



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

“Sharing Maritime Knowledge”

CURRENT AWARENESS BULLETIN

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[Maritime Knowledge Centre \(MKC\)](http://www.imo.org)
maritimeknowledgecentre@imo.org



**NAVIGATING
THE FUTURE:
SAFETY FIRST!**

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](#).

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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

Legal Committee finalizes new guidelines on seafarer criminalization

IMO's Legal Committee has finalized a new set of guidelines to ensure seafarers are protected against unfair treatment if detained in foreign jurisdictions on suspicion of committing a crime.

The fair treatment of seafarers was high on the agenda of the Legal Committee's 111st session, which took place from 22 to 26 April at IMO headquarters in London, chaired by Ms. Gillian Grant of Canada.

The guidelines are to be applied where seafarers may be detained in a jurisdiction other than that of the seafarers' nationality on suspicion of committing crimes during the course of their employment on board a ship. They aim to protect seafarers' right to due process during investigation and detention by public authorities.

In his [closing remarks](#), IMO Secretary-General Mr. Arsenio Dominguez said: "The well-being of seafarers continues to be of great concern to me and to the entire Membership of IMO... The Guidelines will add a significant value in resolving the challenges faced by seafarers and ensure that seafarers are treated fairly."

The guidelines contain guidance for port States, flag States, coastal States, States of which the seafarer is a national, shipowners and seafarers.

The finalized guidelines will be submitted as a base document to the Joint ILO/IMO Tripartite Working Group to identify and address seafarers' issues and the human element ([JTWG](#)) for further refinement. The JTWG will then submit the guidelines to the Legal Committee and to the ILO Governing Bodies for endorsement. [More...](#)

Maritime Technology Global Challenge - solutions for decarbonization selected

Funding is being released to develop detailed technical proposals to help accelerate decarbonisation of selected domestic vessels and ports in Africa and the Caribbean, as part of the Maritime Technology Global Challenge, under the IMO CARES (Coordinated Actions to Reduce Emissions from Shipping) project.

The IMO CARES Maritime Technology Global Challenge was launched in November 2023 to identify technology solutions to accelerate decarbonisation in domestic shipping and ports in target regions.

A judging panel recommended three specific solutions, wind turbines, shore to ship power supply and port call data sharing, for development into detailed technical proposals and possible demonstration in four target countries (Namibia, Mauritius, St Kitts and Nevis, and Trinidad and Tobago). The final choice of solutions was made by the governments of these countries, taking into consideration their needs and the technical specifications of selected ports and vessels. [More...](#)

IMO's maritime law institute celebrates 35 years of training success

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute ([IMO-IMLI](#)) celebrated its 35th anniversary with testimonies from alumni and discussions about how to shape its future.

IMO-IMLI was founded in 1988 in Malta, and began its first programme in 1989. Its aim is to strengthen the capacity and expertise of Member States in all aspects of international maritime law. This includes legislative drafting techniques aimed at incorporating international maritime instruments into national law, supporting the implementation and enforcement of the vast body of IMO rules and regulations.

During a special anniversary event in the margins of the 111st session of the Legal Committee held this week in London, United Kingdom, IMO Secretary-General Mr. Arsenio Dominguez [stated](#): “Over the past three decades, IMLI has played a key role in providing unparalleled legal training to more than 1,700 maritime professionals from 160 States and Territories. These people, from very diverse backgrounds, have become invaluable assets to their countries and to the global maritime community.”

IMO-IMLI Director Prof. Norman A. Martinez Gutierrez said: “I am proud to note that many hold the highest positions in their respective countries. IMLI graduates are able to provide a unique level of legal expertise that is hard to come by elsewhere.” [More...](#)

[MEETING SUMMARIES AND SCHEDULE](#) [Programme of Meetings for 2024](#)

Previous Meetings

[Facilitation Committee \(FAL 48\)](#) 8-12 April 2024

[Legal Committee \(LEG 111\)](#) 22-26 April 2024

Forthcoming Meetings

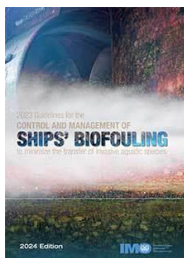
Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 108) 15-24 May 2024

NEW IMO PUBLICATIONS



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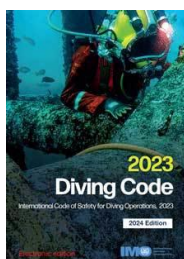
Biofouling Guidelines, 2024 Edition

Hard copy format: IA662E

Digital format: KA662E (English), KA662F (French), KA662S (Spanish)

ISBN: 978-92-801-1777-6

The introduction of harmful aquatic organisms to new environments by ships has been identified as a major threat to world oceans and to the conservation of biodiversity. Biofouling, described as the undesirable accumulation of microorganisms, plants, algae and animals on submerged structures (especially ships' hulls), is considered one of the main vectors for bioinvasions. These Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species are intended to provide a globally consistent approach to the management of biofouling.



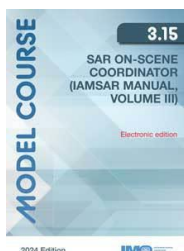
2023 Diving Code

Hard copy format: I805E

Digital format: K805E (English), K805F (French), K805S (Spanish)

ISBN: 978-92-801-1773-8

This model course aims to provide knowledge to those who may be designated to perform the duties and responsibilities of a Search and Rescue On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) for a search and rescue incident, as defined in the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR), Volume III. By doing so, the purpose of this model course is to assist States in meeting their own SAR obligations they accepted under the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979 and the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974.



Model Course: SAR On-Scene Coordinator (IAMSAR Manual Volume III), 2024 Edition

Digital format: KTA315E

ISBN: 978-92-801-1776-9

This model course aims to provide knowledge to those who may be designated to perform the duties and responsibilities of a Search and Rescue On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) for a search and rescue incident, as defined in the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR), Volume III. By doing so, the purpose of this model course is to assist States in meeting their own SAR obligations they accepted under the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979 and the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974.

UNITED NATIONS

UNCTAD rebrands to 'UN Trade and Development'. *UN Trade and Development*. 9 April 2024.
Available from: <https://unctad.org/news/unctad-rebrands-un-trade-and-development> 🗉 The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) announced today its landmark rebranding as "UN Trade and Development", commemorating its 60th anniversary this year.

Massive investment and financial reform needed to rescue SDGs. *UN News*. 9 April 2024.
Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/04/1148411> Financing for sustainable development is at a crossroads and without urgent investment, global efforts to achieve a more just and equitable world by 2030 will fail, the UN deputy chief warned on Tuesday.

Secretary-General calls for UN 2.0 to tackle 21st century challenges. *UN News*. 22 April 2024.
Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/04/1148806> Secretary-General António Guterres on Monday emphasised the need for a "strengthened and updated" United Nations to better reach and support people around the world.

General Assembly debates Security Council's rising veto use. *UN News*. 23 April 2024.
Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/04/1148896> 🗉 Assembly President Dennis Francis emphasised that the Security Council remains unable to collectively address critical peace and security situations in the Gaza Strip, Mali, Syria and Ukraine as well as concerning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

CASUALTIES

Dali's owners deny responsibility for Baltimore bridge accident. Nick Savvides. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/finance-insurance/dalis-owners-deny-responsibility-baltimore-bridge-accident> A Singaporean ship owner and a ship manager that operated the vessel that struck and destroyed Baltimore's Francis Scott Key bridge have filed a petition seeking court protection from liability.

Eight missing after ship collision in south China. *Xinhuanet (China)*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://english.news.cn/20240403/5de04ae0133d40e9ab167afeaf19cd6e/c.html> Eight people onboard a fishing boat went missing after it collided with a Panamanian container ship off the southwestern coast of south China's Hainan Province at around 0:15 a.m. Wednesday, the provincial maritime search and rescue center said.

Video Release: Unified Command divers from partner agencies continue a comprehensive inspection of the M/V Dali. *Unified Command Key Bridge Response 2024*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.keybridgeresponse2024.com/post/video-release-unified-command-divers-from-partner-agencies-continue-a-comprehensive-inspection-of-t> The Key Bridge Response 2024 Unified Command continues dive and salvage operations on the Motor Vessel *Dali* at the site of the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse in Baltimore, Thursday.

Danish frigate suffered weapon system failure in Red Sea combat, captain says. Jacob Gronholt-Pedersen. *Reuters*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/danish-frigate-suffered-weapon-system-failure-red-sea-combat-captain-says-2024-04-04/> A Danish frigate deployed to the Red Sea as part of a U.S.-led operation suffered malfunctioning of its weapon systems when attacked by drones operated by Houthi militants last month, the captain said on Thursday as the ship arrived in Denmark.

People jump into the sea to escape raging ferry fire in Gulf of Thailand. All 108 on board are safe. *Associated Press*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/thailand-surat-thani-koh-tao-ferry-fire-0c8f3e547b8094a715d5669cb32d6870> The overnight ferry from Surat Thani province was about to arrive at Koh Tao, a popular tourist destination off the Thai coast, when one of the passengers suddenly heard a crackling sound and smelled smoke.

Another endangered right whale dies after a collision with a ship off the East Coast. Patrick Whittle. *Associated Press*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/endangered-right-whale-death-ship-collision-10476abe890bd151b713c8545f098561> An increasingly deadly year for the endangered North Atlantic right whale got worse this week when another member of the species was killed in a collision with a ship, federal authorities said Thursday.

Mozambique: Death toll from ferry accident reaches nearly 100. *Africanews*. 8 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.africanews.com/2024/04/08/mozambique-death-toll-from-ferry-accident-reaches-nearly-100/> Mozambique's Maritime Transport Institute (INTRASMAR) on Monday gave the latest count saying the overloaded fishing boat was not licensed to transport people.

CMA CGM container ship 'suffers loss of propulsion' near New York's longest bridge. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/cma-cgm-container-ship-suffers-loss-of-propulsion-near-new-york-s-longest-bridge/2-1-1623535> The incident involving the 10,100-teu *APL Qingdao* (built 2012) happened on Friday evening, less than two weeks after the Maersk-chartered 9,962-teu container ship *Dali* (built 2015) lost power and destroyed the Francis Scott.

Ship fire claims spike to highest in a decade as larger vessels add to risks. Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insurance/ship-fire-claims-spike-to-highest-in-a-decade-as-larger-vessels-add-to-risks/2-1-1623945> Individual hull insurance claims exceeding \$50m were reported for the first time in more than a decade in 2023 following fires on vessels, according to the Nordic Association of Marine Insurers (Cefor).

US investigators interview ship personnel in Maryland bridge collapse. David Shepardson. *Reuters*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-investigators-interview-ship-personnel-maryland-bridge-collapse-2024-04-10/> U.S. National Transportation Safety Board chair Jennifer Homendy said at a Senate hearing Wednesday that investigators had conducted interviews with key cargo ship personnel in the investigation of the March 26 Baltimore bridge collapse.

US Eyeing Ship's Electrical System After Baltimore Bridge Crash. Ari Natter. *Bloomberg*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/us-eyeing-ship-s-electrical-system-after-baltimore-bridge-crash-1.2057404> Federal investigators looking into what caused a ship to crash into a vital Baltimore bridge last month are honing in on the vessel's electrical system, US National Transportation Safety Board Chair Jennifer Homendy said Wednesday.

How many ships hit bridges, lose power every year? Data shows jarring numbers on the rise. Emily Le Coz and Austin Fast. *USA Today*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://eu.usatoday.com/story/news/investigations/2024/04/11/baltimore-bridge-collapse-ship-blackouts-incidents/73262682007/> An alarm wails onboard the container ship as it approaches the Francis Scott Key Bridge during what had until that moment seemed like a routine departure from the Port of Baltimore.

FBI opens criminal probe into Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse in Baltimore. *NBC News (US)*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/fbi-opens-criminal-probe-francis-scott-key-bridge-collapse-baltimore-rcna147813> The FBI has opened a criminal investigation into the cargo ship that slammed into the Francis Scott Key Bridge and caused it to collapse in Baltimore last month, according to two senior law enforcement officials familiar with the investigation.

12 rescued from burning freighter in Singapore waters. Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/casualty/12-rescued-burning-freighter-singapore-waters> A fire was reported onboard 1,598 dwt, Tanzania-flagged, *Layar Anggun* 8 at 12:50 pm local time on 16 April in Singapore territorial waters off Pedra Branca.

Baltimore leaders accuse ship's owner and manager of negligence in Key Bridge collapse. Lea Skene. *Associated Press*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/baltimore-bridge-collapse-legal-liability-2fabbbe0137412b71953eebcf4649bcc> The owner and manager of the massive container ship that took down the Francis Scott Key Bridge last month should be held fully liable for the deadly collapse, according to court papers filed Monday on behalf of Baltimore's mayor and city council.

Four sailors missing after vessel collides in Guangdong. Zheng Caixiong. *China Daily*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202404/23/WS6627586ba31082fc043c3822.html> Rescue workers were still racing against time to search for the missing crew members who were washed away after their vessel collided with a bridge pier in Foshan, Guangdong province, as of Tuesday noon.

Baltimore bridge collapse: city says ship was ‘unseaworthy’ before leaving port. Coral Murphy Marcos. *The Guardian*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2024/apr/23/baltimore-bridge-collapse-ship-lawsuit> The city of Baltimore has sued the owner and operator of the *Dali* container ship that crashed into the Francis Scott Key Bridge last month, saying it had “an incompetent crew” and set sail despite receiving warnings.

Ballistic missiles fired by Yemen’s Houthi rebels damage Panama-flagged oil tanker in Red Sea. Jon Gambrell. *Associated Press*. 27 April 2024. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/yemen-houthi-rebels-red-sea-crisis-israel-hamas-war-4ccd82cde61be017616eafa085bf0cfc> Ballistic missiles fired by Yemen’s Houthi rebels caused “minor damage” to a Panama-flagged oil tanker traveling through the Red Sea on Friday, authorities said.

Houthi missile strikes damage first vessel in over a month. Eric Priante Martin and Harry Papachristou. *TradeWinds*. 26 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/houthi-missile-strikes-damage-first-vessel-in-over-a-month/2-1-1634149> Houthi militants have scored their first hit on a merchant ship in a little over a month, with a double strike on a tanker in the southern Red Sea.

Navy rescues Panama-flagged ship with 22 Indians from Houthi rebels. Mayank Singh. *New Indian Express*. 29 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2024/Apr/29/navy-rescues-panama-flagged-ship-with-22-indians-from-houthi-rebels> A swift response by the Indian Navy on a distress call raised by a Panama-flagged ship Merchant Vessel (MV) *Andromeda Star* helped in safeguarding and securing its crew which were mostly Indians.

Houthi missile hits bulker in the Red Sea. Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/casualty/houthi-missile-hits-bulker-red-sea> As attacks on commercial shipping in the Red Sea continue Houthi rebels claimed a hit on the bulker *Cyclades* describing the attack as “accurate”.

ENVIRONMENT

‘Two years to save the world’: UN climate chief calls for faster action and more finance. *Euronews*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/green/2024/04/11/two-years-to-save-the-world-un-climate-chief-calls-for-faster-action-and-more-finance> United Nations executive climate secretary Simon Stiell said he knows his warning may sound melodramatic but action over the next two years is “essential”.

Two years to save the world. *Chatham House Royal Institute of International Affairs*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.chathamhouse.org/events/all/open-event/two-years-save-world> Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change, Simon Stiell, lays out what needs to be done by COP30, and its long-term significance.

The heat is on: what we know about why ocean temperatures keep smashing records. *University of Western Australia*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.uwa.edu.au/news/article/2024/april/the-heat-is-on-what-we-know-about-why-ocean-temperatures-keep-smashing-records> Over the last year, our oceans have been hotter than any time ever recorded. Our instrumental record covers the last 150 years.

Fishers in Madagascar adapt to deadly seas due to climate change. *UN News*. 13 April 2024. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/04/1148496> Fishing communities in the south of Madagascar are facing sometimes deadly sea conditions due to climate change, but with the help of the UN's International Labour Organization (ILO) are finding ways to adapt to the new circumstances they face.

It will take 880 years to achieve UN ocean conservation goals, at this rate (commentary). Angelo Villagomez. *Mongabay*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://news.mongabay.com/2024/04/it-will-take-880-years-to-achieve-un-ocean-conservation-goals-at-this-rate-commentary/> Indigenous conservationist Angelo Villagomez will speak at the Our Ocean conference, one of the largest and highest profile conferences of its kind, this week in Athens, Greece.

NOAA confirms 4th global coral bleaching event. *US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/noaa-confirms-4th-global-coral-bleaching-event> The world is currently experiencing a global coral bleaching event, according to NOAA scientists.

UN envoy says of the threat to coral reefs: 'Are we faced with a colossal ecosystem tragedy? Yes'. Elena Becatoros. *Associated Press*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/coral-bleaching-climate-united-nations-marine-e65dbc624babda34ae1bcef2b9a6372b> The world is not doing enough to protect coral reefs, the United Nations' special envoy for the ocean said Tuesday in defense of the marine ecosystems that protect biodiversity, sustain underwater life and produce some of the oxygen we breathe.

Five ways you can help save the environment this Mother Earth Day. *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*. 19 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/five-ways-you-can-help-save-environment-mother-earth-day> More than 1 million plants, animals and other living things are at risk of being wiped out.

