.** Dirk Kaufmann. *Deutsche Welle (Germany)*. 4 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.dw.com/en/fremantle-highway-last-port-of-call-for-auto-freighter/a-66433310> A harbor is a place along a navigable river or a seacoast where ships can dock.

**Drought-hit Panama Canal must ‘adapt or die’ as water levels drop.** *France 24*. 4 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20230804-drought-hit-panama-canal-must-adapt-or-die-as-water-levels-drop> The canal relies on rainwater to move ships through a series of locks that function like water elevators, raising the vessels up and over the continent between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

**B.C. port dispute ends as workers vote to accept new deal.** *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 5 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/port-workers-vote-result-august-4-1.6928803> Port workers in British Columbia have accepted a new tentative deal with their employers, bringing an end to a tumultuous, weeks-long contract dispute that has paralyzed industries and supply chains across Canada.

**Several injured as blast hits grain silos at Turkey's Derince port.** *Al Jazeera*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/8/7/explosion-rocks-grain-silos-at-turkeys-derince-port> At least 12 people have been injured when an explosion rocked grain silos near the port of Derince in western Turkey, according to state media.

**King Abdullah Port partners with marine fuel providers to reduce ships waiting time.** *Arab News (Saudi Arabia)*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2351041/> Ships entering Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah Port can expect reduced waiting times after the facility partnered with two marine fuel supply and services providers.

**Port call count highlights differing hub adherence among sectors.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/port-call-count-highlights-differing-hub-adherence-among-sectors/> Different shipping sectors have mixed hub concentration levels, new data from Clarksons Research shows.

**VPS: Houston contaminated VLSFO bunker fuel was also supplied in Singapore.** *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/vps-houston-contaminated-vlsfo-bunker-fuel-was-also-supplied-in-singapore/> Marine fuel testing firm VPS on Monday (7 August) delivered an update on the recent VLSFO marine fuel contamination in Houston, revealing out of 14 vessels, two vessels were supplied with contaminated fuel oil in Singapore and 12 vessels received it in Houston.

**Panama Canal draught restrictions start to bite, sparking liner surcharges.** Ian Putzger. *The Loadstar*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://theloadstar.com/panama-canal-draught-restrictions-start-to-bite-sparking-liner-surcharges/> Evergreen's latest addition to its neo-panamax fleet had to offload 1400 containers to pass through the Panama Canal, due to low-water restrictions.

**Delays, Cancellations and Costs Mount as Panama Canal Reduces Transits.** *Maritime Executive*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/delays-cancelations-and-costs-mount-as-panama-canal-reduces-daily-transits> Concern is growing across the shipping industry as well as the potentially broader impact following the recent decision by the Panama Canal Authority to reduce the daily number of transits to conserve water.

**Port to Build Landmark Maritime Innovation Center.** *Port of Seattle*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.portseattle.org/news/port-build-landmark-maritime-innovation-center> The Port of Seattle Commission approved \$32,600,000 to achieve a long-standing goal of transforming the historic Ship Supply Building at Fishermen's Terminal, one of the oldest existing Port facilities, into a new globally recognized home for maritime innovation.

**Lebanon's Port Risks: The Need for Action Against Substandard Ships.** Noam Raydan. *Washington Institute for Near East Policy*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/lebanons-port-risks-need-action-against-substandard-ships> Three years ago this month, Lebanon's devastating port explosion highlighted the many risks posed by substandard shipping in the Mediterranean and abroad.

**Stuffed Russian Grain Ports Show Risk of Black Sea Escalation.** Áine Quinn. *Bloomberg*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/stuffed-russian-grain-ports-show-risk-of-black-sea-escalation-1.1956710> Russian grain ports are overflowing after two big harvests.

**Fire hits grain silos at French Atlantic port.** Gus Trompiz. *Reuters*. 10 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/fire-under-control-french-port-grain-terminal-operator-2023-08-10/> More than 100 firefighters fought a huge blaze at grain silos in the French Atlantic port of La Rochelle on Thursday, disrupting shipping activity at one of France's biggest grain export terminals.

**Panama Canal Authority adapts to unprecedented challenges.** *Panama Canal Authority*. 10 August 2023. Available from: <https://pancanal.com/en/panama-canal-authority-adapts-to-unprecedented-challenges/> The Panama Canal Authority places great emphasis on providing world class, reliable services to all its customers.

**Transnet's National Ports Authority celebrates with all-women shifts.** *South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC)*. 11 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dLH1Fu6IME0> 📺 The maritime industry has for decades been a male-dominated sector, but women are now increasingly being included.

**Singapore investigates cases of contaminated marine fuel.** Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 13 August 2023. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article16351065.ece> The case of contaminated bunker oil that spread from Houston to Singapore is now being investigated by the latter's Maritime and Port Authority (MPA).

**Ships backed up in Black Sea lanes as Russia warning shots raise tensions.** Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 14 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/ships-backed-up-black-sea-lanes-russia-warning-shots-raise-tensions-2023-08-14/> Merchant ships remained backed up in lanes around the Black Sea on Monday as ports struggled to clear backlogs amid growing unease among insurers and shipping companies a day after a Russian warship fired warning shots at a cargo vessel.

**Port of Long Beach Awarded \$2.72 Million Security Grant.** *Port of Long Beach*. 14 August 2023. Available from: <https://polb.com/port-info/news-and-press/port-of-long-beach-awarded-2-72-million-security-grant-08-14-2023/> The Department of Homeland Security has awarded a \$2.72 million grant aimed at enhancing security at the Port of Long Beach to ensure the safe and efficient movement of cargo in the wake of an emergency.

**Rotterdam reveals largest cocaine seizure to date.** *Insurance Marine News*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://insurancemarinenews.com/insurance-marine-news/rotterdam-reveals-largest-cocaine-seizure-to-date/> Netherlands prosecutors have confirmed last month's discovery on an unnamed container ship of the largest-ever individual seizure of cocaine to be smuggled through the port of Rotterdam.

**'MSC Chiyo' and the Challenges of Its Call at Ports on the West Coast of Latin America.** *MundoMaritimo*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.mundomaritimo.net/noticias/msc-chiyo-and-the-challenges-of-its-call-at-ports-on-the-west-coast-of-latin-america> The port calls along the West Coast of Latin America by the container ship "MSC Chiyo," as part of the 'Andes' service, posed a significant logistical challenge for both MSC and the ports that served the vessel.

