



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

“Sharing Maritime Knowledge”

**CURRENT AWARENESS BULLETIN
FEBRUARY 2025**

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

About the MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)

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

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

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

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

Table of Contents

IMO NEWS & EVENTS	2
NEW IMO PUBLICATIONS	4
UNITED NATIONS	6
CASUALTIES.....	6
ENVIRONMENT	9
ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION	10
HEALTH & SAFETY	11
IMO	12
LAW & POLICY	18
MARINE TECHNOLOGY.....	23
MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING	25
MARITIME SAFETY	27
MARITIME SECURITY	28
MIGRANTS	30
NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS	31
PIRACY.....	33
PORT STATE CONTROL.....	34
PORTS & HARBOURS.....	34
REGULATIONS	39
SEAFARERS	40
SEARCH & RESCUE	42
SHIP RECYCLING	43
SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR	44
SHIPPING.....	45
RESEARCH.....	51

IMO NEWS & EVENTS

Statement on the loss of seafarers in the attack on a merchant ship in Odesa

Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization, Mr. Arsenio Dominguez, has issued a statement following an attack in Odesa on 11 March:

"I am deeply saddened to hear of the tragic loss of seafarers in the recent attack in Odesa, which has claimed the lives of four seafarers. My thoughts and condolences are with the families and loved ones of those who have lost their lives, as well as those who were injured.

Seafarers ensure the continuous flow of essential goods that sustain communities worldwide. They must never become targets in conflicts beyond their control. We must reaffirm our collective commitment to their safety and well-being.

I reiterate my call to all parties involved to work together to ensure that such acts of violence against innocent seafarers and shipping do not continue. International shipping should never become a casualty in the broader geopolitical landscape.

The IMO remains committed to supporting efforts to improve the safety of all those who work in the global maritime industry."

IMO to develop global strategy for maritime digitalization

First steps taken towards a cross-cutting strategy that will leverage new technology to advance international shipping.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is taking action to create a comprehensive strategy that harnesses emerging technologies to turbo-charge efficiency, safety and sustainability in the shipping industry.

A roadmap for digital transformation

During its 49th session in London from 10 to 14 March, IMO's Facilitation Committee (FAL) outlined a work plan for developing the IMO Strategy on Maritime Digitalization, which is set to be adopted by the Organization's highest governing body – the IMO Assembly – by the end of 2027.

The cross-cutting strategy will span different areas of IMO's work, fostering a fully interconnected, harmonized and automated global maritime sector. [More...](#)

[Latest IMO Press Briefings](#)

[MEETING SUMMARIES AND SCHEDULE](#) **[Programme of Meetings for 2025](#)** 

Previous Meetings

[Facilitation Committee \(FAL\)](#) 10-14 March 2025

[Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment \(SSE\)](#) 24-28 February 2025

Forthcoming Meetings

Legal Committee (LEG) 24-28 March 2025

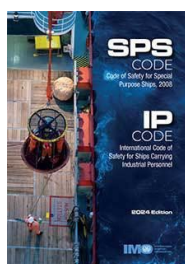
Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) 7-11 April 2025

NEW IMO PUBLICATIONS



To purchase any IMO Publication or Internet Subscription service, please contact one of our world-wide [IMO Authorized Distributors](#).

For any publication queries, please contact the IMO Publishing sales team at sales@imo.org



SPS Code and IP Code, 2024 Edition

Print format: IB820E

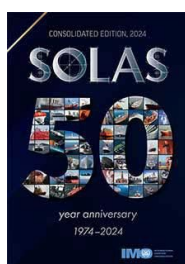
Digital format: KB820E (English) KB820F (French) KB820S (Spanish)

ISBN: 978-92-801-1788-2 (Print English) 978-92-801-3212-0 (Digital

English) 978-92-801-2573-3 (French) 978-92-801-3216-8 (Spanish)

This publication includes the *Code of Safety for Special Purpose Ships, 2008* (2008 SPS Code), the new *International Code of Safety for Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel* (IP Code), and SOLAS chapter XV on safety measures for ships carrying industrial personnel.

The 2008 SPS Code sets safety standards for special purpose ships carrying 'special personnel' such as scientists and technicians involved in specific onboard activities. The IP Code, which came into force on **1 July 2024**, extends these safety principles to ships transporting 'industrial personnel'. This new code addresses the safety requirements for the offshore and energy sectors, ensuring safer transport and transfer of personnel involved in offshore industrial activities.



SOLAS Consolidated Edition, 2024 Edition

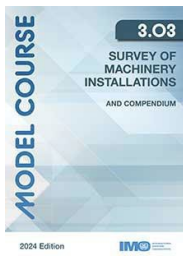
Digital format: KH110E (English)

ISBN: 978-92-801-1793-6 (English)

Of all the international conventions dealing with maritime safety, the most important is the *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea*, better known as SOLAS, which covers a wide range of measures designed to improve the safety of shipping.