What is Earth Day, when is it and what has it achieved? Mark Poynting and Maddie Molloy. *BBC News*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-68610073> Millions of people across the globe are gathering to mark Earth Day and celebrate the environmental movement.

Heatwave deaths increased across almost all Europe in 2023, says UN weather agency. *UN News*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/04/11487960> Climate change shocks caused record levels of disruption and misery for millions in Europe in 2023 with widespread flooding and severe heatwaves – a new normal which countries must adapt to as a priority, the UN weather agency said on Monday.

UN officials urge swift action to tackle El Niño-induced extreme weather. *UN News*. 29 April 2024. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/04/1149156> The current El Niño event began in mid- to late 2023, causing the ocean's temperature to rise, and its impact has already decimated farming in southern Africa, triggering crop shortfalls and rising commodity prices.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

Over 51,000 barrels collected in Tobago oil spill, says Ministry. *Loop News (Trinidad and Tobago)*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://tt.loopnews.com/content/over-51000-barrels-collected-tobago-oil-spill-says-ministry> The Ministry of Planning and Development said over 51,000 barrels of liquid waste and more than 21,000 cubic yards of solid waste have been removed to date from coastal areas in Tobago affected by the February 7th grounding of the vessel “*Gulfstream*” in the vicinity of Cove Reef, 200 metres off the shoreline of Cove Bay.

Red Sea crisis forces operators to use more container ships, adding to emission concerns. Sourasis Bose. *Reuters*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/red-sea-crisis-forces-operators-use-more-container-ships-adding-emission-2024-04-10/> The shipping industry’s pledge to limit its carbon footprint may suffer a setback as the current Red Sea crisis prompts it to use more vessels and take longer routes to ensure the smooth sailing of global maritime trade.

Tackling plastic pellet losses is key step for the EU’s zero-pollution ambition. *European Committee of the Regions (CoR)*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://cor.europa.eu/en/news/Pages/plastic-pellet-losses-key-for-zero-pollution-ambition.aspx> EU regions and cities have welcomed the new proposal for a regulation on preventing plastic pellet losses during the manufacturing and supply chains.

Critical negotiations on plastic pollution begin next week. *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/critical-negotiations-plastic-pollution-begin-next-week> The world has a once-in-a-generation chance to profoundly change humanity’s relationship with plastic. [Gameplan: It’s time to beat plastic pollution](#) 🗳️

Ships fined for causing pollution. Jean Christou. *Cyprus Mail*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://cyprus-mail.com/2024/04/22/ships-fined-for-causing-pollution/> Fines have been imposed on 16 shipowners over the last 10 years for pollution caused by oil, illegal discharge of sewage and illegal cleaning of vessels without obtaining approval from the Cyprus Ports Authority (CPA), it emerged on Monday.

Canada cleans up over 600 tonnes of lost fishing gear from areas hit by Hurricane Fiona. *Government of Canada*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/34vd9f44> Lost, abandoned and discarded fishing gear, or ghost gear, is a significant source of plastic pollution that can stay in our water for hundreds of years, causing harm to marine mammals, fisheries, and habitats.

Fiji calls on the plastics treaty to comprehensively address the full lifecycle of ghost fishing gear. *Pacific Islands News Association (PINA)*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://pina.com.fj/2024/04/23/fiji-calls-on-the-plastics-treaty-to-comprehensively-address-the-full-lifecycle-of-ghost-fishing-gear/> Fiji contributes a fraction of one percent of the global macroplastic leakages from abandoned, lost, discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) but bears a disproportionate burden on its devastating impact on marine life and ecosystems.

Coke, Pepsi top list in global count of plastic waste. Benjamin Shingler. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/climate/plastic-study-canada-1.7182609> 🗳️ A new study documenting the scourge of plastic waste around the world has found that more than half of branded plastic pollution can be traced back to just 56 companies.

Can a New UN Treaty Stop Plastic Pollution Worldwide? Mark Leon Goldberg. *UN Dispatch*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://undispatch.com/can-a-new-un-treaty-stop-plastic-pollution-worldwide/> © To be sure, governments are still far short of meeting the Paris Agreement goals, and the Conference of Parties (COP) process to close that gap is woefully insufficient.

Environmental Agency investigates as *MT Theresa II* tanker spews out black smoke close to residential areas. *Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC)*. 28 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.gbc.gi/news/environmental-agency-investigates-mt-theresa-ii-tanker-spews-out-black-smoke-close-residential-areas> 📺 The Environmental Agency is investigating the impact of thick, dark smoke seen billowing out of an oil tanker anchored off the North Mole on Saturday evening.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Levels of depression and anxiety increase among Ukrainian seafarers. Sam Chambers. *Splash247.com* 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://splash247.com/levels-of-depression-and-anxiety-increase-among-ukrainian-seafarers/> Seafarer charity Stella Maris is warning that Ukrainian seafarers are experiencing increased levels of loneliness and depression amid fears of conscription if they return home as the war enters its third year.

The Nautical Institute: Supporting seafarers through turbulent times. Alex Smith. *Cruise & Ferry*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.cruiseandferry.net/articles/the-nautical-insitute-supporting-seafarers-through-turbulent-times> With new technologies, fuels and regulations among the many changes on the horizon for the passenger shipping industry, Alex Smith asks Captain John Lloyd of The Nautical Institute how the organisation is helping seafarers prepare for the future.

The Food Chain: Hungry at Sea. *BBC World Service*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3ct5xml> © Ruth Alexander hears from seafarers about why that makes “cookie” the most important person on board a ship and why, in some cases, crew members are going hungry.

Stella Maris Warns Seafarers of Risks Running the Red & Black Sea Gauntlet. *Maritime Executive*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/corporate/stella-maris-warns-seafarers-of-risks-running-the-red-black-sea-gauntlet> Leading maritime charity Stella Maris is warning of the growing dangers facing crew members running the gauntlet of the world’s most perilous shipping route.

IMO

IMO agrees to world’s first global carbon price on shipping. *ABC (Australia)*. 1 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/pacific/programs/pacificbeat/shippinglevy/103656308> 📻 Shipping companies that produce around three per cent of the world’s greenhouse gas emissions will now pay a fee for every ton of carbon they produce from burning fuel, all thanks to those Pacific nations who played a prominent role in making it happen.

Shipping’s Shadow World. Vanessa Ogle. *New York Review of Books*. 9 April 2024. Available from: https://www.nybooks.com/online/2024/04/09/shippings-shadow-world/?lp_txn_id=1542768 The shipping industry, which moves more than 80 percent of global trade, is poorly regulated, environmentally dangerous, and rife with labor violations.

IMO signals shipping's decarbonisation progress. Carly Fields. *Baltic Exchange*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.balticexchange.com/en/news-and-events/news/baltic-magazine/2024/IMO-signals-shipping-decarbonisation-progress.html> The recent IMO Marine Environmental Protection Committee meeting, MEPC 81, injected fresh momentum into the shipping's decarbonisation efforts.

The inadvertent geoengineering experiment that the world is now shutting off. James Temple. *MIT Technology Review*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.technologyreview.com/2024/04/11/1091087/the-inadvertent-geoengineering-experiment-that-the-world-is-now-shutting-off/> Usually when we talk about climate change, the focus is squarely on the role that greenhouse-gas emissions play in driving up global temperatures, and rightly so.

'IMO is not slow' Sec-Gen hits back at critics of decarbonisation pace. Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/regulation/imo-not-slow-sec-gen-hits-back-critics-decarbonisation-pace> Speaking at the Singapore Maritime Lecture the IMO Sec-Gen's response that the UN governing body was not slow drew laughter from the audience prompting him to repeat himself.

IMO chief pledges to keep urging EU to drop shipping carbon levies. Cichen Shen. *Lloyd's List*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148829/IMO-chief-pledges-to-keep-urging-EU-to-drop-shipping-carbon-levies> The newly elected secretary-general told Lloyd's List he had already relayed this message to regulators in Brussels and will urge the EU to "drop this... the moment we [shipping] have global regulations".

Arsenio Domínguez, Secretary General, International Maritime Organization (IMO). *Ship.energy* podcast. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://audioboom.com/posts/8490803-arsenio-dominquez-secretary-general-international-maritime-organization-imo> This week's ship.energy podcast features Arsenio Domínguez, who began his four-year term of office as the Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at the start of 2024.

Share your decarbonisation results, urges IMO's Dominguez. Craig Eason. *TradeWinds*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/share-your-decarbonisation-results-urges-imo-s-dominguez/2-1-1628187> Leading maritime companies should share their decarbonisation efforts with the International Maritime Organization, and the industry as a whole, while the industry should stop patting itself on the back about the agreement of the revised decarbonisation strategy last year, argues Arsenio Dominguez, IMO secretary general.

Eswatini shipping registry flagged as 'false' operation by IMO. Richard Meade. *Lloyd's List*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148912/Eswatini-shipping-registry-flagged-as-false-operation-by-IMO> The nascent registry established to flag ships on behalf of the landlocked African state of Eswatini has been labelled a potentially fraudulent operation by the IMO.

IMO chief Dominguez confident on hitting 2030 emissions target. Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/regulation/imo-chief-dominguez-confident-hitting-2030-emissions-target> Speaking at media briefing in Singapore on 19 April IMO Secretary-General Arsenio Dominguez expressed confidence that shipping would hit the 2030 target, the first of two checkpoints leading to an ambition of net zero emissions at or around 2050.

Shipping industry on track to cut emissions: IMO chief. Lee Nian Tjoe. *Straits Times*. 20 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/transport/shipping-industry-on-track-to-cut-emissions-imo-chief> The head of the IMO is “very confident” that the shipping industry is on track to finalise by next year how it will reach goals to reduce greenhouse emissions.

Togo Advances Digitalization Efforts at International Maritime Organization Meeting. *Maritimafrika*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://maritimafrika.com/en/togo-advances-digitalization-efforts-at-international-maritime-organization-meeting/> The Republic of Togo showcased its commitment to enhancing maritime efficiency and trade facilitation during the 48th Session of the Facilitation Committee (FAL 48) of the IMO, held from April 8th to 12th, 2024.

IMO divided on how to tackle fraudulent ship registries. Declan Bush and Joshua Minchin. *Lloyd's List*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.loydslist.com/LL1148950/IMO-divided-on-how-to-tackle-fraudulent-ship-registries> The International Maritime Organization has heard calls for guidelines on fraudulent ship registries, amid fears they are helping dangerous and illegal trades.

LAW & POLICY

ISA Council closes the first part of its 29th session with approval of MoU with FAO and further progress in negotiations on the draft exploitation regulations. *International Seabed Authority*. 2 April 2024. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/393u8a3t> On 29 March 2024, the Council of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) successfully concluded the first part of its 29th session, marking significant progress in the ongoing negotiations of the draft exploitation regulations for mineral resources in the international seabed area (the Area).

Ship master and company convicted over pilot ladder failures. *Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://media.amsa.gov.au/media-release/ship-master-and-company-convicted-over-pilot-ladder-failures> On 25 May 2023, a mooring master providing pilot services on the Panama-flagged general cargo ship *Boshi 58* was seriously injured when the pilot ladder broke during the transfer.

EU Policy. NGOs demand stringent criteria for ‘low-carbon’ hydrogen. Robert Hodgson. *Euronews*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/green/2024/04/02/ngos-demand-stringent-criteria-for-low-carbon-hydrogen> The European Commission has been urged to consult broadly and take a methodical approach to defining new ‘low-carbon-fuels, amid concerns that hastily drafted legislation could promote the unsustainable use of fossil gas.

Treasury Targets Network Facilitating Shipments Valued in Hundreds of Millions for Iranian Military. *US Department of the Treasury*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2220> Today, the Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is taking additional action against Iranian military revenue generation, targeting Oceanlink Maritime DMCC for facilitating the shipment of Iranian commodities on behalf of Iran’s Armed Forces General Staff (AFGS) and Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics (MODAFL).

Industry Advisory - All FMC Statutes & Regulations Remain in Full Effect Following Bridge Collapse. *US Federal Maritime Commission (FMC)*. 5 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.fmc.gov/industry-advisory-all-fmc-statutes-regulations-remain-in-full-effect-following-bridge-collapse/> 🚢 Disruption to regular service at the Port of Baltimore is causing many shippers to adjust supply chain operations.

Nine Egyptians Face Trial in Deadly Greek Migrant Boat Sinking. *Greek City Times.*

8 April 2024. Available from: <https://greekcitytimes.com/2024/04/06/nine-egyptians-face-trial-in-deadly-greek-migrant-boat-sinking/> The circumstances surrounding the sinking of the “Adriana” in June remain disputed.

Grand Chamber rulings in the climate change cases. *European Court of Human Rights.*

9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.echr.coe.int/w/grand-chamber-rulings-in-the-climate-change-cases> The case Verein KlimaSeniorinnen Schweiz and Others v. Switzerland concerned a complaint by four women and a Swiss association, Verein KlimaSeniorinnen Schweiz, whose members are concerned about the consequences of global warming on their living conditions and health.

Climate protection is now a human right - and lawsuits will follow. Federica Di Sario.

POLITICO. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.politico.eu/article/monumental-climate-ruling-europe-top-human-rights-court-heralds-new-era-climate-litigations/> Governments be warned: You must protect your citizens from climate change - it's their human right.

Joint Declaration on cooperation to secure critical subsea infrastructure. *Government of Norway.*

9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.regjeringen.no/en/aktuelt/joint-declaration-on-cooperation-to-secure-critical-subsea-infrastructure/id3033122/> Norway and five other North Sea countries have signed a joint declaration on cooperation to protect energy and telecommunications infrastructure in the North Sea.

Norway puts gender equality at sea on the international agenda. *Government of Norway.*

11 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.regjeringen.no/en/aktuelt/norway-puts-gender-equality-at-sea-on-the-international-agenda/id3033358/> Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Policy, Cecilie Myrseth, has i.a. held bilateral meetings with her counterparts in the United States and Canada where she has raised the need for continued research in the Atlantic Ocean and for fomenting gender equality at sea.

Greenpeace targets vessel accused of fuelling Russia's shadow fleet. Sam Chambers.

Splash 247.com. 12 April 2024. Available from: <https://splash247.com/greenpeace-targets-vessel-accused-of-fuelling-russias-shadow-fleet/> Friday morning saw activists from Greenpeace Nordic launch a protest against a bunker vessel accused of fuelling the Russian so-called shadow fleet in open seas off the Swedish island, Gotland.

IRGC seizes Israel-linked ship near Strait of Hormuz. *Islamic Republic News*

Agency - IRNA (Iran). 13 April 2024. Available from: <https://en.irna.ir/news/85442951/IRGC-seizes-Israel-linked-ship-near-Strait-of-Hormuz> The Special Naval Force of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) has seized Israel-linked *MCS Aries* ship near the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran seizes container ship linked to MSC and Zodiac in Strait of Hormuz. Harry Papachristou and Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds.*

13 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/news/iran-seizes-container-ship-linked-to-msc-and-zodiac-in-strait-of-hormuz/2-1-1626654> Iranian forces seized a giant boxship owned by an affiliate of Zodiac Maritime and chartered by MSC Mediterranean Shipping Co early on Saturday.

International Chamber of Shipping statement on the seizure of container ship *MSC Aries*.

International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). 13 April 2024. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/ypxh45uk> The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) condemns utterly the seizure of the *MSC Aries* earlier today by Iranian forces.

Iran seizes UK-owned boxship *MSC Aries*. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List*. 13 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydlist.com/LL1148814/iran-seizes-UK-owned-boxship-MS-C-Aries>
Iran's Revolutionary Guards hijacked a Zodiac Maritime-owned, Mediterranean Shipping Co-chartered boxship early on Saturday as it rounded the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran's IRGC seizes 'Israeli-linked' ship near Strait of Hormuz. Maziar Motamedi. *Al Jazeera*. 14 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/4/13/irans-irgc-seizes-israeli-linked-ship-near-strait-of-hormuz> Iranian armed forces have seized a container ship near the Strait of Hormuz amid rising tensions across the region after a deadly Israeli attack on Iran's consulate in Syria.

Summoning of the Iranian Chargé d'Affaires: FCDO statement. *UK Government*. 14 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fcdo-statement-on-the-summoning-of-the-iranian-charge-daffaires> Today, on instruction from the Foreign Secretary, the Chargé d'Affaires of the Iranian Embassy in London was summoned to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

US strongly condemns Iran's seizure of container ship. *Voice of America*. 14 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.voanews.com/a/us-strongly-condemns-iran-s-seizure-of-container-ship/7569713.html> The U.S. State Department has strongly condemned Iran's seizure of a container ship, the *MSC Aries*, near the Strait of Hormuz and urged Tehran to immediately release the vessel and its crew.

Cyprus to host first Commonwealth Ocean Ministers meeting. *Cyprus Shipping News*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://cyprusshippingnews.com/2024/04/15/cyprus-host-first-commonwealth-ocean-ministers-meeting/> The inaugural Commonwealth Ocean Ministers Meeting will be held on 19 April 2024 in Cyprus, under the theme 'Our Resilient Common Ocean: from Cyprus to Samoa'.

The Bahamas commits to ocean conservation with signing of UN agreement. Joanne Clark. *Caribbean National Weekly*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.caribbeannationalweekly.com/business/the-bahamas-commits-to-ocean-conservation-with-signing-of-un-agreement/> In a significant move toward safeguarding marine biodiversity, The Bahamas has officially signed the UN Convention on Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement).