**Russian attack damages grain silos at Ukraine's Danube port of Reni - Kyiv.** Pavel Polityuk. *Reuters*. 16 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/warehouses-grain-silos-damaged-russian-attacks-ukraines-danube-port-gov-2023-08-16/> Russian drone strikes damaged grain silos and warehouses at the Ukrainian river port of Reni on the Danube, a vital wartime route for Ukrainian food exports, senior officials said on Wednesday.

**What if Panama Canal droughts are the new normal?** *Lloyd's List*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146306/What-if-Panama-Canal-droughts-are-the-new-normal> The six-day closure of the Suez Canal after the *Ever Given* (IMO: 9811000) grounding in 2021 sent the finely calibrated global logistics chain haywire.

**Key Russian Black Sea port of Novorossiysk hit by fire.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/key-russian-black-sea-port-of-novorossiysk-hit-by-fire/2-1-1503296> Yahoo reported that the blaze started in a cargo area of the terminal on Friday, quoting state media.

**SCZONE announced the success of 1<sup>st</sup> green bunkering operation in East Port Said port.** *Suez Canal Economic Zone*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://sczone.eg/sczone-announced-the-success-of-1st-green-bunkering-operation-in-east-port-said-port/> The General Authority for the Suez Canal economic Zone announced the success of the first green bunkering operation with “methanol” in East Port Said port for a container ship, yesterday evening.

**TNPA celebrates appointment of first female security chief in the Port of Durban.** Thabile Majozi. *Transnet National Ports Authority South Africa (TNPA)*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/ye29vbbn> Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) has made history with the appointment of Sinazo Tiya as the first female Port Security Officer at the Port of Durban.

**Ports Without the Right Infrastructure Need a New Shore Power Solution.** Robert Schluter. *Maritime Executive*. 20 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/ports-without-the-right-infrastructure-need-a-new-shore-power-solution> There's a growing demand for shoreside power, but many ports lack the electrical infrastructure to support traditional systems.

**Namibia Plans Massive Port Expansion to Prepare for Energy Exports.** Brian Gicheru Kinyua. *Maritime Executive*. 20 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/namibia-plans-massive-port-expansion-to-prepare-for-energy-exports> In its ongoing push for port expansion, Namibia has announced plans for new berths and quay walls to support the country's booming energy industry.

**Panama Canal faces high demand of vessels.** *Panama Canal Authority*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://pancanal.com/en/panama-canal-faces-high-demand-of-vessels/> The prolonged dry season is a natural phenomenon that affects many regions, including the Panama Canal.

**Trade appears to temporarily slow at Izmail after Russia attack.** Bridget Diakun. *Lloyd's List*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146343/Trade-appears-to-temporarily-slow-at-Izmail-after-Russia-attack> Granaries, a private grain terminal and a transshipment complex at the Ukrainian port of Izmail along the Danube river were among the targets hit by Russian drone strikes overnight, according to Ukraine's Minister of Infrastructure.

**Shipping ‘traffic jam’ at Panama Canal: Why it’s not a crisis (yet).** Greg Miller. *FreightWaves*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/shipping-traffic-jam-at-panama-canal-why-this-is-not-a-crisis-yet> The widespread headlines on Panama’s drought and the traffic jam of ships at the canal sound ominous.

**The import of grain from Ukraine to the Port of Valencia suffers the impact of the war.** *Port Authority of Valencia (PAV)*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.valenciaport.com/en/the-import-of-grain-from-ukraine-to-the-port-of-valencia-suffers-the-impact-of-the-war/> The Ukrainian war generated by Russia’s invasion put many countries in check on a crucial food issue: cereals.

**Digital port calls to reduce 1000 tons of CO2 emissions annually at the Port of Gothenburg.** *Port of Gothenburg*. 28 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.portofgothenburg.com/about/newsroom/#/pressreleases/digital-port-calls-to-reduce-1000-tons-of-co2-emissions-annually-at-the-port-of-gothenburg-3269042> The Gothenburg Port Authority has started developing an entirely new digital port call solution in collaboration with maritime operators. [How Digital Port Call works](#)

**Is the Panama Canal in danger of drying up?** *Al Jazeera*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/program/inside-story/2023/8/29/is-the-panama-canal-in-danger-of-drying-up> Low water levels caused by drought are forcing restrictions on number of ships allowed to transit.

**Study Confirms When California Loses Cargo, Greenhouse Gases Increase.** *Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA)*. 30 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.pmsaship.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/GHG-Route-Study-Press-Release-2023-08.30.2023-FINAL.pdf> A new study released today demonstrates that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions can increase when vessels carrying cargo originating in Asia bypass seaports on the U.S. West Coast. [Greenhouse Gas Route Comparison Study](#)

## REGULATIONS

**Which new regulations will accompany IMO’s revised GHG strategy?** Eirik Nyhus. *DNV*. 27 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.dnv.com/expert-story/maritime-impact/Which-new-regulations-will-accompany-IMOs-revised-GHG-strategy.html> In the final episode of the fifth series of our podcast, host Eirik Nyhus delves into the outcomes of MEPC 80 and discusses how the revised strategy gets translated into implemented and enforceable regulations.

**Maritime and Coastguard Agency reiterates new rules regarding marine equipment being UK approved.** *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 1 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/maritime-and-coastguard-agency-reiterates-new-rules-regarding-marine-equipment-being-uk-approved> The requirement came into force on January 1 of this year, after a transition period of 2 years, with the maritime industry choosing to depart from the actions of other government departments.

**Marina implements Noise Code for ships.** Genivi Verdejo. *Manila Times*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2023/08/09/business/maritime/marina-implements-noise-code-for-ships/1904478> The Maritime Industry Authority (Marina) has implemented the Noise Code for Philippine-registered ships on international voyages to reduce noise levels and protect seafarers from excessive exposure.

**Summary of developments in EU and the EU Fit for 55 policy package- June/July 2023.**

*International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (INTERCARGO)*. 10 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.intercargo.org/summary-of-developments-in-eu-and-the-eu-fit-for-55-policy-package-june-july-2023/> You may find here below a summary of latest EU developments and the EU Fit 55 Policy Package.