The Convention is also one of the oldest of its kind: the first version was adopted in 1914 following the sinking of the **Titanic** with the loss of more than 1,500 lives. Since then, there have been four more versions of SOLAS. The present version was adopted in 1974 and entered into force in 1980. This publication commemorates the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the 1974 SOLAS Convention, a prominent international instrument for maritime safety.

This edition of the publication presents a consolidated text of the Convention, its Protocol of 1988 and all amendments that have entered into force on or before **1 July 2024**. Additionally, this edition includes the **unified interpretations of SOLAS regulations** approved by the Maritime Safety Committee.



Model Course: Survey of machinery installations, 2024 Edition

Digital format: KTB303E

ISBN: 978-92-801-1782-0

This course equips maritime professionals with the skills to survey and assess machinery installations, ensuring compliance with international standards.

Flexible in design, the course can be tailored to the trainees' knowledge levels and training needs. Validated by the IMO Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and

Equipment, this course is a vital resource for standardizing machinery installation surveys, enhancing safety and competence across the global maritime industry.

The course covers the requirements of initial, annual, intermediate, and periodical and renewal surveys, as specified in SOLAS. It does not cover preliminary design or plan approvals, nor does it cover the survey or inspection of chemical tankers, gas carriers, special purpose ships or mobile offshore units.

UNITED NATIONS

Africa's vulnerability to global shocks highlights need for stronger regional trade.

UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD). 10 February 2025. Available from:

<https://unctad.org/news/africas-vulnerability-global-shocks-highlights-need-stronger-regional-trade>

Africa is at the epicentre of overlapping global crises – economic shocks, climate disruptions and geopolitical tensions – that compound vulnerabilities.

[Economic development in Africa report 2024](#)

Guterres calls for probe into death of WFP staff member detained in Yemen.

UN News. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/02/1160051>

“Heartbroken and outraged by the tragic loss of WFP team member, Ahmed, who lost his life while arbitrarily detained in Yemen,” Executive Director Cindy McCain said on Tuesday in a post on the social media platform X. She described him as “a devoted humanitarian and father of two”, who “played a crucial role in our mission to deliver lifesaving food assistance.”

US funding cuts threaten global health response, WHO chief warns.

UN News. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/02/1160081>

In a media briefing on Wednesday, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus highlighted the consequences of funding suspensions, including disruptions to HIV treatment, setbacks in polio eradication and limited resources for responding to mpox epidemics in Africa.

Guterres urges Caribbean leaders to keep pushing for peace, climate action.

UN News. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/02/1160296>

Mr. Guterres was speaking during the opening of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Heads of Government Meeting in the capital Bridgetown, where he called for unity to achieve progress in peace and security, climate and sustainable development.

World must pull together to build a fairer, more sustainable planet - UNEP's Annual Report.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). 18 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/world-must-pull-together-build-fairer-more-sustainable-planet-uneps>

The UN Environment Programme's (UNEP) Annual Report, released today, calls for a dramatic uptick in ambition and action for the environment.

CASUALTIES

Identification, risk assessment of hazards improved after Brisbane container ship breakaways during flooding event.

Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB). 30 January 2025. Available from: <https://www.atsb.gov.au/media/news-items/2025/identification-risk-assessment-hazards-improved-after-brisbane-container-ship-breakaways-during-flooding-event>

The May 2022 incidents occurred after an unprecedented stretch of rainfall resulted in significant freshwater inflows into the Brisbane River following several controlled water releases from dams located upriver.

Ship waste, marine casualties and regulatory requirements as to shipment notification and consent.

Alexander Freeman and Reema Shour. *Hill Dickinson LLP*. 30 January 2025.

Available from: <https://www.hilldickinson.com/insights/articles/ship-waste-marine-casualties-and-regulatory-requirements-shipment-notification>

On 5 February 2025, the UK Supreme Court will hear the appeal in the *MSC Flaminia*.

OS35 report reveals vessel master made 'error of judgement' when leaving Gibraltar before collision. *Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC)*. 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gbc.gi/news/os35-report-reveals-vessel-master-made-error-judgement-when-leaving-gibraltar-collision> A report into the collision of the OS35 with an LNG tanker has concluded the Master of the vessel made an error of judgement when leaving the Western Anchorage.

Report on the investigation of the collision of OS 35 and ADAM LNG and the subsequent grounding of OS 35 on 29 August 2022. *Government of Gibraltar*. 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gibraltarship.com/download/819> 'OS 35', loaded with a cargo of steel rebar, weighed anchor in Gibraltar Bay on completion of bunkering.