Attacks on Merchant Shipping: Which State Has the Right to Respond in Self-Defence? Himanil Raina. *Lieber Institute at West Point*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://lieber.westpoint.edu/attacks-merchant-shipping-which-state-has-right-respond-self-defence/>
On April 13, 2024, Iranian special forces seized the Portuguese flagged *MSC Aries* near the Strait of Hormuz as it sailed towards the Nhava Sheva port in India.

Government of Canada increases marine shipping penalties to a maximum of \$250,000 per violation. *Government of Canada*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2024/04/government-of-canada-increases-marine-shipment-penalties-to-a-maximum-of-250000-per-violation.html> As a maritime nation, Canadians across the country rely on marine shipping to deliver goods in a safe and efficient way.

EU announces €3.5 billion worth of commitments to protect the ocean and promote sustainability at Our Ocean Conference in Greece. *European Commission.*

16 April 2024. Available from: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_2049
Today, at the Our Ocean Conference in Greece, the European Union is confirming its strong engagement for international ocean governance by announcing 40 commitments for action for 2024.

Tourism ‘intrinsicly susceptible’ to climate shocks, political unrest, pandemic threat.

UN News. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/04/1148641>

Addressing a high-level meeting on tourism as part of the General Assembly’s first ever Sustainability Week, Dennis Francis said it was a vital driver of economic growth and empowerment.

IMF / World Economic Outlook April 2024. *International Monetary Fund (IMF).*

16 April 2024. Available from: <https://mediacenter.imf.org/news/imf---world-economic-outlook-april-2024/s/b5844e32-a21c-4a48-8665-00b667aeb68c> 📰 Global growth, estimated at 3.2 percent in 2023, is projected to continue at the same pace in 2024 and 2025, said Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas’ IMF’s chief economist in a press briefing today, Tuesday April 16 in Washington, DC.
[Steady but Slow: Resilience amid Divergence](#)

Why experts fear the EU’s new migration laws could lead to more deaths at sea.

Pierre Micheletti. *The Conversation.* 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/why-experts-fear-the-eus-new-migration-laws-could-lead-to-more-deaths-at-sea-227988> A little over ten years after a boat carrying migrants from Libya to Italy sank off the coast of Lampedusa, claiming the lives of 368 migrants, another boat has capsized in the same waters, around 50 km off the coast.

Conference Identifies Priorities for Remainder of Ocean Decade. *International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).* 17 April 2024. Available from:

<https://sdg.iisd.org/news/conference-identifies-priorities-for-remainder-of-ocean-decade/>

The 2024 Ocean Decade Conference took stock and celebrated achievements three years after the start of the UN Ocean Decade.

United States Announces \$508 Million to Protect Our Ocean. *US Department of State.*

17 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.state.gov/united-states-announces-508-million-to-protect-our-ocean/> At the ninth Our Ocean Conference (OOC) in Greece, the U.S. is turning ambition into action with the announcement of more than \$508 million to protect our ocean by advancing marine protected areas, maritime security, the sustainable blue economy and sustainable fisheries, supporting ocean solutions to the climate crisis, and combating marine pollution.

Call for reinforcement of ‘Aspides’ operation guarding Red Sea vessels. Fay Doulgeri.

Euronews. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/2024/04/17/call-for-reinforcement-of-aspides-operation-guarding-red-sea-vessels> 📰 Reinforcement of the forces operating in the Red Sea region as part of the European operation “Aspides” (Greek for “Shield”) is going to be requested from Brussels by the head of the operation, Rear Admiral Vasilios Gryparis.

Legal hurdle criticized for slowing biofuel uptake at crucial stage. Mette Grube Condrup.

ShippingWatch. 18 April 2024. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article17031997.ece> International legal requirements are blocking the roll-out of biofuels, just as strict requirements are being introduced for shipping companies to take responsibility in the green transition and reduce emissions from ships.

Nigerian Navy arrests 75 stowaways in nine months. *Ships & Ports*. 18 April 2024.

Available from: <https://shipsandports.com.ng/nigerian-navy-arrests-75-stowaways-in-nine-months/>
The Nigerian Navy has said it has arrested 75 stowaways on Nigeria's waterways between August 2023 and April 2024.

Key Recommendations to Stimulate a new Dynamism at the Interregional Coordination

Centre. *Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)*. 19 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.ecowas.int/key-recommendations-to-stimulate-a-new-dynamism-at-the-interregional-coordination-centre/>

The meeting, which was preceded by a meeting of experts held on 16 and 17 April 2024, was an opportunity for participants to take stock of the ICC's operations and examine the prospects for its revitalisation.

Crew of migrant rescue boat acquitted in Italy after seven-year ordeal. Lorenzo Tondo.

The Guardian. 19 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/apr/19/italian-court-acquits-crew-of-migrant-refugee-rescue-boat-iuventa>

Judges in Sicily have acquitted all crew members of an NGO rescue boat who had been accused of aiding and abetting illegal migration, in a case seen by activists as a symbol of the criminalisation of those who have sought to help at-risk refugees and migrants at sea.


Securing the Red Sea: A Global Response. Timothy A. Lenderking. *US Department of State*.

19 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.state.gov/securing-the-red-sea-a-global-response/>

The Houthis' reckless and indiscriminate attacks on international shipping in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden are creating even worse food shortages in Yemen, Ethiopia, and Sudan, affecting the most vulnerable people.

New gender equality toolkit for the ocean sector. *The Commonwealth*. 19 April 2024.

Available from: <https://thecommonwealth.org/news/new-gender-equality-toolkit-ocean-sector>

The Commonwealth today launched a new toolkit to promote gender-responsive practices in ocean-related occupations. [Turning the Tides of Inclusion](#) 

Maritime Security: EU to become an observer of the Djibouti Code of Conduct/Jeddah Amendment. *Council of the European Union*. 22 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/04/22/maritime-security-eu-to-become-an-observer-of-the-djibouti-code-of-conductjeddah-amendment/>

The EU will soon become a 'Friend' (i.e., observer) of the Djibouti Code of Conduct/Jeddah Amendment, a regional cooperation framework to tackle piracy, armed robbery, human trafficking and other illegal maritime activities in the North-Western Indian Ocean, including the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea.

Ocean issues show why multilateral cooperation still matters: WEF president. Audrey Tan.

Straits Times. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/ocean-issues-show-why-multilateral-cooperation-still-matters-wef-president>

In a geopolitically fragmented world, safeguarding the health of oceans is a concern for all people, and one in which multilateral cooperation still matters, said World Economic Forum president Borge Brende.

Collaborative maritime framework set to transform Pacific island maritime sector. *Pacific Community (SPC)*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.spc.int/updates/news/media-release/2024/04/collaborative-maritime-framework-set-to-transform-pacific-island>

Despite being surrounded by vast oceans, Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) encounter significant challenges in their maritime transport sector.

Malaysia arrests two ships and 44 seafarers for alleged illegal anchoring. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/malaysia-arrests-two-ships-and-44-seafarers-for-alleged-illegal-anchoring/2-1-1631418> Two ships with 44 crew members on board have been held in Malaysia over alleged illegal anchoring.

High Seas Treaty: EU votes to ratify landmark international law to protect oceans. Rosie Frost. *Euronews*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/green/2024/04/24/high-seas-treaty-eu-votes-to-ratify-landmark-international-law-to-protect-oceans> This treaty aims to protect marine life in areas that are outside of countries' maritime borders including the high seas and the seabed.

Pivotal fourth session of negotiations on a global plastics treaty opens in Ottawa. *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/pivotal-fourth-session-negotiations-global-plastics-treaty-opens> The fourth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC-4), opened today in Canada's capital, Ottawa.

Here's who is holding the UN plastics treaty hostage. *National Observer (Canada)*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.nationalobserver.com/2024/04/24/opinion/holding-un-plastics-treaty-hostage> In the last decade, abating and preventing plastics pollution has become a major global concern across the full spectrum of our societies.

Peak COP? UN looks to shrink Baku and Belém climate summits. Alice Martins Morais, Matteo Civillini and Joe Lo. *Climate Home News*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2024/04/24/peak-cop-un-looks-to-shrink-baku-and-belem-climate-summits/> UN climate chief Simon Stiell has said he hopes to see fewer people attend the annual COP climate negotiations after participants at COP28 in Dubai last December hit a record high of nearly 84,000.

Samoa, as Chair of AOSIS, flags special circumstances of SIDS at plastic treaty talks. Pacific SIDS calls for global solidarity in addressing the plastics crisis, asks for high ambition. *Islands Business (Fiji)*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/4fxdzab> As officials and negotiators sift through the revised draft text of the international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) has reiterated that the instrument must take into account the special circumstances of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

MEPs adopt plans to boost Europe's Net-Zero technology production. *European Parliament*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20240419IPR20568/meps-adopt-plans-to-boost-europe-s-net-zero-technology-production> On Thursday, Parliament approved the Net-Zero industry Act to bolster EU production in technologies needed for decarbonisation.

EU Net-Zero Industry Act: European shipowners welcome 40% production benchmark for clean shipping fuels in Europe. *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/news/eu-net-zero-industry-act-european-shipowners-welcome-40-production-benchmark-clean-shipping> The last plenary of the European Parliament in Strasbourg for this five-year term adopted earlier today the new law, which aims to scale up industrial capacity for green technologies in Europe.

Global Plastics Treaty: Why Legacy Plastic Cleanup Is Essential. *Ocean Cleanup.*

25 April 2024. Available from: <https://theoceancleanup.com/updates/global-plastics-treaty-why-legacy-plastic-cleanup-is-essential/> The Ocean Cleanup hopes for an ambitious treaty which addresses plastic pollution throughout its whole lifecycle, including legacy plastic already in the marine environment – from rivers, beaches and coastlines all the way to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

Tensions rise over who will contribute to new climate finance goal. Matteo Civillini. *Climate Home News.* 25 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.climatechangenews.com/2024/04/25/tensions-rise-over-who-will-donate-to-new-climate-finance-goal/> As negotiations over a new global climate finance goal move into a higher gear, divisions are sharpening over who should be required to cough up the money needed to help vulnerable countries shift to clean energy and build resilience to climate change.

Oil, chemical industry lobbyists flood UN talks on cutting plastic pollution. Valerie Volcovici and Gloria Dickie. *Reuters.* 25 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.reuters.com/business/environment/oil-chemical-industry-lobbyists-pile-un-talks-curb-plastics-2024-04-25/> Nearly 200 fossil fuel and chemical industry lobbyists plan to join this week's United Nations negotiations on the first global treaty to curb plastic pollution — a 37% jump from the previous gathering in November, an analysis released on Thursday showed.

KAIPTC Promotes Newly Developed Code of Practice to Tackle the Critical Gender Gap In the Maritime Security Sector In West and Central Africa. *Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC).* 29 April 2024. Available from:

<https://tinyurl.com/35yzdeed> Officials of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) have held bilateral meetings with key stakeholders in Cameroon to promote a newly developed Code of Practice aimed to tackle the critical gender gap in the maritime security sector in West and Central Africa.

'Leaky' Russia oil price cap being 'breached left and right', UK parliamentary inquiry told.

Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List.* 29 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1149006/Leaky-Russia-oil-price-cap-being-breached-left-and-right-UK-parliamentary-inquiry-told> The G7 oil price cap is “inevitably a leaky tool” that is “being breached left and right”, the Royal United Services Institute told a UK parliamentary inquiry.

Road to Busan clear as negotiations on a global plastics treaty close in Ottawa. *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).* 30 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/road-busan-clear-negotiations-global-plastics-treaty-close-ottawa> The fourth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC-4), concluded today in Ottawa with an advanced draft text of the instrument and agreement on intersessional work ahead of the fifth session (INC-5) in November.

At plastics treaty talks in Canada, sharp disagreements on whether to limit plastic production.

Jennifer McDermott. *Associated Press.* 30 April 2024. Available from:

<https://apnews.com/article/plastic-pollution-treaty-negotiations-ottawa-united-nations-e291d64f4f55846973be4f78f33f0fdf> Nations made progress on a treaty to end plastic pollution, finishing the latest round of negotiations in Canada early Tuesday amid sharp disagreements about whether to put global limits on plastic production.

Strong Support for Maritime Dialogue Meeting in Washington. *Danish Shipping*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://danishshipping.dk/en/latest-news/2024/strong-support-for-maritime-dialogue-meeting-in-washington/> As part of the visit, the so-called US/CSG dialogue meeting is being held on Wednesday, which is a meeting between the American authorities and members of the Consultative Shipping Group (CSG) forum, which includes 18 significant maritime nations, including Denmark which holds the presidency.

Yemen's Houthis reject US incentives to stop Red Sea attacks, sources say. Thomas Harding. *The National (UAE)*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/news/mena/2024/04/30/yemen-houthis-red-sea-us-attacks-shiping/> Yemen's Houthi rebels have dismissed incentives proposed by the United States to curb their attacks in the Red Sea, Yemeni political sources told The National on Tuesday.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY

Preventing ship blackouts: What can we learn from major casualties? Craig Eason. *TradeWinds*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/technology/preventing-ship-blackouts-what-can-we-learn-from-major-casualties-2-1-1620200> Whether it is the *Dali's* disastrous collision with a bridge in Baltimore last week or the grounding of the cruise ship *Viking Sky*, blackouts keep happening.

First methanol bunkering with deepsea vessel *Ane Maersk* at Port of Antwerp-Bruges. *Port of Antwerp-Bruges*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://newsroom.portofantwerpbruges.com/first-methanol-bunkering-with-deepsea-vessel-ane-maersk-at-port-of-antwerp-bruges#> The call at the Antwerp port is part of '*Ane Maersk's*' maiden voyage from South Korea to China, fuelled by green methanol.

AI can improve monitoring of the marine environment. *University of Gothenburg (Sweden)*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.gu.se/en/news/ai-can-improve-monitoring-of-the-marine-environment> The state of the marine environment is assessed, among other things, through inventories and monitoring programmes of various kinds.

HD Korea Shipbuilding opens decarbonization R&D center. *Korea Herald (South Korea)*. 7 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20240407050096> Korean shipyard conglomerate HD Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering said Sunday it has launched a new research and development facility dedicated to comprehensive testing of decarbonizing maritime technologies.

Scrubbers: The Solution to Pollution is... Stop Using Dirty Fuel. Clean Arctic Alliance. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 8 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/scrubbers-the-solution-to-pollution-is-stop-using-dirty-fuel/> A saying that was frequently used half a century ago, but since then scientific knowledge on toxicology has clearly shown that this solution does not work – pollutants can be persistent in the environment and bioaccumulate in the food chain.

Maritime expert says cargo ships losing propulsion is not uncommon. *CBS News (US)*. 8 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.cbsnews.com/newyork/video/maritime-expert-says-cargo-ships-losing-propulsion-is-not-uncommon/> The Coast Guard says one such vessel suffered a malfunction on Friday night near the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge.

Large shippers showing more interest in emission-reducing fuels. James Baker. *Lloyd's List*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.loydslist.com/LL1148777/Large-shippers-showing-more-interest-in-emission-reducing-fuels> Large-volume shippers are increasingly looking to burnish their green credentials with the use of carriers' low-carbon services, but research indicates that smaller logistics operators still have a long way to go to match ambition with results.

Three reasons why shipping transactions have not yet been digitalised. Torgeir Willumsen. *Splash 247.com*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://splash247.com/three-reasons-why-shipping-transactions-have-not-yet-been-digitalised/#> Torgeir Willumsen, resident partner at Simonsen Vogt Wiig in Singapore and founder of Assentiri, establishes the unique peculiarities of shipping that make the digital transition so tricky.

How can methanol make the shipping industry climate-neutral. Georg Matthes. *Deutsche Welle (Germany)*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.dw.com/en/how-can-methanol-make-the-shipping-industry-climate-neutral/video-68770844> 📺 Maersk, a Danish shipping company, wants to become climate-neutral by converting all of its container ships to methanol.

Maersk employees innovate a system to deliver fresh water from Maersk's vessels to ports. *Maersk*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.maersk.com/news/articles/2024/04/10/maersk-employees-innovate-a-system-to-deliver-fresh-water-from-maersk-vessels-to-ports> The pioneering project optimises an existing fresh water generation system onboard container vessels to further store and deliver it in tank containers to ports and regions facing scarcity of fresh water.

Danish Shipping recognizes ban on discharge of scrubber water. *Danish Shipping*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://danishshipping.dk/en/latest-news/2024/danish-shipping-recognizes-ban-on-discharge-of-scrubber-water/> It will no longer be allowed for ships sailing through Danish waters to discharge the wash water from the smoke-cleaning systems that remove sulfur from the ships' exhaust gases, known as scrubbers.

Green groups call on ship engine manufacturers to disclose true impact of fossil gas. *Transport & Environment*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/discover/green-groups-call-on-ship-engine-manufacturers-to-disclose-true-impact-of-fossil-gas/> More and more shipping companies and cruise liners are ordering vessels that run on LNG – a fuel that is being sold by engine manufacturers as cleaner than additional fuels.