**The Role of Energy Efficiency Regulations.** *Maersk Mc-Kinney Møller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.zerocarbonshipping.com/publications/the-role-of-energy-efficiency-regulations/> The IMO has implemented three regulatory measures to drive the short-term reduction of CO2 emissions by improving the energy efficiency of the world fleet. [Report](#) 

**Marina enforces stricter nitrogen emission regulations.** *Genivi Verdejo. Manila Times*.

16 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2023/08/16/business/maritime/marina-enforces-stricter-nitrogen-emission-regulations/1905548> The Maritime Industry Authority (Marina) has issued stricter regulations on nitrogen oxide emissions from marine diesel engines.

**How can we improve future energy efficiency regulations in the maritime industry?**

*Maersk Mc-Kinney Møller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.zerocarbonshipping.com/news/how-can-we-improve-future-energy-efficiency-regulations-in-the-maritime-industry/> Well-designed regulations can make decarbonization a more realistic and attractive goal for the shipping industry by encouraging the uptake of energy efficiency and decarbonization solutions.

**Ballast water compliance is possible: the last steps.** *Lisa Drake. Riviera Maritime*.

28 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/ballast-water-compliance-is-possible-the-last-steps-77457> Further, the existing IMO references for 'trial use' are limited (eg Guidelines G2 and BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.2), and they may need to be revised given the lessons learned thus far.

## SALVAGE

**OS 35 wreck safely removed from Gibraltar waters.** *Gibraltar Port Authority*. 28 July 2023.

Available from: <https://www.gibraltarport.com/news/press-release-os-35-wreck-safely-removed-from-gibraltar-waters-119> The Captain of the Port is delighted to confirm that the vessel *FJORD*, carrying the wreck of the OS 35, departed British Gibraltar Territorial Waters in the early hours of this morning.

**Fire-stricken *Fremantle Highway* anchored for salvage with no sign of fire still burning.**

Rob Willmington. *Lloyd's List*. 1 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146089/> The 6,200 car capacity pure car and truck carrier *Fremantle Highway* has been anchored clear of shipping lanes 16 km north of the Dutch islands of Schiermonnikoog and Ameland.

**Damaged freighter *Fremantle Highway* to be towed to Groningen port.** *NL Times (Netherlands)*.

3 August 2023. Available from: <https://nltimes.nl/2023/08/03/damaged-freighter-fremantle-highway-towed-groningen-port> The burnt-out, damaged freighter *Fremantle Highway* will be towed to the Eemshaven in Groningen on Thursday morning.

**Netherlands tows burnt-out car freighter to port.** *Deutsche Welle (Germany)*. 3 August 2023.

Available from: <https://www.dw.com/en/netherlands-tows-burnt-out-car-freighter-to-port/a-66426451> Dutch authorities towed the car-carrying freighter that caught fire in the North Sea to a nearby port on Thursday for salvage.

**Fremantle Highway: Disaster averted as burnt car carrier reaches port.** Paul Kirby. *BBC News*. 3 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-66393507> More than a week after fire swept through a cargo ship carrying almost 4,000 cars in the North Sea, the crippled ship has been towed into port in the north-east of the Netherlands.

**Salvage Operations on *Grande Costa D’Avario* reach significant milestones at Port Newark.** *United States Coast Guard*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.news.uscg.mil/Press-Releases/Article/3486234/> Salvage and post fire recovery operations continue at an efficient pace on the *Grande Costa D’Avario* as crews work to safely transfer vehicles and cargo from the vessel to the port facility.

**Fact Check-Fire extinguished on car carrier off Dutch coast and ship moved to port, not sunk.** *Reuters*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/5dzn4yb4> A fire on a car carrier sailing off the coast of the Netherlands on July 25 was extinguished, according to Dutch authorities and “K” Line, the ship’s charter company.

**Salvage Teams Board *Fremantle Highway* as Investigation Begins.** *Maritime Executive*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/salvage-teams-board-fremantle-highway-as-investigation-begins> Salvage teams boarded the burnt-out car carrier *Fremantle Highway* on Monday as the next step in the efforts to fully assess the damage while a comprehensive investigation has also been launched to understand the cause of the fire.

**FSO *Safer* saga not over despite oil being offloaded, experts say.** *The National (UAE)*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/2023/08/09/fso-safer-saga-may-not-be-over-despite-oil-being-offloaded-experts-say/> With almost all of the 1.14 million barrels of oil aboard the *FSO Safer* offloaded on to the crude carrier *Nautica*, experts are wondering what is next for the decaying tanker and its replacement.

**Adm. Rabiee: “We’ve successfully recovered the sunken tugboat *FAHD*”.** *Suez Canal Authority (SCA)*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.suezcanal.gov.eg/English/MediaCenter/News/Pages/sca-8-8-2023.aspx> Adm. Ossama Rabiee, Chairman and Managing Director of the Suez Canal Authority, has announced today that the recovery operation of the sunken tugboat *FAHD* by the SCA crane INKAZ was successful, and that the waterway is now clear.

**‘As we celebrate *FSO SAFER* oil transfer, we demand companies pay up’ – Greenpeace.** *Greenpeace International*. 11 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.greenpeace.org/international/press-release/61297/celebrate-fso-safer-oil-transfer-demand-companies-pay-un-greenpeace/> As a three-week operation to drain a million-plus barrels of oil from the decaying *FSO SAFER* ends, Greenpeace celebrates efforts to avoid a major oil spill in the Red Sea and calls for the industry to be held accountable for disposal of the vessel and its toxic load.

**All hands on deck: UN averts massive Red Sea oil spill.** *United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*. 11 August 2023. Available from: <https://stories.undp.org/all-hands-on-deck> For eight years a floating time bomb has been moored off the coast of Yemen.

**With the oil transfer completed, the final destination of *FSO Safer* remains unknown.** Jasmina Ovcina Mandra. *Offshore Energy*. 14 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/with-the-oil-transfer-completed-the-final-destination-of-fso-safer-remains-unknown/> The successful completion of the oil transfer operation from the *FSO Safer* marks a significant milestone in averting a potential environmental and humanitarian catastrophe in the Red Sea.

**In pictures: Two halves of OS 35 wreck pass through IJmuiden locks on lift barge *Fjord*.**

Mariska Buitendijk and Martijn van Wijngaarden. *SWZ Maritime (Netherlands)*. 17 August 2023.

Available from: <https://swzmaritime.nl/news/2023/08/17/in-pictures-two-halves-of-os-35-wreck-pass-through-ijmuiden-locks-on-lift-barge-fjord/> The two parts of the wrecked bulk carrier OS 35 made a spectacular passage through the port and locks of IJmuiden.