Safety warning issued following Egyptian liveboard dive boat accidents in the Red Sea resulting in the loss of life. *UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB)*. 6 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/maib-reports/safety-warning-issued-following-egyptian-liveboard-dive-boat-accidents-in-the-red-sea-resulting-in-the-loss-of-life?cachebust=1738836057> Over the last 5 years, 16 accidents have occurred involving liveboard dive vessels operating in the Red Sea. [Safety Bulletin 1/2025](#)

Chinese cargo ship runs aground on Russia's Pacific region of Sakhalin but no spill reported. *Associated Press*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/russia-china-cargo-ship-tanker-oil-spill-sakhalin-007e0fc8c033e4d4d4f3e4b5f2f42f80> The governor of Russia's Pacific island region of Sakhalin has declared an emergency after a Chinese cargo ship ran aground off its southwest coast.

Oil tanker damaged near Russian port, Finland heightens oil spill readiness. *Yle (Finland)*. 9 February 2025. Available from: <https://yle.fi/a/74-20142552> Three explosions have reportedly occurred in the engine room onboard the oil tanker *Koala* in the Gulf of Finland.

Ambiguous procedures contributed to Yarra River container vessel steering failure. *Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB)*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.atsb.gov.au/media/news-items/2025/ambiguous-procedures-contributed-yarra-river-container-vessel-steering-failure> Departing the Port of Melbourne on 25 May 2023 under the conduct of a harbour pilot, container ship *CMA CGM Puccini* contacted the navigational beacon after swinging wide in a turn when its rudder began responding erratically to helm orders. [Investigation Report](#)

Capsize and sinking of fishing vessel *Njord* with loss of 1 life. *UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB)*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/maib-reports/capsize-and-sinking-of-fishing-vessel-njord-with-loss-of-1-life> On 6 March 2022, the 26.56m UK registered stern trawler *Njord* capsized 150 nautical miles north-east of Peterhead, Scotland while processing a large haul of fish. [Accident Investigation Report 2/2025](#)

USS *Harry S. Truman* Collides with Merchant Vessel in Mediterranean Sea. Heather Mongilio. *US Naval Institute News*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://news.usni.org/2025/02/13/breaking-uss-harry-s-truman-collides-with-merchant-vessel-in-mediterranean-sea> USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN-75), the flagship of the Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group, collided with *M/V Besiktas-M* on Wednesday evening near Port Said, Egypt, in the Mediterranean Sea, the Navy said Thursday.

The Sea Empress Disaster: Remembering the catastrophe 29 years on. Tom Sinclair. *Pembrokeshire Herald (UK)*. 15 February 2025. Available from: <https://pembrokeshire-herald.com/106927/the-sea-empress-disaster-remembering-the-catastrophe-29-years-on/>
It was exactly 29 years ago.

Crew rescued after cargo vessel runs aground on Newfoundland's west coast. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 15 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/lark-harbour-vessel-1.7460441>
All crew members of the *MSC Baltic III* have been rescued after their vessel ran aground close to the Lark Harbour shoreline off Newfoundland and Labrador's west coast.

Seafarers airlifted to safety after MSC container ship grounds in rough weather. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/seafarers-airlifted-to-safety-after-msc-container-ship-grounds-in-rough-weather/2-1-1780534> All 20 crew members have been safely airlifted from an MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company container ship that grounded off Canada on Saturday.

Rescuing crew of ship run aground in Lark Harbour 'one of the most challenging things I've done', pilot says. Alex Kennedy. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/lark-harbour-ship-monday-1.7461158> 📺 The successful rescue of 20 people aboard a cargo vessel run aground in Lark Harbour, N.L., resulted in a happy ending Sunday, but one of the helicopter's pilots says it didn't come easy.

Live operations: *MSC Baltic III* grounding near Wild Cove, NL. *Canadian Coast Guard*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.ccg-qcc.gc.ca/corporation-information-organisation/incidents-eng.html> The *CCGS Ann Harvey* arrived on scene on Monday, February 17.

Grimaldi Conro Drifting in the English Channel After Fire is Extinguished. *Maritime Executive*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/grimaldi-conro-drifting-in-the-english-channel-after-fire-is-extinguished> Rescue teams from France, the Netherlands, and the UK cooperated to respond to a distress call this morning, February 18, from a Grimaldi vessel southbound in the English Channel.

'Multiple mines': Mysterious explosions on Russia-trading tankers ignite fears as fresh attacks emerge. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 20 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/-multiple-mines-mysterious-explosions-on-russia-trading-tankers-ignite-fears-as-fresh-attacks-emerge/2-1-1782210> Concern is mounting in shipping circles about a series of mysterious explosions on tankers with a history of Russian port calls.

Italy Prosecutors Open Terrorism Probe Into Oil Tanker Explosion. *gCaptain*. 20 February 2025. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/italy-prosecutors-open-terrorism-probe-into-oil-tanker-explosion/> Italian authorities opened a terrorism investigation into explosions last weekend that damaged an oil tanker off northern Italy, in the latest of four such incidents in the Mediterranean and Baltic seas in the past month, the chief prosecutor of the city of Genoa said on Thursday.