Electricity, a way for shipping to clean up its act. *International Electrotechnical Commission*. 12 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.iec.ch/blog/electricity-way-shipping-clean-its-act> According to estimates published by the IMO, greenhouse gases (GHG) emitted by international shipping have accounted for 2,2% of carbon dioxide emissions in recent years.

The Warship's Remote Operator: Who Is the Captain Now? Manal Cheema and Ariel Sarandinaki. *Lawfare Institute (US)*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/the-warship-s-remote-operator-who-is-the-captain-now> The U.S. Navy has begun employing "ships" that can be operated remotely, raising questions about responsibility and control.


Five northern European countries conclude international arrangements on transport and storage of carbon across borders. *Government of the Netherlands*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.government.nl/latest/news/2024/04/15/five-northern-european-countries-conclude-international-arrange-ments-on-transport-and-storage-of-carbon-across-borders> Carbon capture and storage is a tool that can capture some of the emissions that are very difficult to prevent – and capturing those emissions is necessary in order to reach European climate goals.

The Center Launches the Fuel Cost Calculator. *Maersk Mc-Kinney Møller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.zerocarbonshipping.com/news/the-center-launches-the-fuel-cost-calculator/> To further inform and guide the maritime industry, the Mærsk Mc-Kinney Møller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping has launched the Fuel Cost Calculator.

Reducing barriers to maritime fuel projects is key to decarbonizing shipping. Mette Asmussen and Takahiro Furusaki. *World Economic Forum*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2024/04/why-reducing-barriers-for-maritime-fuel-projects-is-key-to-progressing-on-decarbonization/> Today, more than 80% of the world's traded goods travel by ship and maritime transport accounts for 2–3% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Why new proposals to restrict geoengineering are misguided. Daniele Visioni. *MIT Technology Review*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.technologyreview.com/2024/04/23/1091604/why-new-proposals-to-restrict-geoengineering-are-misguided/> The public debate over whether we should consider intentionally altering the climate system is heating up, as the dangers of climate instability rise and more groups look to study technologies that could cool the planet.

In the Rush to Decarbonize, the Shipping Industry Is Exploring Alternative Fuels. Chris Baraniuk. *Hakai Magazine*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://hakaimagazine.com/news/in-the-rush-to-decarbonize-the-shipping-industry-is-exploring-alternative-fuels/> For decades, the world's commercial ships have depended on a fossil fuel so sticky and thick that it needs to be heated to around 150 °C just to get it to flow through a vessel's innards.

Legal Issues in Oceanic Transport of Carbon Dioxide for Sequestration: Sabin Center Launches New Report. Carolina Arlota and Michael Gerrard. *Columbia University (US)*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://blogs.law.columbia.edu/climatechange/2024/04/24/legal-issues-in-oceanic-transport-of-carbon-dioxide-for-sequestration-sabin-center-launches-new-report/> A new report published today by the Sabin Center examines the laws governing international transport of carbon dioxide for sequestration. [Report](#) 

Problems on the horizon for the future fuel transition? Peter Nilson. *ShipTechnology*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/news/problems-on-the-horizon-for-the-future-fuel-transition/> There is a tricky future to navigate for the maritime sector when it comes to decarbonisation, according to industry experts.

Shell takes lead in use of LNG, electric vessels as it navigates to shipping's net-zero goal. Kang Wan Chern. *Straits Times*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/business/shell-takes-lead-in-use-of-lng-electric-vessels-as-it-navigates-to-shipping-s-net-zero-goal> The carbon reduction goal is set, and the mandate is simple: By 2050, the overall amount of greenhouse gasses (GHG) released into the atmosphere by shipping should be equal, or close to, the amount offset or removed.

IACS Publishes New Recommendation for Conducting Commissioning Testing of Ballast Water Management Systems. *International Association of Classification Societies (IACS)*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://iacs.org.uk/news/iacs-publishes-new-recommendation-for-conducting-commissioning-testing-of-ballast-water-management-systems> Ballast water, a key component of safe and efficient shipping operations, has long posed a risk to maritime ecosystems due to its potential for transferring harmful aquatic organisms and invasive species.

MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING

RMU Collaborates with SLMA for Mandatory Basic Safety and Security Training in Sierra Leone. Ike Dzokpo. *News Ghana*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://newsghana.com.gh/rmu-collaborates-with-slma-for-mandatory-basic-safety-and-security-training-in-sierra-leone/> A two-week training in International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Mandatory Basic Safety and Security Courses, in accordance with the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW '78 as amended), has commenced in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

IMO Expert Lectures on Maritime Safety. *World Maritime University (WMU)*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.wmu.se/news/imo-expert-maritime-safety> As part of the subject "Law and Policy in Maritime Safety, Security, and Labour," on 26 March WMU students in the Maritime Law & Policy specialization had the opportunity to interact with Ms Aicha Cherif, legal officer at the IMO Legal Affairs Office, who delivered a lecture on National Implementation of Safety Maritime Regulation.

"Noticeable lag" in crew alt-fuel training, OLG warns. Martin Conway. *Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA)*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://rina.org.uk/publications/ship-and-boat-international/noticeable-lag-in-crew-alt-fuel-training-olg-warns/> Introducing viable alternative fuels for vessels comes with plenty of challenges, mostly related to performance, availability and cost.

Liberia: LiMA Holds Pre-joining Familiarization Seminar for Cadets at LMTI. *Front Page Africa (Liberia)*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://frontpageafricaonline.com/news/liberia-lima-holds-pre-joining-familiarization-seminar-for-cadets-at-lmti/> The Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA), through its Department of Manning, held a two-day pre-joining familiarization seminar for cadets at the Liberia Maritime Training Institute (LMTI) in collaboration with the school's teaching staff from April 9-10, 2024.

New maritime facility to train workers in handling of clean marine fuels. Esther Loi. *Straits Times*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/transport/new-maritime-energy-training-facility-to-train-workers-in-handling-clean-fuels> A new maritime energy training facility will be set up in Singapore progressively by 2026 to equip maritime workers with skills to handle clean marine fuels.

Our Ocean Conference: Seychelles to pilot integration of ocean science in school curriculum. Betymie Bonnelame. *Seychelles News Agency*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/20423/Our+Ocean+Conference+Seychelles+to+pilot+integration+of+ocean+science+in+school+curriculum> Seychelles will pilot a project this year that integrates ocean science in its school curriculum, said President Wavel Ramkalawan on Tuesday at the heads of state high level segment in the 9th Our Ocean Conference in Athens, Greece.

BSM launches Smart Academy programme innovating maritime education. *Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/mwk3wh8h> The shortage of skilled labour in the maritime sector, in particular at sea, poses a significant challenge for the industry.

New scholarship will tackle gender imbalance in shipping. *City, University of London. Bayes Business School*. 21 April 2024. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/3m9jhs32> A major containership owner, Global Ship Lease, is offering women the chance to secure a scholarship to a respected Bayes' MSc course to help address the industry's significant gender gap.

Maritime recruitment trends and strategies for success. Mark Charman. *Splash 247.com*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://splash247.com/maritime-recruitment-trends-and-strategies-for-success/#> Mark Charman, CEO and founder of Faststream Recruitment, provides Splash readers with an abridged version of a speech he gave in Singapore last week.

Inmarsat Maritime donates GMDSS simulator to Warsash Maritime School. *Inmarsat*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.inmarsat.com/en/news/latest-news/maritime/2024/inmarsat-maritime-donates-gmdss-simulator.html> Inmarsat Maritime, a Viasat business, has donated a bridge simulator - a system of hardware and screens which allows students to familiarize themselves with realistic weather, traffic, and ocean conditions - to Warsash Maritime School, part of Solent University in Southampton, UK.

Comment: Ships' crews hold keys to decarbonisation. Harriet Hunnisett-Johnson. *The Engineer*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.theengineer.co.uk/content/opinion/comment-ships-crews-hold-keys-to-decarbonisation> The shipping industry is responsible for a significant proportion of all global emissions caused by human activity - in 2018 this stood at around 3% with CO2 emissions projected to at least double by 2050 without industry-wide decarbonisation initiatives.

What do we want from new fuels training? Rob Coston. *Nautilus International*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/telegraph/what-do-we-want-from-new-fuels-training/> At the Nautilus International General Meeting in October 2023, members voted unanimously in favour of a motion committing the Union to campaign on improvements to maritime training – both for cadets and existing seafarers.

Antigua Cruise Port staff completes security training at IMO workshop. Alexandra Bholia. *Virgin Islands Daily News*. 25 April 2024. Available from: https://www.virginislandsdailynews.com/business/antigua-cruise-port-staff-completes-security-training-at-imo-workshop/article_07e4a6d3-aad1-5933-9d4b-7a2321c527d6.html Ever wondered how each of the thousands of luggage dropped off at the start of a cruise get to the designated owner's room with everything intact and minus contraband?

MARITIME SAFETY

Baltimore bridge collapse and shipping safety. *Allianz Commercial*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://commercial.allianz.com/news-and-insights/expert-risk-articles/baltimore-bridge-collapse.html>

The tragic collapse of Baltimore's Francis Scott Key Bridge in the US after it was hit by a container ship, the *Dali*, has made headlines around the world. In this Q&A, Allianz Commercial Global Head of Marine Risk Consulting, Captain Rahul Khanna, who sailed on oil tankers and bulk carriers for 14 years, explains that while such incidents are thankfully rare, the fact that ships are getting bigger can make a number of different events more complicated when they do occur.

IUMI: Ships should be equipped with firefighting technology at the structural level.

Safety4Sea. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-iumi-ships-should-be-equipped-with-firefighting-technology-at-the-structural-level/> In an exclusive interview to SAFETY4SEA, IUMI's experts Capt. Uwe-Peter Schieder and Sebastian Kempka share their concerns about fires onboard vessels, which remain one of the biggest safety challenges.

Beware: Increase in cases of broken mooring lines. Valentin Klivnoy. *Gard*. 11 April 2024.

Available from: <https://www.gard.no/articles/beware-increase-in-cases-of-broken-mooring-lines/> Most incidents involve cruise vessels but also other large vessels are at particular risk.

Renewed call for unified action to prevent fatalities in enclosed spaces. Tom Barlow-Brown.

Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA). 12 April 2024. Available from: <https://rina.org.uk/publications/the-naval-architect/renewed-call-for-unified-action-to-prevent-fatalities-in-enclosed-spaces/> A hidden danger that has plagued the maritime industry has once again come into the spotlight.

The *Titanic* and the Law: Safety and Science. Deanna Fanelli. *Library of Congress. In Custodia Legis*. 15 April 2024.

Available from: <https://blogs.loc.gov/law/2024/04/the-titanic-and-the-law-safety-and-science/> The sinking of the *R.M.S. Titanic* is one of the most well-known moments in history and has made its mark on movies, books, and music.

UK Warns of Increased Drone Activity in Middle East Waters as Israel Strikes Iran. *Ship & Bunker*. 19 April 2024.

Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/805703-uk-warns-of-increased-drone-activity-in-middle-east-waters-as-israel-strikes-iran> The UK has warned the shipping industry to be on the lookout for increased drone activity over Middle East waters as Israel attacks Iran.

Interferry: putting safety first. Rebecca Gibson. *Cruise & Ferry*. 22 April 2024.

Available from: <https://www.cruiseandferry.net/articles/interferry-putting-safety-first> Oliver Weiss, chair of Interferry's Domestic Ferry Safety Committee, explains why Interferry is now prioritising Africa, as well as highlighting why it hosted a seminar in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on 16-17 April 2024.

MSC Collaborates with GSBN to trial Integrated Safe Transportation Certification Verification Process, Boosting Safety of Lithium Battery Shipments. *Global Shipping Business Network (GSBN)*. 24 April 2024.

Available from: <https://www.gsbntrade.com/post/msc-collaborates-with-gsbnto-trial-integrated-safe-transportation-certification-verification-proce> Global Shipping Business Network (GSBN), a neutral, not-for-profit consortium enabling paperless, accessible and sustainable growth in global trade with its data infrastructure and ecosystem of partners, today announces its collaboration with MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company to further enhance safety in transporting lithium battery shipments.

Crewless cargo? Autonomous shipping aims to overcome safety, trust concerns to reach mainstream. Jonathan Keane. *CNBC (US)*. 29 April 2024.

Available from: <https://www.cnbc.com/2024/04/29/crewless-cargo-autonomous-shipping-aims-to-overcome-safety-trust-concerns.html> A cargo tanker off the coast of Norway completed a 13-hour journey last year — but it wasn't a regular ship.

MARITIME SECURITY

Houthis Back to Attacking Ships After Brief Pause. Charlotte Goldstone. *gCaptain*. 8 April 2024. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/houthis-back-to-attacking-ships-after-brief-pause/> The past week has seen an increase in attacks on shipping in the Red Sea, and a Houthi spokesperson has sparked fears of the 'danger area' expanding into the Arabian Sea.

Kenya Coast Guard Services on high alert as piracy on the rise. Kevin Mutai and Wachira Mwangi. *Business Daily (Kenya)*. 8 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/bd/economy/kenya-coast-guard-services-on-high-alert-as-piracy-on-the-rise--4583640> The Kenya Coast Guard Services (KCGS) has raised concerns over the re-emergence of piracy that is causing a threat to the country's maritime industry.

Nigeria, Spain to deepen cooperation on maritime security. *New Telegraph (Nigeria)*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://newtelegraphng.com/nigeria-spain-to-deepen-cooperation-on-maritime-security/> The Spanish Government is to deepen cooperation on maritime security with Nigeria through the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA).

Maritime security: 4th SWAIMS Training Program ongoing at RMU. *GhanaWeb*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Maritime-security-4th-SWAIMS-Training-Program-ongoing-at-RMU-1925484> 2023 recorded 36 incidents of maritime piracy, a sharp decline from 2020, when 132 incidents were recorded.

First EU-Vietnam roundtable on maritime security in Da Nang. *European Union External Action Service (EEAS)*. 11 April 2024. Available from: https://www.eeas.europa.eu/roundtable-eu-vietnam-maritime-security_en The first EU-Vietnam dialogue on convergences in maritime security took place today on board the French navy frigate *Vendémiaire*, which is making a call in the port of Da Nang.

New maritime security firms emerge on the back of 'worrying' return of Somali pirates. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://splash247.com/new-maritime-security-firms-emerge-on-the-back-of-worrying-return-of-somali-pirates/> A total of 33 incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships were recorded around the world in the first three months of 2024, an increase from 27 incidents for the same period in 2023, according to the International Maritime Bureau, part of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), including two hijackings by Somali pirates.

Royal Navy strikes £33m double drugs blow to Middle East traffickers in 24 hours. *Royal Navy*. 13 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/news-and-latest-activity/news/2024/april/13/20240413-lancaster-double-drugs-success> Royal Navy warship *HMS Lancaster* seized nearly £33m of illegal drugs as she struck twice against traffickers in the Middle East inside 24 hours.

Shipping warned of increasing risks as governments struggle to contain multiplied threats. Nigel Lowry. *Lloyd's List*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148817/Shipping-warned-of-increasing-risks-as-governments-struggle-to-contain-multiplied-threats> Marine insurance and governments alike are struggling to deal with the sudden deterioration in the geopolitical situation that is putting merchant ships at greater risk than for a generation, according to leading insurance specialists and analysts.

The start of a new conversation on Private Maritime Security: Introducing conversations about Private Maritime Security to Ghana. Stephanie Oserwa Schandorf. *GhanaWeb*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/3zdxpnc4> Between 2021 and 2022, the Gulf of Guinea, stretching from Senegal in the North to Angola in the South, witnessed an unprecedented decline in incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea.

Antigua Cruise Port collaborates with IMO and ADOMS for Port security workshop. *Antigua Observer (Antigua and Barbuda)*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://antiguaobserver.com/antigua-cruise-port-collaborates-with-imo-and-adoms-for-port-security-workshop/> Cynthia Jacobs-Browne, Officer-in-Charge at Antigua Cruise Port, recently gave opening remarks at a special IMO training workshop on passenger and baggage security on ships.

Dark fishing sees PNG lose K1.2b annually. Marjorie Finkeo. *Post-Courier (Papua New Guinea)*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.postcourier.com.pg/dark-fishing-sees-png-lose-k1-2b-annually/> Papua New Guinea is losing about K2.1 billion annually due to Illegal, Unregistered, Unreported (IUU) fishing, said Captain Krzysztof Orłowski, executive manager of National Maritime Safety Authority.

Port Moresby spearheads regional maritime security initiative. *Loop PNG (Papua New Guinea)*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.looppng.com/png-news/port-moresby-spearheads-regional-maritime-security-initiative-125726> The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) on International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code commenced its third series of seminars on April 23 hosted by Papua New Guinea in collaboration with India, the Philippines, and the United States.

MIGRANTS

UN says 38 dead, including children, as migrant boat sinks off Djibouti. *Al Jazeera*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/4/9/un-says-38-dead-including-children-as-migrant-boat-sinks-off-djibouti> At least 38 migrants and refugees, including children, have died after their boat sank off the coast of Djibouti, the United Nations migration agency has said, after their bodies were recovered.

More than 50 people die after boat capsizes in Central African Republic, says official. *France 24*. 20 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/africa/20240420-more-than-50-people-die-after-boat-capsizes-in-central-african-republic-says-official> At least 58 people going to a funeral died after their overloaded river boat capsized in the Central African Republic's capital Bangui, the head of civil protection said on Saturday.