**Yemen oil tanker: ‘Pivotal chapter’ concludes but important work remains.** *UN News*.

28 August 2023. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/08/1140162> The meticulous effort onboard the rusting *FSO Safer* spanned months of preparation and nearly 13 weeks of execution by the SMIT salvage team, which was contracted by the UN Development Programme.

**The remarkable story of how Yemen’s oil tanker disaster was averted by crowdfunding.**

Emma Bryce. *The Guardian*. 29 August 2023. Available from:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/aug/29/the-remarkable-story-of-how-yemens-oil-tanker-disaster-was-averted-by-crowdfunding> Since 1988, the hulking form of the *FSO Safer* has floated in the Red Sea, receiving crude oil from the bountiful Marib oilfields of Yemen.

## SEAFARERS

**New ITF guidance shows companies how to respect the human rights of seafarers shipping cargo.** *ITF Seafarers*. 26 July 2023. Available from:

<https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/new-itf-guidance-shows-companies-how-respect-human-rights-seafarers-shipping-cargo> As human rights due diligence (HRDD) laws expand in scope and reach, many companies are falling behind on their responsibilities. [ITF Human Rights Due Diligence Guidance](#) 

**Panama Signs Agreement with Canada to Promote Job Opportunities.** *Maritime Executive*.

1 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/corporate/panama-signs-agreement-with-canada-to-promote-job-opportunities> The Panama Maritime Authority (AMP) is committed to the opening of new markets and promotes the initiative of signing Agreements with other Maritime Administrations and MOU with shipping companies of national and international prestige, aimed at exchanging experiences and knowledge technicians, that allow the execution of the powers of Panamanian seafarers, which will positively impact the performance of their duties.

**Report on seafarers paying ‘fees’ to get work raises concerns.** David Hughes. *Business Times (Singapore)*. 1 August 2023. Available from:

<https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/international/report-seafarers-paying-fees-get-work-raises-concerns> Making seafarers pay to obtain work is banned by the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC).

**Seafarers face uphill battle as Happiness Index shows continued decline in Q2 2023.** *Mission to Seafarers*. 7 August 2023. Available from:

<https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/news/seafarers-face-uphill-battle-as-happiness-index-shows-continued-decline-in-q2-2023> The Mission to Seafarers has published the latest Seafarers Happiness Index (SHI) report for Quarter 2, 2023, revealing a notable decline in overall happiness. [Seafarers Happiness Index Quarter 2 2023](#) 

**Seafarers go hungry as shipping maintains pandemic attitudes.** Richard Clayton. *Lloyd’s List*.

7 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146174/> At times, one anonymous contributor confides in the Seafarers Happiness Index, only basic items like meat and rice are available, and there is sometimes a lack of fruit and vegetables for two or even three weeks.

**Converted bus set for mobile seafarer centre trial in Southampton.** Joel Holt. *Merchant Navy Welfare Board (MNWB)*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.mnwb.org/news/converted-bus-set-for-mobile-seafarer-centre-trial-in-southampton/> The mobile seafarer centre is being trialled in the Port of Southampton on Thursday, August 17 and will be stationary in the Eastern Docks, where hot and cold drinks, snacks and free WiFi will be available to seafarers throughout the day.

**The Seafarers' Happiness Index and aspirations.** Michael Grey. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/opinions-analysis/seafarers-happiness-index-and-aspirations> There has been some concern expressed that the Seafarers' Happiness Index, that admirable measure of contentment periodically compiled by the Mission to Seafarers and the Standard Club is on the way down again.

**Officer serving with NATO becomes first female Admiral in the Turkish Navy.** *NATO Allied Maritime Command (MARCOM)*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://mc.nato.int/media-centre/news/2023/officer-serving-with-nato-becomes-first-female-admiral-in-the-turkish-navy> "Being promoted to the admiralship is one of the highest level of achievements for any navy officer to reach in their career," said Firat on news of her promotion.

**Stranded Seafarers Under International Humanitarian Law.** Alba Grembi. *Lieber Institute at West Point*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://lieber.westpoint.edu/stranded-seafarers-international-humanitarian-law/> One of Ukraine's first belligerent reactions to its invasion by the Russian Federation was closing its ports to international shipping - leaving 2000 seafarers stranded aboard 94 vessels in and around the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov under threats of attack, bombardment, sea mines, or other perils.

**Sea change: Indian women are making their presence felt in merchant navy.** Seema Sachdeva. *The Tribune (India)*. 20 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/features/sea-change-indian-women-are-making-their-presence-felt-in-merchant-navy-536412> After sailing for 18 years, Capt Suneha Gadpande took a break from being an officer on ship last year taking up a shore job as Marine Superintendent for Hafnia shipping in Singapore.

**Six seafarers released nearly two months after abduction off Cameroon.** Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/bulkers/six-seafarers-released-nearly-two-months-after-abduction-off-cameroon/2-1-1504130> Crew members from cargo ship *Oya 1* now free following kidnapping on 30 June.

**Global Seafarer survey shows crews facing lower pay and longer spells at sea.** Nick Webster. *The National (UAE)*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/uae/2023/08/23/seafarer-global-survey-shows-crews-facing-lower-pay-and-longer-spells-at-sea/> Declining wages and longer spells at sea are threatening to plunge the shipping industry into a recruitment crisis unless fundamental changes are made to working conditions, a new report has found.

**From grit to glory: Setting sail against all the odds.** Iona Stanley. *Gulf News (UAE)*. 25 August 2023. Available from: <https://gulfnews.com/uae/from-grit-to-glory-setting-sail-against-all-the-odds-1.1692961032508> 🇲🇦 Captain Sahar Al Rasti nursed a desire to turn her love for the sea into a career, and she had the determination to enter an exclusively male dominated world.

**Deepening understanding of seafarer welfare: ISWAN's data journey.** *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2023/deepening-understanding-of-seafarer-welfare-iswans-data-journey> In response to a lack of information about seafarer welfare, we are using data from ISWAN's helplines to provide insights into the evolving challenges faced by seafarers.

**Family demand answers over seafarer's disappearance from dark tanker.** Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146416/> The family of an Indian seafarer who went missing while working aboard a Cook Islands-flagged tanker that was shipping non-price cap compliant Russian oil say they cannot establish the basic facts about his disappearance from his employers.