More deaths in the English Channel underscore risks for migrants despite UK efforts to stem the tide. Danica Kirka and Barbara Surk. *Associated Press*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/britain-rwanda-migration-refugee-law-1218d54d8f3fdf5a37d4367dbe625adf> Five more people died in the English Channel on Tuesday, underscoring the risks of crossing one of the world's busiest sea lanes in overloaded inflatable boats just hours after British lawmakers approved a controversial migrant bill to stop the traffic.

UN migration agency assists survivors of deadly shipwreck off Djibouti. *UN News*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/04/1148941> The migrants were on a boat carrying at least 77 people from Ras al-Ara off Yemen's coast which capsized off the coast of Djibouti, near Obock, leaving 24 dead and 20 others missing.

NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

Crystal strongly refutes any incident on Red Sea deadhead transit. Anne Kalosh. *Seatrade Cruise News*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-cruise.com/safety-security/crystal-strongly-refutes-any-incident-red-sea-deadhead-transit> *Crystal Symphony*, currently in the Mediterranean en route to Cyprus, deadheaded through the Red Sea under US Navy escort safely, without incident, Crystal said, despite some speculative reports.


The Alliance pauses service restart on Red Sea disruptions. *Lloyd's List*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148732/The-Alliance-pauses-service-restart-on-Red-Sea-disruptions> Carriers in The Alliance have postponed the relaunch of one of their Asia-US east coast services because of disruption in the Red Sea.

War zone GPS jamming sees more ships show up at airports. Bridget Diakun. *Lloyd's List*. 5 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148748/War-zone-GPS-jamming-sees-more-ships-show-up-at-airports> Incidents of GPS jamming have surged in the Mediterranean and Black Seas, in which ships' navigation data is manipulated or interfered with near conflict zones.

Shipping: No quick fix to Red Sea situation. *Times of Malta*. 7 April 2024. Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/article/shipping-no-quick-fix-red-sea-situation.1090538> There is no quick fix for trade disruption being caused by turmoil in the Red Sea and its catastrophic effects on world trade, warns Godwin Xerri, managing director of leading maritime firm Focal Maritime.

New report: types of ships operating in the Arctic. *Arctic Council*. 8 April 2024. Available from: <https://arctic-council.org/news/types-of-ships-operating-in-the-arctic/> A report from the Arctic Council Working Group on the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment reveals the types of ships operating in the Arctic.

Houthi attacks open Red Sea as Russian oil shipment corridor as Western and Chinese owners pull back. Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/houthi-attacks-open-red-sea-as-russian-oil-shipment-corridor-as-western-and-chinese-owners-pull-back/2-1-1625211> The pattern of ownership of ships passing through the Red Sea has changed dramatically as US and European players avoid the area following attacks by Yemen's Houthi militia, according to data released by Windward.

UCSB's whale collision prevention tool reveals speed limit violations by large ships. Amanda Wernik. *KCBX Public Radio (US)*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.kcbx.org/environment-and-energy/2024-04-11/ucsbs-whale-collision-prevention-tool-reveals-speed-limit-violations-by-large-ships>  Endangered whales annually migrate through the Santa Barbara Channel, where busy shipping zones pose a serious threat of collision.

Potential Hormuz Strait closure could prove much more significant than Red Sea disruption. Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/potential-hormuz-strait-closure-could-prove-much-more-significant-than-red-sea-disruption/2-1-1626956> After Israel bombed part of the Iranian consulate in Damascus this month, Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps officials warned that Tehran could close the strait — a key chokepoint for oil trading.

Red Sea Crisis and implications for trade facilitation in Africa. Céline Bacrot and Marc-Antoine Faure. *UN Trade and Development*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://unctad.org/news/red-sea-crisis-and-implications-trade-facilitation-africa> The end of 2023 and the first quarter of 2024 are marked by major disruptions to global maritime trade flows as ships entering the Gulf of Aden and sailing through the Red Sea and the Suez Canal continue to face attacks by Yemen-based Houthis.

'Russia doesn't care': Sweden sounds alarm over unsafe oil fleet. Patrick Wintour.

The Guardian. 18 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/apr/18/swedish-foreign-minister-tobias-billstrom-unsafe-russian-oil-fleet-baltic-sea-environmental-catastrophe> Russia appears prepared to create "environmental havoc" by sailing unseaworthy oil tankers through the Baltic Sea in breach of all maritime rules, the Swedish foreign minister has said.

Geopolitical conflict threatens yet another shipping choke point. *ING Bank N.V.* 18 April 2024.

Available from: <https://think.ing.com/articles/shipping-gulf-oil-strait-hormuz-iran-trade/> Global shipping routes are already heavily impacted from the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden because of ongoing geopolitical strife.

Danish PM exploring options to stop shadow fleet following accident. Peter Thomsen and Mette Grube Condrup. *ShippingWatch*. 18 April 2024. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article17031222.ece> The Danish government is now actively exploring options on how to reject ships connected to the Russian shadow fleet.

Barriers broken in marine pilotage. Jillian Carson-Jackson. *The National (Papua New Guinea)*.

19 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.thenational.com.pg/barriers-broken-in-marine-pilotage/> The role of a marine pilot, regardless of gender, is crucial for safe navigation the world over.

UPDATE 14 Multimedia Release: Unified Command opens third temporary alternate channel.

Unified Command Key Bridge Response 2024. 19 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.keybridgeresponse2024.com/post/update-14-multimedia-release-unified-command-opens-third-temporary-alternate-channel> The Captain of the Port established the Fort Carroll Temporary Alternate Channel, which is on the northeast side of the main channel in the vicinity of the Francis Scott Key Bridge and will provide limited access for commercially essential vessels.

Danish Ferry Forced to Maneuver to Avoid Russian Warship. *Maritime Executive*. 19 April 2024.

Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/danish-ferry-forced-to-maneuver-to-avoid-russian-warship>

Danish media is widely reporting an incident this morning that involved a high-speed passenger ferry that was forced to maneuver when a Russian warship failed to yield or acknowledge the ferry which was underway at full speed.

Hot take on wifi cold spots. Steven Jones. *Splash247.com*. 22 April 2024. Available from:

<https://splash247.com/hot-take-on-wifi-cold-spots/#> 'Is it ignorance, arrogance, a lack of empathy, perhaps all combined with a psychotic approach to profit maximisation?' Steven Jones, founder of the Seafarers Happiness Index, reacts to news that as much as 13% of the global merchant fleet still gives crew no access to the internet.

Red Sea blues: Deliberating maritime bottlenecks. Prithvi Gupta. *Observer Research*

Foundation (ORF). 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/red-sea-blues-deliberating-maritime-bottlenecks> The Bab al-Mandab strait, south of the Red Sea, is a critical maritime choke point in the larger East Coast North American maritime corridor (ECNA), which connects Asia with eastern ports of North America through Europe.

Maritime domain awareness crucial to stability. *Belgian Presidency. Council of the European Union.* 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://belgian-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/en/news/maritime-domain-awareness-crucial-to-stability/>

On April 16, a seminar on maritime security was organised in Brussels by the Taskforce of the Belgian Defence for the Presidency of the Council of the EU and the Centre for security and Defence Studies (CSDS).

Baltic gas pipeline ruptured by Chinese ship back in service after €40m repair job.

Yle (Finland). 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://yle.fi/a/74-20084948> The gas pipeline between Inkoo, Finland and Paldiski, Estonia, was severed last October.

When will human hydrographic activities be substituted by artificial intelligence?

Mathias Jonas. Hydro International. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/2fy4ss6y>

If you read primarily non-technically orientated media, you get the impression that this technology can provide answers to almost all questions, especially those that humanity has never asked before.

Ship crossings through global maritime passages: January 2022 to April 2024. *UK Office of National Statistics (ONS).* 24 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/internationaltrade/bulletins/shipcrossingsthroughglobalmaritimepassages/january2022toapril2024> Estimates of the volume of maritime crossings through six global maritime passages between January 2022 and April 2024, broken down by ship type.

Attacks on Red Sea shipping forces 66% decline in Suez Canal traffic - ONS. *James Sillars.*

Sky News. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://news.sky.com/story/attacks-on-red-sea-shipping-forces-66-decline-in-suez-canal-traffic-ons-13122044> Shipping traffic through the vital Suez Canal artery in Egypt has plunged by 66% since cargo was forced to divert due to attacks on vessels, according to official figures.

Ship comes under attack off coast of Yemen as Houthi rebel campaign appears to gain new speed. *John Gambrell. Associated Press.* 25 April 2024. Available from:

<https://apnews.com/article/yemen-houthi-rebels-attack-shipping-israel-hamas-war-80d6fac495801682a0e74550b6240599> A ship traveling in the Gulf of Aden came under attack Thursday, officials said, the latest assault likely carried out by Yemen's Houthi rebels over Israel's ongoing war on Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

UPDATE 15: Unified Command opens limited access deep draft channel. *Unified Command Key Bridge Response.* 2024. 25 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.keybridgeresponse2024.com/post/update-15-unified-command-opens-limited-access-deep-draft-channel> The Captain of the Port established a fourth channel, the Fort McHenry Limited Access Channel, which will run the length of the northeast side of the federal channel, and provide additional access to commercially essential traffic.

First ships pass through temporary channel past Key bridge wreckage in Baltimore.

Associated Press. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://apnews.com/video/baltimore-key-bridge-collapse-bridge-collapses-baltimore-ed0ad90b24af4d1582dc901ae2b57337> 📺 A new deep-water channel is allowing ships to pass the Francis Scott Key Bridge wreckage in Baltimore.

The adventures of the *Belem*, the historic French sailing ship bringing the Olympic flame to France. Romain Houeix. *France 24*. 27 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20240427-the-adventures-of-the-belem-the-historic-french-sailing-ship-bringing-the-olympic-flame-to-france> Between April 26 and May 8, the ship will sail the Mediterranean to bring the flame from Greece to Marseille, the start of the Olympic torch relay on French soil.

Red Sea Diversions Spew Carbon Emissions Equal to 9 Million Cars. Jack Wittels. *Bloomberg*. 29 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/red-sea-diversions-spew-carbon-emissions-equal-to-9-million-cars-1.2066212> Ships seeking to avoid ongoing attacks by Houthi rebels in the Red Sea area are emitting millions of additional tons of carbon, making it tougher for companies using ocean freight to reduce pollution across their supply chains.

Washington's border waters are on the cusp of a major rise in oil tanker traffic. Tom Banse. *Washington State Standard*. 29 April 2024. Available from: <https://washingtonstatestandard.com/2024/04/29/washingtons-border-waters-are-on-the-cusp-of-a-major-rise-in-oil-tanker-traffic/> A significant increase in oil tanker traffic is in store for the Salish Sea with the completion of the Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion in British Columbia.

Houthis attack four ships in Indian Ocean, Red Sea. Nayera Abdallah and Enas Alashray. *Reuters*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/container-ship-reportedly-targeted-with-missiles-near-yemens-mokha-ambrey-says-2024-04-29/> Yemen's Houthis said they targeted the MSC Orion container ship in a drone attack in the Indian Ocean as part of their ongoing campaign against international shipping in solidarity with Palestinians against Israel's military actions in Gaza.

PIRACY

New report highlights continued threat of Somali piracy. ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB) 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.icc-ccs.org/index.php/1348-new-report-highlights-continued-threat-of-somali-piracy> The ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB) raises concern on the continued acts of maritime piracy off the coast of Somalia in its first quarter report for 2024, released today.

Maritime menace: Resurgence of Somali piracy. Gurjit Singh. *Observer Research Foundation (ORF)*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/maritime-menace-resurgence-of-somali-piracy> The weakened hold of Mogadishu over the federation is fuelling the emergence of Somali piracy.

German shipowners warn of growth in pirate attacks on ships. Jens Thomsen. *ShippingWatch*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article17008998.ece> According to a report from the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the number of pirate attacks on ships increased by around a fifth in the first quarter of 2024 compared to the same period last year.

Somali pirates say hijacked ship *MV Abdullah* released after \$5 million ransom was paid. Abdiqani Hassani. *Reuters*. 14 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/somali-pirates-say-they-hijacked-ship-mv-abdullah-released-after-5-million-2024-04-14/> Somali pirates released a hijacked ship, *MV Abdullah*, and its crew of 23 early on Sunday after a \$5 million ransom was paid, according to two pirates.

Successful negotiation secured release of *MV Abdullah* sailors, not ransom: State minister. *Business Standard (Bangladesh)*. 14 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/successful-negotiation-secured-release-mv-abdullah-sailors-not-ransom-state-minister> The 23 sailors of the *MV Abdullah* ship were released today as a result of a month-long concerted effort by the government and the international community, State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury said, denying any claims of ransom payment.

Hijacked bulker *Abdullah* released by Somali pirates. Richard Meade. *Lloyd's List*. 14 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148815/Hijacked-bulker-Abdullah-released-by-Somali-pirates> The Bangladesh-flagged bulk carrier *Abdullah* (IMO: 9745598), that was seized by Somali pirates on March 12, has been released and is sailing away from Somali waters heading for Dubai.

Is the decline in global piracy over? *Gard*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/articles/is-the-decline-in-global-piracy-over/> While the Gulf of Guinea waters and the Singapore Strait stand out as long-term piracy hotspots, the return of Somali pirates in the Western Indian Ocean raises concerns, as does the increasing use of violence against vessels' crew.

Anti-Piracy Lessons from the Seychelles. Christian Bueger, Ryan Adeline and Brendon J. Cannon. *War on the Rocks*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://warontherocks.com/2024/04/anti-piracy-lessons-from-the-seychelles/> Trainees of the Seychelles Coast Guard didn't expect to be baptized by fire when they left Victoria harbor that morning.

PORT STATE CONTROL

South Korea Detains Stateless Cargo Ship to Investigate Sanctions Breaches. *Maritime Executive*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/south-korea-detains-stateless-cargo-ship-investigating-sanctions-violations> South Korea's Foreign Ministry confirmed media reports that it took the unusual step of detaining a cargo ship that was underway near the port of Yeosu, transiting the waters between Korea and Japan.

Update: Efforts to Divert Ship from Little Cayman. *Government of Cayman Islands*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.gov.ky/news/press-release-details/update-efforts-to-divert-ship-from-little-cayman> Efforts continued throughout the night to render assistance to the stricken cargo ship, *SC Montana* and divert its course from Little Cayman.

Cruise ship carrying 1,500 passengers stuck in Spain port due to Bolivian passengers' visa problems. *Associated Press*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/spain-cruise-ship-bolivians-visas-197d178f424ca2ccef82f5d5d66d4da> A cruise ship reportedly carrying 1,500 passengers was stuck Wednesday in the Spanish northeastern port of Barcelona due to the visa problems of a group of Bolivian passengers who were due to disembark there, officials said.

Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during March 2024 under Paris MOU. *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-flagged-ships-detained-in-the-uk-during-march-2024-under-paris-mou> The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) announced today that two foreign flagged ship remained under detention in UK ports at the end of March after failing Paris MOU Port State Control (PSC) inspection.

Five-hour gun battle between gangsters and police sees ship freed. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/five-hour-gun-battle-between-gangsters-and-police-sees-ship-freed/2-1-1626812> Reports have emerged of a gun battle to free a US cargo ship and its crew seized by criminal gangs in Haiti.

No pollution or leakage from Liberian natural gas tanker at Gulf of Aqaba: Ministry.

Ahram Online (Egypt). 15 April 2024. Available from:

<https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/1235/521892/Egypt/Urban--Transport/No-pollution-or-leakage-from-Liberian-natural-gas-.aspx> The ship – which ran aground on the reefs on its way to Russia after unloading its cargo at the Jordanian Aqaba Port – is still impounded under the relevant authorities, the ministry added.

PORTS & HARBOURS

Update 6 Multimedia Release: Unified Command opens second temporary alternate channel around Key Bridge wreckage for commercially essential vessels. *Unified Command Key Bridge Response 2024*. 2 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.keybridgeresponse2024.com/post/update-6-multimedia-release-unified-command-opens-second-temporary-alternate-channel-around-key-bri> The Captain of the Port established a second temporary alternate channel on the southwest side of the main channel near Hawkins Point in the vicinity of the Francis Scott Key Bridge for commercially essential vessels.

Require cruise ships to plug into shore power while docked in Seattle. The Seattle Times editorial board. *Seattle Times*. 2 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/editorials/require-cruise-ships-to-plug-into-shore-power-while-docked-in-seattle/> Reducing a cruise ship's greenhouse gas emissions is a herculean undertaking, among the toughest nuts to crack in the quest for a decarbonized economy.

Maritime terminal prepares for influx of redirected ships as Baltimore bridge cleanup continues. Lea Skene. *Associated Press*. 4 April 2024. Available from:

<https://apnews.com/article/baltimore-bridge-collapse-04-03-2024-2c0273f1e6ef2340a17b4cd25469a780> The only maritime shipping terminal currently operating in the Port of Baltimore is preparing to process an influx of ships as crews continue clearing the mangled wreckage of the collapsed Francis Scott Key Bridge.

Dredging of Puerto Rico's biggest port begins despite warnings it may harm turtles and corals. Ánica Coto. *Associated Press*. 4 April 2024. Available from:

<https://apnews.com/article/puerto-rico-san-juan-bay-dredging-environment-0a6a0c0cd0e197c0fb32593e0ca567e1> A \$62 million project to dredge Puerto Rico's biggest and most important seaport began Wednesday amid fierce opposition from environmentalists and a pending lawsuit.

New green international shipping routes backed by government funding. *UK Government*.

5 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-green-international-shipping-routes-backed-by-government-funding> Investment into zero emission routes to and from the UK will help create long-term sustainability and keep our waters clean.

Cars are piling up at European ports at an alarming rate. Andy Kalmowitz. *Quartz*. 9 April 2024.

Available from: <https://qz.com/cars-european-ports-slow-sales-bottlenecks-1851397116> Imported vehicles are seriously piling up at European ports, turning them into "car parks."

Clearing the Waters: Dispelling Myths About Panama Canal Operations. *Panama Canal Authority*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://pancanal.com/en/clearing-the-waters-dispelling-myths-about-panama-canal-operations/> Now nearing the end of the dry season, the Panama Canal is adapting to the climate conditions.

Govt orders Bangkok Port out of city. Mongkol Bangprapa. *Bangkok Post*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2773214/govt-orders-bangkok-port-out-of-city>
The government has ordered the relocation of the 32-rai Bangkok Port next to the Chao Phraya River in Klong Toey district so the area can be renovated to benefit the public.

Egypt seizes Liberian natural gas tanker for damaging coral reefs in Gulf of Aqaba. Amr Kandil. *Ahram Online (Egypt)*. 14 April 2024. Available from: <https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/1235/520871/Egypt/Urban--Transport/Egypt-seizes-Liberian-natural-gas-tanker-for-damag.aspx> Egyptian authorities have seized a Liberian-flagged natural gas tanker that inflicted “significant damage” to coral reefs in Egypt’s Ras Nasrani area, located in the Gulf of Aqaba, local reports said on Sunday.

New report provides a blueprint for how ports can supply green methanol and ammonia by 2030. *Global Maritime Forum*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.globalmaritimeforum.org/press/new-report-provides-a-blueprint-for-how-ports-can-supply-green-methanol-and-ammonia-by-2030> The report provides insights into the sources of green methanol and ammonia that could be available to the shipping industry and how ports can secure supply to meet the IMO target of at least 5% use of zero-emission fuels by 2030. [Oceans of Opportunity: Supplying Green Methanol and Ammonia at Ports](#) 📄

What is a Green Port? Dom Magli. *Port Technology International*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.porttechnology.org/news/what-is-a-green-port-2/> Green ports aim to minimise their ecological footprint by implementing various measures such as reducing air and water pollution, optimising energy consumption, using renewable energy sources, promoting eco-friendly transportation and managing waste effectively.

‘Aqaba port sees decrease in container traffic amid Red Sea crisis’. *Jordan Times*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://jordantimes.com/news/local/aqaba-port-sees-decrease-container-traffic-amid-red-sea-crisis> The JLA reported that the port received 87,708 containers during the first three months of the year, marking a 20 per cent decline from the previous year’s figure of 109,674 containers, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

Port Decarbonization Survey: Trends and Lessons Learned. *ABS (American Bureau of Shipping)*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://ww2.eagle.org/en/interactive/interactive-publications/current/aapa-port-decarbonization.html> The joint publication between ABS and the American Association of Port Authorities, provides insights to help ports, community stakeholders and policymakers, among others, work collectively on reaching decarbonization targets. [Report](#)

Ships to trial use of Singpass-like digital identity for port clearance and refuelling. Esther Loi. *Straits Times*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/transport/ships-to-trial-use-of-singpass-like-digital-identity-for-port-clearance-and-refuelling> Ships in Singapore’s waters will pilot the use of digital ship identities – similar to that of Singpass credentials – for seamless port clearance and bunkering or refuelling operations.

New partners strengthen digitalization and decarbonization along the Rotterdam-Singapore Green & Digital Shipping Corridor. *Port of Rotterdam*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/new-partners-strengthen-digitalization-and-decarbonization-along-rotterdam> The Green and Digital Shipping Corridor was started by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore and Port of Rotterdam Authority in August 2022 to accelerate decarbonisation and digitalisation on the one of the world’s foremost shipping routes.

Pacific Environment and Ulsan Port Authority Sign MOU to Accelerate Zero-Emission Shipping and Ports Between US and Republic of Korea. *Pacific Environment*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/5adfpd6> During Singapore Maritime Week 2024, Pacific Environment and the Ulsan Port Authority signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining a vision of multi-year collaboration to accelerate zero-emission shipping and ports in the Republic of Korea, within Asia, across transpacific and global corridors.

Business Daily: Corruption at port. *BBC World Service*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3ct5zbg> What do seafarers have to go through to get our goods to us across the oceans?

Corruption at ports endangering seafarers. *Nautilus International*. 19 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/corruption-at-ports-endangering-seafarers/> On 18 April, two BBC podcasts, The Food Chain and Business Daily, discussed corruption at ports and the impact this has on seafarers.

What can Asia learn from the Baltimore port disaster? *Seatrade Maritime News*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/opinions-analysis/what-can-asia-learn-baltimore-port-disaster> As larger vessels ply Asia's waters, authorities must reassess the strength of their infrastructure and use every tool in the chest, especially data, to build resilience.

First container ship arrives at Port of Baltimore since Key Bridge collapse: "Another milestone". Adam Thompson. *CBS News (US)*. 29 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.cbsnews.com/baltimore/news/first-container-ship-arrives-at-port-of-baltimore-since-key-bridge-collapse-another-milestone/> The *MSC Cargo Passion III* made it through the 35-foot temporary channel on Sunday, carrying nearly 1,000 containers.

ESPO Port Investments Study 2024: Europe's ports have €80 billion investment needs for the next 10 years. *European Sea Ports Organisation (ESPO)*. 29 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.espo.be/news/espo-port-investments-study-2024-europes-ports-hav> Last week, in the framework of its annual Conference taking place in Paris, the European Sea Ports Organisation (ESPO) launched the results of the ESPO Port Investment Study 2024. [ESPO Port Investment Study 2024](#)

European bridges secure against ship collisions, port authorities say. *EurActiv*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/maritime/news/european-bridges-secure-against-ship-collisions-port-authorities-say/> European bridges over maritime harbours are not likely to collapse if they are hit by seagoing vessels, according to several large European port authorities who Euractiv contacted following the March collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in the US city of Baltimore.

REGULATIONS

Shipping Sector's Emission Cuts Hobbled by Regulatory Uncertainty. Tsvetana Paraskova. *OilPrice.com*. 28 March 2024. Available from: <https://oilprice.com/Energy/Energy-General/Shipping-Sectors-Emission-Cuts-Hobbled-by-Regulatory-Uncertainty.html> The shipping industry and its regulators are drafting tentative pathways to reaching net-zero emissions by 2050.

Brokers and scientists hit out at unintended consequence of key shipping emissions law. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/sustainability/brokers-and-scientists-hit-out-at-unintended-consequence-of-key-shiping-emissions-law/2-1-1621081> The International Maritime Organisation's 2020 limits on sulphur content in ship fuel have been a big positive in lowering vessel emissions.

Uncertainty over 2025 target for single window implementation. *Guardian (Nigeria)*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://guardian.ng/business-services/maritime/uncertainty-over-2025-target-for-single-window-implementation/> With about eight months to go until the IMO 2025 deadline, stakeholders are expressing frustration and uncertainty about Nigeria's ability to implement the National Single Window.

Navigating the waves of maritime safety regulations in the Norwegian Arctic. *Barents Observer (Norway)*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/node/12740> As the Arctic Ocean's ice cover recedes, we see increased shipping amid hazardous weather and sea-ice conditions.

UK Chamber of Shipping: A clear CII framework can drive industry to adopt effective energy efficiency measures. Francesco Sandrelli. *Safety4Sea*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-uk-chamber-of-shipping-a-clear-cii-framework-can-drive-industry-to-adopt-effective-energy-efficiency-measures/> Francesco Sandrelli, Policy Director – Environment at the UK Chamber of Shipping, emphasizes that while the maritime industry has made strides in decarbonization, there's more to be done.

Anti-fouling shipping regulation strengthens marine environment protections. *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/anti-fouling-shipping-regulation-strengthens-marine-environment-protections> The new UK legislation implements an international convention prohibiting the use of cybutryne in marine paints, which has been proven harmful to marine flora and fauna, working its way into the food chain.

The EU should prioritize global regulation for the maritime transport of plastic pellets over regional regulation. *Danish Shipping*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://danishshipping.dk/en/latest-news/2024/the-eu-should-prioritize-global-regulation-for-the-maritime-transport-of-plastic-pellets-over-regional-regulation/> A significant majority in the European Parliament has voted in favour of a proposal to limit pollution from plastic pellets throughout the entire supply chain, including during transport by ship.

SALVAGE

Update 11: Removal of containers onboard *M/V Dali* commences at site of Key Bridge incident. *Unified Command Key Bridge Response 2024*. 7 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.keybridgeresponse2024.com/post/update-11-multimedia-release-removal-of-containers-onboard-m-v-dali-commences-at-site-of-key-bridge> 📰 Salvors removed containers from the *M/V Dali* as part of the effort to gain access to the portion of the Key Bridge that lies atop the ship.

Owner of ship in Baltimore bridge collapse asks cargo owners to help cover salvage costs. *Associated Press*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/baltimore-bridge-collapse-dali-cost-share-27169d8710ec1240f018d9e655b36e0e> The owner of the massive container ship *Dali*, which caused the deadly collapse of Baltimore's Francis Scott Key Bridge last month, has initiated a process requiring owners of the cargo on board to cover some of the salvage costs.

Suez Canal rescue units save Tanzanian-flagged ship from sinking in Port Said. *Ahram Online (Egypt)*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/1235/522401/Egypt/Urban--Transport/Suez-Canal-rescue-units-save-Tanzanianflagged-ship.aspx> The Suez Canal Authority (SCA) announced Tuesday that its maritime rescue units saved the Tanzanian-flagged cargo ship *LABATROS* from sinking in Port Said City.

One month to remove wreck. *Trinidad Express*. 26 April 2024. Available from: https://trinidadexpress.com/news/local/one-month-to-remove-wreck/article_6d66da5a-0376-11ef-a732-2b7dbf34f6bd.html The Ministry of Works and Transport is urging the owners of the vessel responsible for spilling more than 50,000 barrels of hydrocarbons along Tobago's coastline to remove the wrecked craft within one month or else it will be disposed of in accordance with the law.

UPDATE 16 Multimedia Release: Unified Command reflects on month's progress during joint recovery and salvage operations. *Unified Command Key Bridge Response 2024*. 26 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.keybridgeresponse2024.com/post/update-16-multimedia-release-unified-command-reflects-on-month-s-progress-during-joint-recovery-and> 📰 One month has passed since the Singaporean-flagged container vessel *M/V DALI* collided with the Francis Scott Key Bridge, which connects Hawkins Point and Dundalk, Maryland, resulting in the bridge's collapse into the lower Patapsco River.

SEAFARERS

"I was just with those guys yesterday": Seafarer ministry helping crew stuck on *Dali*. Elizabeth Worthington. *WMAR Baltimore (US)*. 1 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.wmar2news.com/homepage-showcase/i-was-just-with-those-guys-yesterday-seafarer-ministry-helping-crew-stuck-on-dali> In the days leading up to their departure from the Port of Baltimore, the crew of the ill-fated *Dali* did what many crews do before a lengthy voyage.

Seafarers' lives have been at risk from ever-increasing violent attacks. Morkporpor Anku and Vera Amevedzi. *Ghana News Agency*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://gna.org.gh/2024/04/seafarers-lives-have-been-at-risk-from-ever-increasing-violent-attacks/> Dr Jethro W. Brooks Jr., the Acting Vice-Chancellor of the Regional Maritime University (RMU), says Seafarers' lives have been at risk from ever-increasing violent attacks as pirates and criminals continue to operate with increased impunity.

RMT calls for employment protections after zero emissions shipping routes announced.

National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT). 5 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.rmt.org.uk/news/rmt-calls-for-employment-protections-after-zero-emissions/>

RMT called for mandatory employment protections for all seafarers today, following the government's decision to invest in zero emission shipping routes to and from the UK.

There are people still aboard the ship that crashed into the Baltimore Bridge. Ayesha Rascoe.

National Public Radio (US). 7 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.npr.org/2024/04/07/1243294330/there-are-people-still-aboard-the-ship-that-crashed-into-the-baltimore-bridge>

NPR's Ayesha Rascoe talks with Andrew Middleton of Apostleship of the Sea about efforts to support crew members still aboard the ship that destroyed Baltimore's Francis Scott Key Bridge.

The future of seafarers in the cruise industry. Marco Fantasia. *DNV*. 8 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.dnv.com/expert-story/maritime-impact/the-future-of-seafarers-in-the-cruise-industry/>

As the maritime industry undergoes major changes, mainly due to decarbonization and digitalization, crews must adapt to new and different ways of doing things.

State Minister: Govt remains vigilant to rescue sailors of *MV Abdullah*. *Dhaka Tribune*.

9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/343773/state-minister-govt-remains-vigilant-to-rescue>

State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury has said the government's goal is to bring back the 23 abducted sailors of *MV Abdullah* captive by Somali pirates safely and bring them back to their families.

***MV Abdullah* sailors healthy, in contact with families through video calls: Hasan.** *Business*

Standard (Bangladesh). 10 April 2024. Available from: [https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/mv-](https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/mv-abdullah-sailors-healthy-contact-families-through-video-calls-hasan-826681)

[abdullah-sailors-healthy-contact-families-through-video-calls-hasan-826681](https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/mv-abdullah-sailors-healthy-contact-families-through-video-calls-hasan-826681) The sailors of *MV Abdullah* are doing fine, and are in regular contact with their families through video calls, Foreign Minister Hasan Mahmud said today (10 April).

The Mission to Seafarers joins Sustainable Shipping Initiative and highlights needs for seafarers to be front and centre in shipping transition. *Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI)*.

11 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.sustainableshipping.org/news/the-mission-to-seafarers/>

The Sustainable Shipping Initiative today announces The Mission to Seafarers as its newest member, further highlighting the importance of seafarers and seafarers' rights and welfare in building a sustainable maritime industry.

Jaishankar speaks to Iranian FM on release of 17 Indians onboard seized vessel. *Times of*

India. 14 April 2024. Available from: [https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/jaishankar-speaks-to-](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/jaishankar-speaks-to-iranian-fm-on-release-of-17-indians-onboard-seized-vessel/articleshow/109292993.cms)

[iranian-fm-on-release-of-17-indians-onboard-seized-vessel/articleshow/109292993.cms](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/jaishankar-speaks-to-iranian-fm-on-release-of-17-indians-onboard-seized-vessel/articleshow/109292993.cms) External affairs minister Dr. S Jaishankar on Sunday said that he spoke to his Iranian counterpart amid escalating violence in the Middle East after Iran launched an extensive assault with hundreds of drones, ballistic missiles, and cruise missiles.

23 sailors, *MV Abdullah* released by Somali pirates. *Dhaka Tribune (Bangladesh)*. 14 April 2024.

Available from: [https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/343961/23-sailors-mv-abdullah-released-](https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/343961/23-sailors-mv-abdullah-released-by-somali-pirates)

[by-somali-pirates](https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/343961/23-sailors-mv-abdullah-released-by-somali-pirates) The 23 crew members of *MV Abdullah*, who were captured by Somali pirates in the Indian Ocean, have been released after a month.

DMW: 4 Filipino seafarers on board Israel-linked ship seized by Iran. *Philippine News Agency*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1222589> The Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) on Sunday confirmed that four Filipino seafarers are on board the container ship *MSC Aries* that was seized by Iranian authorities while traversing the Strait of Hormuz, near the Gulf of Oman.

Data analytics in action: how ITF Inspectorate data holds companies responsible for protecting rights in maritime supply chains. *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/data-analytics-in-action-how-itf-inspectorate-data-holds-companies-responsible-protecting> The International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) has a unique and powerful influence on the wages and conditions of seafarers working on Flag of Convenience ships, through negotiating ITF agreements with shipowners.

Worrying growth in numbers of seafarers taken hostage by pirates. Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ship-operations/worrying-growth-numbers-seafarers-taken-hostage-pirates> Speaking at the opening of the ReCAAP Anti-Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2024 IMO Secretary-General Arsenio Dominguez noted that its public database of incidents showed a 15% rise in piracy and armed robbery incidents reported in 2023 to 150 compared to 131 in the previous year.

'They felt they could die at any time': Families' relief as Somali pirates free hostages. Ramola Talwar Badam. *The National (UAE)*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/news/mena/2024/04/17/they-felt-they-could-die-at-any-time-families-relief-as-somali-pirates-free-hostages/> Relatives of 23 hostages on a cargo ship seized by armed Somali pirates have expressed relief and happiness that the men were released after more than a month in captivity.

Crew of ship seized by Iran are safe, operator MSC says. Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/crew-ship-seized-by-iran-are-safe-operator-msc-says-2024-04-17/> The 25 crew members of the *MSC Aries*, which was seized by Iran on April 13 are safe, shipping firm MSC said on Wednesday, adding that discussions with Iranian authorities are in progress to secure their earliest release.