**Jamaica and Canada Sign Reciprocal Agreement for Employment of Seafarers.** Peta-Gay Hodges. *Jamaica Information Service*. 30 August 2023. Available from: <https://jis.gov.jm/jamaica-and-canada-sign-reciprocal-agreement-for-employment-of-seafarers/> Jamaica and Canada have signed a Reciprocal Recognition Agreement to enable seafarers from both countries to work on ships sailing under the Jamaican or Canadian flags.

**Seafarers need safeguarding before Odesa grain exports restart.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 31 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/comment-seafarers-need-safeguarding-before-odesa-grain-exports-restart/2-1-1508060> The safe passage of two ships out of Ukraine has raised hopes that there may be a route open to resume grain exports from the country's main Black Sea port.

## SEARCH & RESCUE

**Iran rescues 22 crew from fire on veteran LPG tanker.** Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds*. 11 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/iran-rescues-22-crew-from-fire-on-veteran-lpg-tanker/2-1-1499946> Twenty-two crew members have been rescued from a 51-year-old LPG tanker that caught fire off Iran's Gulf coast, according to state media.

**The Inside Story of an NGO Rescue Ship That Saves Migrants From Dying at Sea.** Mark Leon Goldberg. *UN Dispatch*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://undispatch.com/the-inside-story-of-an-ngo-rescue-ship-that-saves-migrants-from-dying-at-sea/> The first eight months of 2023 have been the deadliest on record since 2017, with over 2,000 deaths and counting.

**Should government or NGOs save migrants at sea? What does the law say?** Giulia Carbonaro. *Euronews*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/2023/08/23/should-government-or-ngos-save-migrants-at-sea-what-does-the-law-say> The number of migrants arriving on Italy's shores has more than doubled this year, forcing the government to ask for help from the very NGOs it has tried to stop.

**Italy impounds three rescue ships as migrant numbers soar.** Crispian Balmer. *Reuters*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/italy-impounds-three-rescue-ships-migrant-numbers-soar-2023-08-23/> Italy impounded a rescue ship operated by a German NGO on Wednesday, the third charity boat sequestered this week under tough new migration rules introduced by the country's right-wing government.

**Int'l NGOs warn of surging deaths as governments obstruct rescues.** Giada Zampano. *Anadolu Agency (Türkiye)*. 28 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/intl-ngos-warn-of-surging-deaths-as-governments-obstruct-rescues/2977619> Fifty-six humanitarian organizations issued a joint call on Monday for an immediate end to government actions that derail migrants' assistance in the Mediterranean Sea, warning that NGOs often fail to fulfil their duty to rescue people due to states' restrictions.

## SHIP RECYCLING

**More Turkish Shipbreakers Added to European List of Approved Ship Recycling Facilities.** Mike Schuler. *gCaptain*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/more-turkish-shipbreakers-added-to-european-list-of-approved-ship-recycling-facilities/> The European Commission has updated its list of approved ship recycling facilities, which now contains 48 yards located primarily in Europe and Turkey.

**Ship recycling falls to 15-year low.** Rob Willmington. *Lloyd's List*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146184/> Ship recycling has become “an unfeasible business” as tight ship supply and sagging recycled-steel demand create an impasse between buyers and sellers.

**Ten times more container ships scrapped this year than in all of 2022.** Daniel Logan Berg-Munch. *ShippingWatch*. 16 August 2023. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article16356325.ece> So far in 2023, container shipping companies have sent 55 ships for scrapping.

**Navigating the recycling challenges of ship owners.** *Hellenic Shipping News*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/navigating-the-recycling-challenges-of-ship-owners/> Ship recycling is a complex and hazardous process as ships contain a wide range of hazardous materials and have intricate structures that include numerous compartments, systems, and components; also, ship recycling can have significant environmental repercussions if dangerous items are not removed and disposed of correctly.

## SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR

**Korean Shipbuilders Facing Rise of Chinese Shipbuilders Winning Large Containership Orders.** Jung Suk-ye. *Business Korea (South Korea)*. 28 July 2023. Available from: <http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/news/articleView.html?idxno=119306> For the first time, Chinese shipbuilders have won large containership orders from global shipping giants.

**The return of cargo-carrying sail ships.** Suzanne Bearne. *BBC News*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-66300187> Jorne Langelaan is beaming as he shows me around *De Tukker*, a traditional two-mast Dutch sail barge that was built in 1912.

**Changhong Shipyard won a large order for 10 LNG dual-fuel container ships from MSC.** Sarah Yu. *Xinde Marine News (China)*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.xindemarinenews.com/en/shipbuilding/2023/0809/49461.html> Recently, Zhoushan Changhong International Shipyard signed a large order of 10 10,300 TEU LNG dual-fuel container ships with the world-renowned shipping company Mediterranean Shipping Company.

**Spain's first passenger ships powered by 2G biofuels to sail from Algeciras in August.**

CEPSA. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.cepsa.com/en/press/passenger-ships-with-biofuels> In August, Naviera Armas Trasmediterránea ferries will make 84 trips across the Strait of Gibraltar using Cepsa's second-generation biofuels.

**Record high ship deliveries boost container fleet capacity by 4.3%. Niels Rasmussen. BIMCO.**

10 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news-and-trends/market-reports/shipping-number-of-the-week/20230810-snow> The contracting of new ships has slowed since its record in 2021 but has year-to-date remained twice as high as during the 2010s.

**Nomura says new shipbuilding orders peaked; Korean firms refute. Hyung-Kyu Kim.**

*Korea Economic Daily (South Korea)*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.kedglobal.com/shipping-shipbuilding/newsView/ked202308150001> Nomura Securities recently said global new shipbuilding orders likely peaked in 2022, slashing its stock recommendation rating on industry leader HD Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. to neutral from buy.

**Wallenius Wilhelmsen orders vessels ready for methanol and ammonia. Idha Toft Valeur.**

*ShippingWatch*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article16350858.ece> Norwegian car carrier Wallenius Wilhelmsen orders four new car carriers that can sail on green methanol, as well as ammonia, with an option of eight vessels.

**Cunard fits entire fleet with shore power capabilities. Jasmina Ovcina Mandra. Offshore Energy.**

16 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/cunard-fits-entire-fleet-with-shore-power-capabilities/> Namely, the company's *Queen Elizabeth* cruise ship has been fitted with shore power capabilities and now all three Cunard ships – *Queen Mary 2*, *Queen Victoria*, and *Queen Elizabeth* – have the ability to plug into shore power, where available.