Indian woman cadet on vessel *MSC Aries* returns home. *Government of India*. 18 April 2024. Available from: https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/37783/Indian_woman_cadet_on_vessel_MSC_Aries_returns_home With the concerted efforts of Indian Mission in Tehran and the Iranian Government, Indian deck cadet Ms. Ann Tessa Joseph from Thrissur, Kerala, who was among the Indian crew members of container vessel *MSC Aries*, has landed safely at the Cochin International Airport today afternoon.


The growing number of abandoned vessels. Iain MacIntyre. *Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST)*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.imarest.org/resource/mp-the-growing-number-of-abandoned-vessels.html> Compared to 2022, the ITF recently noted an 11% increase to 132 abandonments in 2023, with owed wages among the 129 cases reported specifically amounting to US\$12.1 million.

Nourishing the body and soul of seafarers. *Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bs-shipmanagement.com/media-centre/bsm-highlights/nourishing-the-body-and-soul-of-seafarers/> The role of food onboard commercial vessels has always been an essential aspect of seafarers' lives.

New report finds ‘alarming’ amount of global merchant fleet still has no internet access.

Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 19 April 2024. Available from: <https://splash247.com/new-report-finds-alarming-amount-of-global-merchant-fleet-still-has-no-internet-access/> Idwal, a British ship inspection company, has just launched a social impact report, which draws on data from more than 13,000 vessel inspections over a 17-month period through to September last year, providing unprecedented transparency into the real-world working and living conditions experienced by seafarers across the global maritime fleet.

Idwal Unveils Social Impact Report. Sue Henney. *Idwal Marine Services*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.idwalmarine.com/news/social-impact-report> Idwal, the leading ship inspection, technology, and data business, has announced the launch of its Social Impact Report. [Report](#) 

P&O tells crew it will comply with French law and reduce their hours. Joel Hills. *ITV News (UK)*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.itv.com/news/2024-04-22/p-and-o-tells-crew-it-will-comply-with-french-law-and-reduce-their-hours>  P&O Ferries will no longer require its crew to work for up to four months without a day off - a practice which has been criticised as “immoral” and “dangerous”.

MV Abdullah hijack: Sailor recounts harrowing ordeal of being hostage. Nasir Uddin Rocky. *Dhaka Tribune (Bangladesh)*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/344637/mv-abdullah-hijack-sailor-recounts-harrowing> “I never thought that I would survive the pirates. I thought this was the end for me.” This is what went through the mind of Mohammad Noor Uddin, a sailor (general steward) of MV Abdullah, who was released after being held hostage by Somali pirates for 31 days.

PH, Qatar sign MOU on mutual recognition of seafarers’ certificate. *PortCalls Asia*.

23 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.portcalls.com/ph-qatar-sign-mou-on-mutual-recognition-of-seafarers-certificate/> The Philippines and Qatar signed a memorandum of understanding on the mutual recognition of seafarers’ certificates, among nine agreements signed on April 22 during the two-day official state visit of Qatar emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani in Manila.

Recruitment fraud traps seafarers in ‘disturbing situation’. Declan Bush. *Lloyd’s List*.

23 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148942/Recruitment-fraud-traps-seafarers-in-disturbing-situation> The IMO has been urged to do more to crack down on fraudulent seafarer recruitment with schemes likened to “human trafficking”.

DMW bars Filipino seafarers from ships passing Red Sea, Gulf of Aden. *Philippine News Agency (PNA)*.

24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1223374> The Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) on Wednesday issued an order that prohibits the deployment of Filipino seafarers on cruise and passenger ships that sail through the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

ETF update: governments need to work harder to protect Red Sea crews. Nikolaos Koletsis.

Nautilus International. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/telegraph/etf-update-governments-need-to-work-harder-to-protect-red-sea-crews/> Joint working and renewed commitment is needed from the allies defending merchant vessels from Houthi attacks, says Nikolaos Koletsis of the European Transport Workers’ Federation.

Relatives of Bulgarian Sailors from Hijacked Galaxy Leader Ship Meet PM Dimitar Glavchev.

Desislava Toncheva. *Bulgarian News Agency*. 25 April 2024. Available from:

[https://www.bta.bg/en/news/bulgaria/660245-relatives-of-bulgarian-sailors-from-hijacked-galaxy-leader-ship-meet-pm-dimitar-](https://www.bta.bg/en/news/bulgaria/660245-relatives-of-bulgarian-sailors-from-hijacked-galaxy-leader-ship-meet-pm-dimitar)

Caretaker Prime Minister Dimitar Glavchev and Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Kondov met with relatives of the Bulgarian sailors from the hijacked ship *Galaxy Leader*, the press service of the caretaker Cabinet said.

The Loadstar Explains: Abandoned ships – and abandoned crews. Charlie Bartlett.

The Loadstar. 26 April 2024. Available from: [https://theloadstar.com/the-loadstar-explains-](https://theloadstar.com/the-loadstar-explains-abandoned-ships-and-abandoned-crews/)

[abandoned-ships-and-abandoned-crews/](https://theloadstar.com/the-loadstar-explains-abandoned-ships-and-abandoned-crews/) Working and sleeping on a platform blasted by wind and tossed by waves, seafarers must also contend with some of the worst labour abuses on Earth.

Workers' Memorial Day: the daily dangers seafarers and dockers face at work. *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 26 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/workers-memorial-day-daily-dangers-seafarers-and-dockers-face-work>

Imagine arriving in port after days on end of 10-16-hour shifts, facing harsh weather and frequent stops at ports taking away your chance to rest, not to mention the emotional and mental challenges of working in a risky environment for little pay, often thousands of miles away from beloved friends and family.

Maritime Chaplains Minister to Crew After Baltimore Bridge Collision. Mark Nestlehutt.

Maritime Executive. 28 April 2024. Available from: [https://maritime-](https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/maritime-chaplains-minister-to-crew-after-baltimore-bridge-collision)

[executive.com/editorials/maritime-chaplains-minister-to-crew-after-baltimore-bridge-collision](https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/maritime-chaplains-minister-to-crew-after-baltimore-bridge-collision)

SCI was the first seafarer welfare organization to meet with the crew and to offer crisis support through one-on-one and small group meetings with the Indian and Sri Lankan seafarers.

Abandoned seafarers: an unacceptable face of the shipping industry. David Hughes.

Business Times (Singapore). 30 April 2024. Available from:


<https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/opinion-features/abandoned-seafarers-unacceptable-face-shipping-industry>

Other than losing their life at sea or being severely injured, one of the worst things that can happen to a seafarer is being “abandoned”.

Seafarers Happiness Index reveals uptick in Seafarer Wellbeing in Q1 2024. *Mission to Seafarers*.

30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/news/seafarers-happiness-index-reveals-uptick-in-seafarer-wellbeing-in-q1-2024>

The findings of the latest Seafarers Happiness Index report by the Mission to Seafarers show a positive start to 2024, with an overall increase in happiness from 6.36 in Q4 2023 to 6.94 out of 10 in Q1 2024.

[Seafarers Happiness Index Q1 2024](https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/news/seafarers-happiness-index-reveals-uptick-in-seafarer-wellbeing-in-q1-2024) 

SEARCH & RESCUE

Lost at sea: New constraints hinder Mediterranean rescuers. Clare Roth. *Deutsche Welle (Germany)*. 30 March 2024. Available from: <https://www.dw.com/en/lost-at-sea-new-constraints-hinder-mediterranean-rescuers/a-68695589> On a bright sunny day in March, the search-and-rescue vessel *Life Support* set off on a 30-hour journey from the Sicilian port of Catania to Malta's search-and-rescue zone.

Cargo ship capsized: 11 sailors rescued, master remains missing. *Dhaka Tribune (Bangladesh)*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/344893/cargo-ship-capsizes-in-in-bay-of-bengal-12> A cargo ship named "*MV Mou Moni*" capsized in the Bay of Bengal near Hatiya, Noakhali district, on Thursday, leaving one sailor missing while 11 others have been rescued.

Crew rescued as fishing boat sinks after tanker collision. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 26 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/crew-rescued-as-fishing-boat-sinks-after-tanker-collision/2-1-1633513> The fishing boat sank after the incident involving an unnamed ship between Ardrossan and Arran in North Ayrshire, the PA news agency reported.

SHIP RECYCLING

Demand shocks drive ship recycling to lowest level in 20 years. Filipe Gouveia. *BIMCO*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news-and-trends/market-reports/shipping-number-of-the-week/20240404-snow> A combination of strong demand following a series of market shocks and low orderbooks have kept older ships operating for longer than usual.

Vancouver Island ship-breaking site hit with stop-pollution order. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 8 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/deep-water-recovery-ship-breaking-pollution-stop-order-1.7166884> Deep Water Recovery is illegally allowing toxic effluent to run off into Baynes Sound and the marine environment off Vancouver Island's east coast, B.C.'s Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy has found.

Digitalization looks to streamline compliance with Hong Kong Convention. Michael Grinter. *Hong Kong Maritime Hub*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <http://www.hongkongmaritimehub.com/digitalization-looks-to-streamline-compliance-with-hong-kong-convention/> With the Hong Kong Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships due to come into force in just over a year, ship owners are looking to ensure their vessels meet all the required conditions of the regulation for recycling purposes.

Ambassador accused of encouraging carriers to break the law. Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article17040213.ece> Environmental NGO Bellona along with other Norwegian organizations react strongly to the Norwegian ambassador in Bangladesh encouraging Norwegian shipowners to send their ships for scrapping in the country.

SENSREC project paves way for executing Hong Kong Int's Convention. *Bangladesh Post*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://bangladeshpost.net/posts/sensrec-project-paves-way-for-executing-hong-kong-int-s-convention-136135> Senior Secretary of the Industries Ministry Zakia Sultana on Wednesday said Safe and Environmentally Sound Ship Recycling in Bangladesh (SENSREC) project is playing a role in paving the way for executing 2009, the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships (HKC) by June 26, 2025.

Intl symposium marks milestone for safe, sustainable ship recycling in Pakistan. *Pakistan Observer*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://pakobserver.net/intl-symposium-marks-milestone-for-safe-sustainable-ship-recycling-in-pakistan/> The International Symposium on “Capacity Building for Safe and Environmentally Sound Ship Recycling (SENSREC) in Pakistan” organized by the National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA) held in Karachi marks a significant milestone for Pakistan’s ship recycling industry.

Gard offers ESG guidance on ship repairs and recycling. *Gard*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/articles/gard-offers-esg-guidance-on-ship-repairs-and-recycling/> Lately, we have seen an increased public focus on environmental standards as well as working conditions at shipyards all around the world.

SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR

The Lloyd’s List Podcast: Is it possible to order a future-proofed ship today? *Lloyd’s List*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148719/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-Is-it-possible-to-order-a-future-proofed-ship-today> On balance, that could be a good thing in that it forces the hand of an industry that has been too cheap for too long and the direction of regulatory travel now at least favours the progressives over the laggards.

Berge Bulk Launches Hyper-Efficient Newcastlemax Vessel, *Berge Mauna Kea*. *Berge Bulk*. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bergebulk.com/berge-bulk-launches-hyper-efficient-newcastlemax-vessel-berge-mauna-kea/> Berge Bulk proudly announces the delivery of its newest vessel, *Berge Mauna Kea*, marking a significant addition to its fleet.

Wind-assisted vessels could make commercial shipping climate-friendly. Malcolm Brabant and Trine Villemann. *PBS NewsHour (US)*. 11 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/wind-assisted-vessels-could-make-commercial-shipping-climate-friendly> Following the successful operation of two giant wind-assisted vessels, a British company predicts that by 2026, half of all new ships will have high-tech sails.

MOL Becomes First Japanese Operator to Commercially Install Onboard CO2 Capture System. *Mitsui O.S.K. Lines (MOL)*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.mol.co.jp/en/pr/2024/24057.html> This marks the first time a Japanese operator has commercially installed a CO2 capture system onboard a vessel.

£8 million funding boost for AI to make boats smarter. *UK Government*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/8-million-funding-boost-for-ai-to-make-boats-smarter> Maritime Minister Lord Davies is in Southampton today (22 April 2024) to announce an £8 million funding boost to put the UK at the forefront of cutting-edge maritime technology.

MSC supports new purpose-built Mercy Ships hospital ship. Gary Howard. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/middle-east-africa/msc-supports-new-purpose-built-mercy-ships-hospital-ship> An agreement between MSC Group, MSC Foundation and Mercy Ships International lays the groundwork for a new purpose built hospital ship through an anchor donation from MSC Foundation.

A New Chapter: New Ship Announcement. *Mercy Ships*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.mercyships.org.uk/new-ship-announcement/> We’re excited to announce that we are growing our fleet with a new hospital ship.

IHI subsidiary’s plants inspected over doctored ship engine data. *Asahi Shimbun (Japan)*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/15245561> The transport ministry is conducting on-site inspections of two plants of an IHI Corp. subsidiary that have falsified fuel economy data for ship and railway engines for at least 20 years.

QatarEnergy to build 18 of largest ever LNG vessels in China under \$6bn deal. Asmahan Qarjoui. *Doha News (Qatar)*. 29 April 2024. Available from: <https://dohanews.co/qatarenergy-to-build-18-of-largest-ever-lng-vessels-in-china-under-6bn-deal/> QatarEnergy and China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC) inked a \$6 billion deal on Monday for the construction of 18 QC-Max liquefied natural gas vessels, the largest of their kind.

Japan set for world's first transport of liquefied CO2. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/japan-set-for-worlds-first-transport-of-liquefied-co2/> Within six months, Japan is set to start what will be the world's first transport of carbon dioxide on a low-temperature and low-pressure liquefied CO2 carrier over 1,000 km in a series of trial voyages, which are expected to play a key role in the country achieving its carbon neutrality goal.

SHIPPING

Wallenius Wilhelmsen reveals financial impact of bridge collapse. Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article16984255.ece> Oslo-based car carrier Wallenius Wilhelmsen estimates that the aggregated provisional total financial impact of the Baltimore accident where a container ship crashed into the Francis Scott Key Bridge causing it to collapse will be between USD 5-10m.

Red Sea conflict continues to weigh on logistics sector. *The Star (Malaysia)*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.thestar.com.my/business/business-news/2024/04/03/red-sea-conflict-continues-to-weigh-on-logistics-sector> Roughly a third of global container volume comes from the Asia-Europe route, but the prolonged conflict in the Middle East, with no immediate sign of the Red Sea tensions de-escalating, is weighing down on the Asia-Europe trade, the research house said.

Beyond the Box Episode 10: Are we there yet? The road to net zero. *Maersk*. 3 April 2024. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ElkdDzrahIA&ab_channel=Maersk Join us as experts Pernille Dahlgaard, Gareth Prowse, and Øistein Jensen explore the journey towards achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions in the maritime industry by 2050.

Opinion: Even progressive carriers could struggle to reach climate goals. Daniel Logan Berg-Munch. *ShippingWatch*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article16987951.ece> Hapag-Lloyd has issued their 2023 sustainability report which is the 7th iteration of the report since 2017.

Shipping needs a 'global standard' to measure life-cycle emissions. Ian Lewis. *TradeWinds*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/sustainability/shipping-needs-a-global-standard-to-measure-life-cycle-emissions/2-1-1621233> Shipping needs to create a global standard for vessel life-cycle assessments (LCAs) to ensure unbiased results, a leading ship designer warns.

National WISTA Association to create opportunities for women in maritime industry. *The Gleaner (Jamaica)*. 4 April 2024. Available from: <https://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/news/20240404/national-wista-association-create-opportunities-women-maritime-industry> The Women's International Shipping and Trading Association (WISTA) Jamaica is looking to make significant strides in fostering inclusivity for women, through the launch of the National WISTA Association, which is geared at creating greater opportunities for women in the maritime sector.

Interferry urges governments to use carbon tax revenues to invest in OPS. *Interferry.*

4 April 2024. Available from: <https://interferry.com/2024/04/04/interferry-urges-governments-to-use-carbon-tax-revenues-to-invest-in-ops/> Interferry, the shipping association representing the ferry industry worldwide, is calling on governments and electricity utilities to prioritise investment in Onshore Power Supply (OPS) development to help the ferry sector maintain its lead in maritime electrification and hybridisation.

Carbon pricing for international shipping, equity, and WTO law. Goran Dominioni.

RECIEL Review of European, Comparative & International Environmental Law. 6 April 2024. Available from: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/reel.12540> The IMO is working on the adoption of a greenhouse gas (GHG) pricing instrument to decarbonise international shipping.

Issue of decarbonisation to dominate talks at Singapore Maritime Week. David Hughes.

Business Times (Singapore). 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/international/issue-decarbonisation-dominate-talks-singapore-maritime-week> But much of the industry remains preoccupied with the newly implemented European Union Emissions Trading Scheme, and would prefer a simple levy on bunker consumption.

Rear Admiral Brady retires from MAJ. *The Gleaner (Jamaica).* 9 April 2024. Available from:

<https://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/shipping/20240409/rear-admiral-brady-retires-maj> Rear Admiral (Ret'd) Peter Brady has retired from the Maritime Authority of Jamaica (MAJ), having served as its director general since its inception in 1999.

ICS: ESG performance is a key differentiator in the maritime market. Georgia Spencer-Rowland.