**Diversification and flexibility: Building ships for net zero. Marco Bognolo. Hellenic Shipping News.**

17 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/diversification-and-flexibility-building-ships-for-net-zero/> Marco Bognolo serves as Vice President of Basic Design in the Merchant Ship Business Unit of Fincantieri.

**Cargill tests 123-foot-tall sails in effort to slash fuel burn. Jack Wittels and Gerson Freitas Jr.**

*American Journal of Transportation (AJOT)*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.ajot.com/news/cargill-tests-123-foot-tall-sails-in-effort-to-slash-fuel-burn> The world's largest agricultural trader hauls 225 million tons of cargo around the globe each year on hundreds of colossal vessels.

**Shipyard Capacity: A Brake on Decarbonization? Paul Bartlett. MarineLink. 22 August 2023.**

Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/shipyard-capacity-a-brake-decarbonization-507415> The IMO's latest crunch meeting in early July may not have aligned global shipping with mid-century targets established in the 2015 Paris Agreement.

**Green Seas: A return to wind power offers real hope for decarbonisation. Eric Priante Martin.**

*TradeWinds*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/green-seas-a-return-to-wind-power-offers-real-hope-for-decarbonisation/2-1-1504301> The glass-half-full view of wind propulsion is this: The fleet of ships using this technology is growing rapidly.

**China Follows Close Behind South Korea With Second Methanol Containership Launch.**

John Konrad. *gCaptain*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/china-shipbuilding-korea-methanol-containership-launch/> On August 17, China shipbuilders marked another milestone in maritime technological advancements with the launch of the “*Eco Maestro*”, the world’s second dual-fuel methanol containership.

**Seven fascinating hybrid ship trends that everyone needs to know about.** Amanda Thurman.

*Wärtsilä Corporation*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.wartsila.com/insights/article/seven-fascinating-hybrid-ship-trends-that-everyone-needs-to-know-about> The next decade is promising some exciting developments for hybrid vessels.

## SHIPPING

**The Invisible Climate Impact of a Cruise Ship.** Aaron Clark and Jack Wittels. *Bloomberg*.

31 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/the-invisible-climate-impact-of-a-cruise-ship-1.1952921> Cruise operators are replacing oil-based fuel with liquefied natural gas to run their ships and pitching the shift as a greener way to travel.

**Fuel oil bunkering to linger despite new GHG rule.** Stefka Wechsler. *Argus Media*.

1 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2475228-fuel-oil-bunkering-to-linger-despite-new-ghg-rule> The IMO’s revised greenhouse gas (GHG) regulation for marine fuel will dent residual fuel oil demand, but the market could persist on demand from oil tanker and dry bulk vessel owners, and on production from decarbonised petroleum refineries.

**Why Has No-one Named the Source of the Latest Houston Bunker Contamination?** *Ship & Bunker*.

1 August 2023. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/769019-feature-why-has-no-one-named-the-source-of-the-latest-houston-bunker-contamination> The most recent case of bunker contamination in Houston has raised once again the inevitable questions about marine fuel quality and what shipowners can do to protect themselves against lifting bad bunkers.

**Inaugural report card on ocean ship pollution: Major retailers, ocean carrier lines earn failing grades.** *Stand.earth*.

3 August 2023. Available from: <https://stand.earth/press-releases/inaugural-report-card-on-ocean-ship-pollution-major-retailers-ocean-carrier-lines-earn-failing-grades/> A report card released today by the Ship It Zero campaign reveals that few retailers and carrier lines are tracking their devastating climate change emissions from global ocean shipping. [Report Card](#)

**Cutting ships’ pollution has climate downside.** *Nature*. 3 August 2023. Available from:

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-023-02430-x> Cleaning up air pollution from ships can exacerbate global warming.

**Greek shipowners control 21% of global tonnage.** David Glass. *Seatrade Maritime News*.

4 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/tankers/greek-shipowners-control-21-global-tonnage> The 5,520-vessel strong Greek merchant fleet having grown by 50% in the last 10 years.

**The Lloyd’s List Podcast: How the future of globalisation plays out for shipping.** *Lloyd’s List*.

4 August 2023. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146150/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-How-the-future-of-globalisation-plays-out-for-shipping> The renowned economist, author and historian Marc Levinson is back on the podcast this week talking about the next phase of globalisation.

**Maersk warns of container shipping demand drop.** *Reuters*. 4 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8tNtrnkEADY> Shipping group Maersk warned of a steeper decline in global demand for shipping containers by sea this year, prompted by muted economic growth and customers reducing inventories.

**Shippers and carriers unite against Ship It Zero's green shipping shaming.** Nick Savvides. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/containers/shippers-and-carriers-unite-against-ship-it-zeros-green-shipping-shaming> In a rare example of shippers and carriers agreeing both groups said that the broader decarbonisation process was beyond their control, pointing to regulatory failures, in the case of the IMO and to the consortia regulations that are failing to create the economic conditions to see green shipping flourish.

**Full clean ahead: can shipping finally steer away from fossil fuels?** Anna Turns. *The Guardian*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/aug/07/full-clean-ahead-can-shipping-finally-steer-away-from-fossil-fuels> The passenger ferry *MV Sea Change* is due this month to make its maiden voyage across San Francisco Bay.

**Shippers face challenge in measuring carbon footprint.** Lars Jensen. *ShippingWatch*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article16327751.ece> With the new agreement made in IMO recently, the ambition is for shipping to become fully decarbonized in 2050 – or thereabouts.

**MGN 653 (M) Amendment 1 electric vehicles onboard passenger roll-on/roll-off (ro-ro) ferries.** *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/3mhuyujb> This Marine Guidance Note provides the UK shipping industry with best practice guidance to facilitate safe carriage, and potential charging of, electric vehicles onboard roll-on roll-off (ro-ro) passenger ferries.

**Q&A: filming of methane slips on board the *MSC World Europa*.** *Transport & Environment*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/discover/qa-filming-of-methane-slips-on-board-the-msc-world-europa/> T&E embarked on the cruise ship *MSC World Europa* in June 2023 to film potential methane slip emanating from the ship's funnels. [Briefing](#) 

**Kenya takes a giant stride towards decarbonising shipping sector.** Wagemu Mwangi. *Kenya News Agency (KNA)*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.kenyanews.go.ke/kenya-takes-a-giant-stride-towards-decarbonising-shipping-sector/> Over the past several years, Kenya has carved a niche for herself as a lead champion in calling for increased global efforts toward combating the adverse effects of climate change.

**ICS membership continues to grow with the Association of Panamanian Shipowners joining.** *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/4zsf5br4> The Association of Panamanian Shipowners has become an associate member of the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS).

**Meet Three Women Navigating the Cruise Industry.** *Port of Seattle*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.portseattle.org/blog/meet-three-women-navigating-cruise-industry> According to the IMO, women make up just 29% of the global maritime industry workforce.

**Ukraine declares war on Russia's Black Sea shipping.** Gabriel Gavin. *POLITICO*. 8 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.politico.eu/article/ukraine-declares-war-on-russia-black-sea-shipping/> Russian ports and ships on the Black Sea - including tankers carrying millions of barrels of oil to Europe - could justifiably be attacked by the Ukrainian military as part of efforts to weaken Moscow's war machine, a senior Kyiv official warned Monday in the wake of two recent attacks on Russian vessels.

**Recent developments in the war in Ukraine - the effect on contractual obligations of the cessation of the Black Sea Grain Initiative.** Marie Kelly. *Gard*. 9 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/web/articles?documentId=35793065> The Black Sea Grain Initiative that allowed grain products to be shipped from Ukrainian Black Sea ports has now ended.

**Playing with fire: How shipping's green drive comes at a cost.** Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 10 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/playing-with-fire-how-shipping-s-green-drive-comes-at-a-cost/2-1-1498096> The blame for soaring temperatures across southern Europe this year seems to have landed firmly on the door of the shipping industry, according to reports.

**Fixing the ferry's future: The cost of maintaining an aging fleet.** Meredith Jordan. *Juneau Empire (US)*. 12 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.juneauempire.com/news/fixing-the-ferrys-future-the-cost-of-maintaining-an-aging-fleet/> In evaluating the massive investment the leadership at Alaska Marine Highway System is about to request of state lawmakers via its proposed master plan, consider the health and vitality of two of the fleet's mainliners.

**Thriving maritime sector.** *The Peninsula (Qatar)*. 12 August 2023. Available from: <https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/editorial/12/08/2023/thriving-maritime-sector> Qatar is fast becoming a regional transshipment hub thanks to services being provided at state-of-the-art Hamad Port and country's maritime sector.

**China overtakes Greece as largest shipowner.** Zhong Nan. *China Daily*. 13 August 2023. Available from: <https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202308/13/WS64d8e615a31035260b81bd80.html> China has overtaken Greece to become the world's largest ship-owning country in terms of gross tonnage, according to information released over the weekend by the Shanghai-based China Shipowners' Association.

**Japan Must Take Lead in Efforts to Decarbonize International Shipping.** Yomiuri Shimbun. *Japan News*. 14 August 2023. Available from: <https://japannews.yomiuri.co.jp/editorial/yomiuri-editorial/20230814-129563/> Efforts by the international shipping sector are vital to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

**Shipping's Greener Fuel Quest Runs Into Climate Complications.** Jack Wittels. *Bloomberg*. 15 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/shipping-s-greener-fuel-quest-runs-into-climate-complications-1.1959216> What does going "green" actually mean? For the global shipping industry, it's a potentially fraught question.

**"Green Shipping" Maritime Sector Principle Introduced in Luxembourg.** *Luxembourg Chronicle*. 16 August 2023. Available from: <https://chronicle.lu/category/transport-logistics/46351-green-shipping-maritime-sector-principle-introduced-in-luxembourg> On Wednesday 16 August 2023, Luxembourg's Ministry of the Economy, together with the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, unveiled the new "Green Shipping" principle that has been introduced into the Luxembourg maritime sector.

**Hapag-Lloyd is unhappy with low grade in new climate rating.** Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 16 August 2023. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article16356429.ece> With a failing grade of F, German container shipping company Hapag-Lloyd is among the worst at taking care of the climate.

**Green Methanol Makes a Splash in Quest for Net-Zero Shipping.** Bernardo Burga. *Bloomberg*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://about.bnef.com/blog/green-methanol-makes-a-splash-in-quest-for-net-zero-shipping/> Maritime shipping, the lifeblood of the global economy, has long depended on dirty, carbon-intense heavy fuel oils – garnering it a reputation as notoriously hard-to-abate.

**Dr Edmund Hughes steps in as New IMO Representative.** *International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA)*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://ibia.net/dr-edmund-hughes-steps-in-as-new-imo-representative/> The IBIA is very pleased to announce that Dr Edmund Hughes will be taking up the mantle as our IMO Representative, beginning 1 September 2023.

**Researcher: Maersk should lead global battle against drugs in shipping.** Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*. 17 August 2023. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article16361164.ece> The smuggling of cocaine and other drugs is such an overwhelming problem for shipping that Maersk and other shipping companies alone cannot solve the problem of combating illegal activities that take place in ports, on ships, and in containers.

**Can the Maritime Industry meet IMO GHG Strategy Net Zero 2050?** Neil Dulling and David Patraiko. *Nautical Institute*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.nautinst.org/resources-page/can-the-maritime-industry-meet-imo-ghg-strategy-net-zero-2050.html> Explore the outcomes of IMO's MEPC 80 in this chat with Mr. Neil Dulling (NI's volunteer delegate to IMO) and Mr. David Patraiko (NI's Director of Projects).

**As Freight Shipping Sails Toward Cleaner Fuels, Will ESG Prove to Be a Liability or a Benefit?** David Agnew. *Risk & Insurance*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://riskandinsurance.com/as-freight-shipping-sails-toward-cleaner-fuels-will-esg-prove-to-be-a-liability-or-a-benefit/> July 2023 was the hottest month on record: The warning signs of climate change are becoming impossible to ignore.

**Labor Shortages, Climate Change & Technology: They're All Related.** Robert Kunkel. *MarineLink*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/labor-shortages-climate-change-technology-507375> Many problems in our "New World" can be solved more quickly than ever due to the speed at which information now travels.

**Shipping risks: Lessons from *Wakashio* disaster for island states – Event Summary.** *Safe Seas*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.safeseas.net/wakashio-workshop/> The Charles Telfair Centre, in partnership with the University of Copenhagen and the SafeSeas network for maritime security research, hosted a public event on "Shipping Risks: Lessons from the *Wakashio* for Western Indian Ocean Islands" on Friday, August 18, 2023 in Mauritius.