Safety4Sea. 9 April 2024. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-ics-esg-performance-is-a-key-differentiator-in-the-maritime-market/> In an exclusive interview to SAFETY4SEA, Georgia Spencer-Rowland, Shipping Policy Manager, ICS, notes that the maritime industry is heading in the right direction in addressing ESG requirements, putting an emphasis on the three dimensions.

New approach could block shadow tankers carrying Russian oil. Peter Thomsen and Mette

Grube Condrup. *ShippingWatch.* 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article17005305.ece> Experts believe that environmental safety considerations may allow the authorities to ban the Russian shadow fleet from operating in Danish waters.

Shipping Giant MSC Vows to Fight 'Excessive' Fine Sought by US Agency. Brendan Murray.

Bloomberg. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/shipping-giant-msc-vows-to-fight-excessive-fine-sought-by-us-agency-1.2057438> The world's largest container carrier will push back against a proposed US government fine that would rank among the stiffest penalties handed down by the diminutive Washington regulator where the fight is playing out.

WTO forecasts rebound in global trade but warns of downside risks. *World Trade*

Organization (WTO). 10 April 2024. Available from: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news24_e/tfore_10apr24_e.htm Global goods trade is expected to pick up gradually this year following a contraction in 2023 that was driven by the lingering effects of high energy prices and inflation, WTO economists said in a new forecast on 10 April. [Six factors limiting the trade impact of the Red Sea shipping attacks](#) 🇺🇸

Navigating Europe's Future: Danish Shipping's Top Priorities for the New European Parliament. *Danish Shipping*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://danishshipping.dk/en/latest-news/2024/navigating-europe-s-future-danish-shipping-s-top-priorities-for-the-new-european-parliament/> Danish Shipping urge candidates and members of the Parliament to focus on the green transition of shipping, active trade and industrial policy, and maritime security.

GSBN study on digitalisation's impact on shipping's decarbonisation calls for accelerated adoption and greater interoperability. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 12 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/gsbn-study-on-digitalisations-impact-on-shippings-decarbonisation-calls-for-accelerated-adoption-and-greater-interoperability/> Global Shipping Business Network (GSBN), a neutral, not-for-profit consortium enabling paperless, accessible and sustainable growth in global trade with its data infrastructure and ecosystem of partners, has published a new study highlighting the potential for significant carbon reductions through the adoption of digital processes in the shipping sector.

Impact of Digitalization in Driving Decarbonization in Shipping. *GSBN*. 10 April 2024. Available from: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wgXfXtLeDLbJBwzlbntTQz6c4SjJFFGI/view> The transportation sector plays a significant role in global greenhouse gas emissions ("GHG emissions").

Shippers in Baltimore Disaster Face 'General Average,' MSC Says. Brendan Murray. *Bloomberg*. 13 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/shippers-in-baltimore-disaster-face-general-average-msc-says-1.2058694> The owner of the ship that destroyed Baltimore's Francis Scott Key Bridge has started a formal process in which companies that own goods on the stricken *Dali* will have to share some of the financial losses, according to the world's leading container carrier.

The Leading Maritime Cities of the world 2024. *Menon Economics*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.menon.no/the-leading-maritime-cities-of-the-world-2024/?lang=en> The 2024 report is the fifth edition of the Leading Maritime Cities report since 2015. [Report](#) 📄

18th Singapore Maritime Week opens with 'Actions meet Ambition' theme. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/18th-singapore-maritime-week-opens-with-actions-meet-ambition-theme/> MPA will be making several announcements related to developments on low- emission maritime energy transition technologies, maritime artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and manpower, over the five-day event.

G7 Transport Ministers meeting in Milan briefed by ICS Chairman, Emanuele Grimaldi, on Security and Decarbonisation. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 15 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/g7-transport-ministers-meeting-in-milan-briefed-by-ics-chairman-emanuele-grimaldi-on-security-and-decarbonisation/> Notably, Mr Grimaldi emphasised to the G7 Transport Ministers the continued plight of the 25 *Galaxy Leader* seafarers who are still being held captive by the Houthis.

Container shipping costs of Korea-EU route surge 40% amid Red Sea crisis. *Korea Times (South Korea)*. 15 April 2024. Available from: https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2024/04/602_372700.html The average shipping cost for a 40-foot container for the Korea-European Union route came to 4.25 million won (\$3,071) last month, up 39 percent from a year earlier, according to the data from the Korea Customs Service.

Is the green transition on the right path? Maersk says yes. Marco Fiori disagrees.

Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*. 16 April 2024. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article17021024.ece> The shipping industry has taken major leaps forward over the last couple of years in terms of recognizing the need to decarbonize in order to do its bit for the Paris Agreement.

Broker Howden launches Red Sea cargo war insurance as ship risks surge.

Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/broker-howden-launches-red-sea-cargo-war-insurance-ship-risks-surge-2024-04-16/> Howden has started offering war risk cargo insurance to cover vessels sailing through the Red Sea against drone and missile attacks as geopolitical tensions escalate in the region, the UK-based insurance broker told Reuters on Tuesday.

China urges restraint in Red Sea, calls for end to attacks on shipping.

China Daily. 16 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.chinadailyhk.com/hk/article/581031> China on Monday voiced concerns about rising tensions in the Red Sea, urging the Houthis to acknowledge the navigation rights of commercial vessels from all nations in the Red Sea and to promptly halt any related attacks.

Researchers can help shipowners achieve ambitious climate targets.

Sølvi Normannsen. *Norwegian SciTech News*. 16 April 2024. Available from:

<https://norwegiansciotechnews.com/2024/04/researchers-can-help-shipowners-achieve-ambitious-climate-targets/> Shipowners around the world are in a very difficult position, because they are having to order new ships now that will run on fuel and technologies that are not yet fully developed.

Five Schools of thought reflect shipping executives' current thinking on critical maritime issues.

Mikael Lind, Wolfgang Lehmacher, Richard T. Watson, Jillian Carson-Jackson and Sukhjit Singh. *UN Trade and Development*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://unctad.org/news/five-schools-thought-reflect-shipping-executives-current-thinking-critical-maritime-issues> In the continuously evolving self-organising ecosystem of global supply chains, leaders in the maritime sector should be alert to what fellow leaders consider are critical challenges.

The next four years will seem like yesterday.

Craig Jallal. *Rivera Maritime*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/opinion/the-next-four-years-will-seem-like-yesterday-80350> It was only four years ago, in the first half of 2020, that most European countries were reacting to the pandemic with lockdowns, slashing demand for oil products like petrol, diesel and avgas.

The World Food Program joins the CMA CGM Foundation's Containers of Hope Program.

American Journal of Transportation (AJOT). 17 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.ajot.com/news/the-world-food-program-joins-the-cma-cgm-foundations-containers-of-hope-program> The CMA CGM Foundation has signed a strategic partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP) to support the organization's efforts to provide life-saving food and assistance to people affected by conflicts, disasters, and the climate crisis.

World Shipping Council Appoints Joe Kramek as New President & CEO.

World Shipping Council. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.worldshipping.org/news/world-shipping-council-appoints-joe-kramek-as-new-president-amp-ceo> The World Shipping Council (WSC), the united voice of liner shipping, is happy to announce that the WSC Board has appointed Joe Kramek as its new President & CEO, to succeed John Butler upon his retirement at the end of July.

Hapag Wins Tender from Leading Brands to Provide Biomethane Shipping. *Maritime Executive*. 17 April 2024. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/hapag-wins-tender-from-leading-brands-to-provide-biomethane-shipping> In a first-of-its-kind initiative designed to demonstrate the potential of collective efforts to drive the decarbonization of shipping, a group of leading consumer and manufacturing companies banded together to contract for shipper services from Singapore to Rotterdam.

Shipowners reaffirm sector's commitment to net zero. Nigel Lowry. *Lloyd's List*. 18 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148901/Shipowners-reaffirm-sectors-commitment-to-net-zero> Shipping is fully committed to achieving its ambitious climate targets but cannot reach them by itself, industry leaders told the Our Ocean conference in Athens.

Joint industry open letter to the United Nations Secretary General following the seizure of the MSC Aries. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 19 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/statement/joint-industry-open-letter-to-the-un-secretary-general-following-the-seizure-of-the-msc-aries/> A joint industry open letter has been sent to the United Nations Secretary General – His Excellency Antonio Guterres – calling for assistance following the seizure of the *MSC Aries* on Saturday 13 April.

Oil spill fund names and shames late payers as it rewrites rules. Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insurance/oil-spill-fund-names-and-shames-late-payers-as-it-rewrites-rules/2-1-1630234> The International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds) uses oil import data to calculate levies for 121 member states that pay for its work - but a hard-core of countries have failed to provide complete figures for at least five years.

WISTA International's ExCo Mid-Term Meeting and Conference Champions Connectivity and Diversity in the Maritime Industry. *All About Shipping*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://allaboutshipping.co.uk/2024/04/22/wista-internationals-exco-mid-term-meeting-and-conference-champions-connectivity-and-diversity-in-the-maritime-industry/> In her opening speech, Elpi Petraki, President of WISTA International, emphasised the organisation's dedication to advocating for its members and the broader maritime, trading, and logistics community.

IBIA and BIMCO team up to collaborate on fuel and maritime challenges. *International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA)*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://ibia.net/ibia-and-bimco-team-up-to-collaborate-on-fuel-and-maritime-challenges/> IBIA and BIMCO have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on some of the monumental challenges and opportunities within the areas of bunker, marine energy and maritime sectors and help facilitate shipping's decarbonisation efforts.

The Lloyd's List Podcast: How to talk to Europe about shipping. Richard Meade. *Lloyd's List*. 22 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148924/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-How-to-talk-to-Europe-about-shipping> With the European elections looming there is a compelling argument for shipping to be far more central in the EU's future industrial strategy, but are we having the right conversations with politicians and regulators?

Counting the cost of war on the climate: Red Sea conflict brings massive carbon emissions increases in ocean freight shipping. Philip Hennessey. *Xeneta*. 23 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.xeneta.com/news/counting-the-cost-of-war-on-the-climate-red-sea-conflict-brings-massive-carbon-emissions-increases-in-ocean-freight-shipping> Conflict in the Red Sea has brought massive carbon emissions increases in ocean freight container shipping, according to data released by Xeneta today, Tuesday.

SEB sets net-zero aligned 2030 target for shipping. *SEB Group*. 24 April 2024. Available from: <https://sebgroup.com/press/news/2024/seb-sets-net-zero-aligned-2030-target-for-shipping>
SEB sets a net-zero aligned 2030 target for the shipping sector in line with its commitment to the Net-Zero Banking Alliance.

Cameron suspends vessel registrations amid 'ghost ship' concerns, aims for digitization. *Business in Cameroon*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/4u2m4m6n> Cameroonian Transport Minister Jean Ernest Massena Ngalle Bibehe issued a statement on April 22 announcing the suspension of registrations for vessels navigating outside Cameroonian territorial waters for six months, extendable.

CMA CGM and Bpifrance launch €200M fund to decarbonize French maritime sector. *Naida Hakirevic Prevljak*. 25 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/cma-cgm-and-bpifrance-launch-e200m-fund-to-decarbonize-french-maritime-sector/> "Through PULSE, CMA CGM energy fund, we're investing in sustainable advancements, from decarbonizing fishing vessels to supporting cutting-edge maritime research.

Changes needed in corporate governance of shipping companies. Pappu Sastry. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 26 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/opinions-analysis/changes-needed-corporate-governance-shipping-companies> Shipping companies in the context of this article can broadly be segregated into ship owning (asset based) and ship operating (non-asset) companies.


Sailing through storms: The fallout of Red Sea disruptions for global trade and inflation. Maria Grazia Attinasi, Lukas Boeckelmann, et al. *Centre for Economic Policy Research*. 26 April 2024. Available from: <https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/sailing-through-storms-fallout-red-sea-disruptions-global-trade-and-inflation> This column discusses the consequences for oil prices, trade, and inflation, and looks at the effects of more protracted disruptions.

Shipping costs on the rise with conflict, pirates, protectionism and profits sharing the blame. Daniel Ziffer. *ABC (Australia)*. 28 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-04-29/pirates-protectionism-and-profits-boost-shipping-costs/103764156> Freight costs are rising due to conflict, for example causing ships to have to travel further to avoid the Red Sea.

Wartsila says shipowners need to decarbonize at 'right speed'. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 29 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/wartsila-says-shipowners-need-to-decarbonize-at-right-speed/> Shipping companies should decarbonize their operations at "the right speed" to reduce the financial burden while meeting regulatory requirements, Wartsila's marine business head, Roger Holm, told S&P Global Commodity Insights in an interview.

Red Sea crisis makes shippers agree to pricey contracts with carriers. Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*. 29 April 2024. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article17062017.ece> The unrest in the Red Sea, where attacks on ships have caused major disruptions to freight operations, is providing shipping companies a breath of fresh air after a prolonged downturn, as shown by the jump in container freight prices in recent months.

Customs software upgrade set to bolster trade for developing countries. *UN Trade and Development*. 29 April 2024. Available from: <https://unctad.org/news/customs-software-upgrade-set-bolster-trade-developing-countries> ASYCUDAWorld, a flagship software backed by UN Trade and Development, introduces cutting-edge capabilities to help improve customs management across more than 100 economies.

ESG provides a roadmap for dry bulk shipping says INTERCARGO as it publishes first ESG Review. *International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (INTERCARGO)*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.intercargoo.org/media-release-esg-provides-a-roadmap-for-dry-bulk-shipping-says-intercargoo-as-it-publishes-first-esg-review/> The evolving Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) agenda is not merely a prerequisite for operating in the dry bulk shipping industry of the 21st century; it is a roadmap for thriving amidst challenges and securing sustainable success, says INTERCARGO. [ESG Review 2024](#) 

Guinea-Bissau emerges as this year's fastest-growing ship register. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://splash247.com/guinea-bissau-emerges-as-this-years-fastest-growing-ship-register/> The registries of Gabon, the Comoro Islands and Guinea-Bissau have each more than doubled in size in 2024 so far, taking on a significant tranche of the so-called shadow tanker fleet in the process.

Russia's Sovcomflot Is Renaming Oil Tankers Hit by US Sanctions. Julian Lee and Alex Longley. *Bloomberg*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/russia-s-sovcomflot-is-renaming-oil-tankers-hit-by-us-sanctions-1.2066845> Russia's state-owned oil tanker company renamed some of its ships after cities in the country following sanctions by the US.

Malaysia: Straits Energy Resources completes milestone biofuel bunkering op in Johor. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/malaysia-straits-energy-resources-completes-milestone-biofuel-bunkering-op-in-johor/> Firm believed this was the first delivery of International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC EU) certified marine biofuel by a Malaysian supplier.

Rough seas or smooth sailing? The cruise industry is booming despite environmental concerns. Frédéric Dimanche and Kelley A. McClinchey. *The Conversation*. 30 April 2024. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/rough-seas-or-smooth-sailing-the-cruise-industry-is-booming-despite-environmental-concerns-228181> The season kicked off with the arrival of Norwegian Bliss on April 3 — the first of 318 ships that are scheduled to dock in Victoria this year.

RESEARCH

Loennechen O, Fagerholt K, et al. **Maritime fleet composition under future greenhouse gas emission restrictions and uncertain fuel prices.** *Maritime Transport Research*. 23 January 2024. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666822X2400017> This paper studies the maritime fleet composition problem with uncertain future fuel and carbon prices under the restriction of complying with future greenhouse gas (GHG) emission restrictions.

Becattini V, Wiemer S, et al. **Accelerating the climate transition through scientist-led CO2 management pilot projects.** *Nature Chemical Engineering*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s44286-024-00056-y> The existential threat posed by the climate crisis calls for urgent solutions to manage hard-to-abate and unavoidable CO2 emissions.

Blasiak R and Jouffray J-B. **When will the BBNJ Agreement deliver results?** *npj Ocean Sustainability*. 3 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s44183-024-00058-6> A new international agreement on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) was adopted and subsequently opened for signature in September 2023.

Arias A, Nika C-E, et al. **Assessing the future prospects of emerging technologies for shipping and aviation biofuels: A critical review.** *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*.

5 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364032124001503>

There is an urgent need to switch from fossil to bio-based fuels in the transport sector, particularly in shipping and aviation.

Bennett NJ, Morgera E, et al. **The human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable ocean.**

npj Ocean Sustainability. 8 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s44183-024-00057-7>

The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution in 2022 that formally recognizes that there is a universal human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

Micoli L, Russo R, et al. **Advancing zero-emission maritime solutions: Case study of an ammonia-powered fuel cell system implementation.** *Energy Conversion and Management: X*.

10 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2590174524000667> The international scientific community asserts that ammonia will play an essential role in decarbonizing ships, primarily due to its abundance, availability in ports, and potential for production from renewable sources (green ammonia).

Fadiga A, Ferreira LMDF, et al. **Decarbonising maritime ports: A systematic review of the literature and insights for new research opportunities.** *Journal of Cleaner Production*.

17 April 2024. Available from:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959652624016573> While most of the existing literature has investigated specific decarbonisation measures, a comprehensive review to clarify how different decarbonisation measures could be combined remains absent.

Cowger W, Willis KA, et al. **Global producer responsibility for plastic pollution.** *Science Advances*.

24 April 2024. Available from: <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.adj8275>

Brand names can be used to hold plastic companies accountable for their items found polluting the environment.

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maritimeknowledgecentre@imo.org

About the cover

The CAB 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.