**Three shipowners take on new absolute zero emissions challenge.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com* 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/three-shipowners-take-on-new-absolute-zero-emissions-challenge/> Three shipowners have accepted to take up the absolute zero emissions challenge posed by the Zero Emissions Ship Technology Association (ZESTA), a global industry body representing technologies and fuel providers who are already committed to absolute zero.

**Danish Shipping: Shipping industry's investment in LCO2 transport hinges on market certainty.** Jasmina Ovcina Mandra. *Offshore Energy*. 22 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/danish-shipping-shiping-industrys-investment-in-lco2-transport-hinges-on-market-certainty/> This was the message from Danish Shipping, a trade and employer organisation for more than 90 shipowners and offshore companies, welcoming the move from the Danish government to provide state aid to expedite carbon capture and storage projects.

**Shipping companies at the bottom of climate ranking for second year in a row.** Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article16373531.ece> Once again this year, several large shipping companies are at the bottom of consultancy PwC Norway's assessment of the hundred largest companies in Norway in terms of their respective climate efforts.

**Higher targets for lower emissions in global shipping.** *Nautilus International*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/telegraph/higher-targets-for-lower-emissions-in-global-shipping/> Nautilus was involved in the IMO conference that produced this year's historic international agreement on cutting emissions from shipping.

**Arctic Shipping: Trends, Challenges and Ways Forward.** Andrey Todorov. *Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/arctic-shipping-trends-challenges-and-ways-forward> The Arctic is continuing to warm three to four times faster than the global average and the sea ice extent is declining precipitously during all months of the year.

**Hidden challenge for bulk carriers.** *Baltic Exchange*. 23 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.balticexchange.com/en/news-and-events/news/baltic-magazine/2023/Hidden-challenge-for-bulk-carriers.html> The Swedish Club highlights an often-overlooked challenge faced by shipowners when it comes to cargo damage – shortage claims.

**Why shipping should be worried about soaring ocean temperatures.** Bojan Lepic. *Splash 247.com*. 24 August 2023. Available from: <https://splash247.com/why-shipping-should-be-worried-about-soaring-ocean-temperatures/> The past couple of months have seen countless headlines on wildfires and concern about the immense heat on land.

**What the BRICS Expansion Means to Shipping.** *Maritime Executive*. 27 August 2023. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/what-the-brics-expansion-means-to-shipping> The major news last week was the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Summit in Johannesburg.

**Jeddah to Host Sustainable Maritime Industry Conference 2023 next week.** *Saudi Press Agency (SPA)*. 29 August 2023. Available from: <https://spa.gov.sa/en/3dea6103bab> The Transport General Authority will hold the Sustainable Maritime Industry Conference (SMIC), under the theme "Innovation for a Greener Future", from September 4 to 6, 2023, in Jeddah.

## RESEARCH

Cariou P, Halim RA, et al. **Ship-owner response to carbon taxes: Industry and environmental implications.** *Ecological Economics*. 13 June 2023. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0921800923001805> We consider the effects of a maritime bunker levy on ship-owner profits, trade, and emissions.

Bolierakis SN, Kostovasili M, et al. **Training on LSA lifeboat operation using Mixed Reality.** *Virtual Reality & Intelligent Hardware*. 16 June 2023. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2096579623000128> This work aims to provide an overview of the Mixed Reality (MR) technology's use in maritime industry for training purposes.

Park S, Kim CH, et al. **Analysis of marine incidents and policy implications: Case study of the South Korea.** *Marine Policy*. 4 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X23002695> According to Heinrich's Law, dozens of minor accidents and signs of their impending occurrence appear for the same cause before a major accident occurs.

Chua JY, Wang X, et al. **Sustainable shipping management: Definitions, critical success factors, drivers and performance.** *Transport Policy*. 22 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0967070X23001865> Sustainable shipping management (SSM) is one of the greatest challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> century which attracts much attention and interest from global regulatory bodies, industry players, and academics.

Jeong H and Yun H. **A stochastic approach for economic valuation of alternative fuels: The case of container ship investments.** *Journal of Cleaner Production*. 25 July 2023. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959652623023405> With unpredictable climate policies and fuel technology developments, the maritime industry faces significant uncertainties.

Lu B, Sun Y, et al. **Evolutionary characteristics of global offshore carbon emissions network and responsibility allocation of emissions reduction.** *Patterns*. 31 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.cell.com/patterns/fulltext/S2666-3899\(23\)00156-3](https://www.cell.com/patterns/fulltext/S2666-3899(23)00156-3) Offshore carbon emissions from the international shipping trade are significant contributors to climate change.

Dupont C, Gourmelon F, et al. **Contribution of maritime surveillance data to French Maritime Spatial Planning: between technical potential and political constraints.** *CyberGeo European Journal of Geography*. 31 July 2023. Available from: <https://journals.openedition.org/cybergegeo/40565> Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is widely recognised around the world as a lever for sustainable development at sea.

Kaandorp MLA, Lobelle D, et al. **Global mass of buoyant marine plastics dominated by large long-lived debris.** *Nature Geoscience*. 7 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41561-023-01216-0#citeas> The fate of plastics that enter the ocean is a longstanding puzzle.

Röschel L and Neumann B. **Ocean-based negative emissions technologies: a governance framework review.** *Frontiers in Marine Science*. 16 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2023.995130/full> The model pathways of the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) for the timely achievement of global climate targets, especially the target of limiting global warming to 1.5°C compared to pre-industrial levels, suggest the need for safeguarding and enhancing the global carbon sink.

Lu B, Ming X, et al. **Challenges of decarbonizing global maritime container shipping toward net-zero emissions.** *npj Ocean Sustainability*. 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s44183-023-00018-6> Responsible for the most significant part of the world's burning of marine fossil fuels and shipping emissions, global maritime container shipping is under decarbonization pressure.

Lagouvardou S, Lagemann B, et al. **Marginal abatement cost of alternative marine fuels and the role of market-based measures.** *Nature Energy*. 21 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41560-023-01334-4#citeas> Uncertainties on the global availability and affordability of alternative marine fuels are stalling the shipping sector's decarbonization course.

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#### **About the front cover**

The CAB front cover is a photograph of the international memorial to the world's seafarers, past, present and future which graces the entrance to IMO Headquarters in London. The memorial, a seven-metre high, ten-tonne bronze representation of the bow of a cargo ship with a lone seafarer on the deck, is the work of internationally renowned British sculptor Michael Sandle.