Incorrect Valve Leads to Engine Room Fire During Bunkering on Cargo Vessel. *US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)*. 20 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/NR20250220.aspx>; [Engine Room Fire aboard Cargo Vessel Stride](#) The installation of an incorrect valve in a pipe to a diesel oil tank led to a fatal fire aboard a cargo vessel docked in LaPorte, Texas, the National Transportation Safety Board said Thursday. [Investigation Report 25-05](#) 📄

Coast Guard finds hull breaches in stranded MSC ship full of oil. Liv Almer. *ShippingWatch*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article17942460.ece>
The Canadian Coast Guard has found damage and holes in the hull of the MSC ship that ran aground two weeks ago in eastern Canada, the Coast Guard writes in an update.

Depths of hull: MSC Baltic III's wedged stern giving ship grounded in western NL some stability. Gary Kean. *The Telegram (Canada)*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.saltwire.com/newfoundland-labrador/msc-baltic-iiis-wedged-stern-giving-grounded-nl-ship-some-stability> The organizations involved in evaluating the condition of the *MSC Baltic III* continue to get a better idea of what they're dealing with and hope to soon have a plan for the cargo ship grounded in western NL.

Cargo Lost Due to Incorrect Cargo Weight Data. *US National Transportation Safety Board*. 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/NR20250225.aspx> The input of incorrect container cargo weight data when developing the cargo loading plan led to shipping containers falling off a cargo ship and others becoming damaged while the vessel was drifting off the coast of California, the National Transportation Safety Board said Tuesday.

[Container Loss aboard Containership *President Eisenhower*](#) 📄

ENVIRONMENT

Top yet contested climate scientist declares 2C climate goal 'dead'. *France 24*. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20250204-top-climate-scientist-declares-2c-climate-goal-dead> Led by renowned if dissenting climatologist James Hansen, the paper appears in the journal "Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development" and concludes that Earth's climate is more sensitive to rising greenhouse gas emissions than previously thought.

Copernicus: January 2025 was the warmest on record globally, despite an emerging La Niña. *Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S)*. 6 February 2025. Available from: <https://climate.copernicus.eu/copernicus-january-2025-was-warmest-record-globally-despite-emerging-la-nina> According to Samantha Burgess, Strategic Lead for Climate at ECMWF: "January 2025 is another surprising month, continuing the record temperatures observed throughout the last two years, despite the development of La Niña conditions in the tropical Pacific and their temporary cooling effect on global temperatures."

RELEASE: The climate is warming and sea levels rising way faster than governments are acting. *Climate Action Tracker*. 7 February 2025. Available from: <https://climateactiontracker.org/press/release-the-climate-is-warming-and-sea-levels-rising-way-faster-than-governments-are-acting/> Only six of the countries the Climate Action Tracker analyses have submitted their new 2035 climate targets in time for the Paris Agreement's 10 February 2025 deadline, and only one — the UK — is proposing actions at home that are 1.5°C-aligned.

Revealed: More than half of nations fail to protect 30% of land and sea in UN nature plans. *Carbon Brief*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/yc2z4jev> More than half of countries have not committed to protecting 30% of their land and sea for nature by 2030 in plans submitted to the UN — despite signing a global agreement to do so less than three years ago, a Carbon Brief and Guardian investigation can reveal.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

LR joins LOWNOISER project to help protect marine ecosystems from underwater noise pollution. *Lloyd's Register*. 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/jwuyt9fr>

Lloyd's Register (LR) has joined the LOWNOISER project, a new initiative aimed at tackling underwater noise pollution caused by maritime traffic.

'It's not just a few ships doing it': how the world's plastic ends up on a Guernsey beach.

Euan Mahy. *The Guardian*. 6 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/feb/06/its-not-just-a-few-ships-doing-it-how-the-worlds-plastic-ends-up-on-a-guernsey-beach>

Evidence of the extent of the world's plastic litter problem is washing up on Guernsey's beaches with every tide.

JRC: Marine litter on the EU coastline dropped by 29%. *Safety4Sea*. 5 February 2025.

Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/jrc-marine-litter-on-the-eu-coastline-dropped-by-29/>

The report found that the amount of marine macro litter (items bigger than 2.5 cm) in the EU coastline has dropped by 29 % between the baseline period (2015-2016) and the assessment period (2020-2021).

Ship working for Neste likely behind white clumps on Hanko's shore, company confirms.

Yle (Finland). 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://yle.fi/a/74-20141756> Finnish fuel firm Neste announced on Wednesday that lab tests confirmed the white substance that washed up along the shore in Hanko last week very likely came from the wash water of a vessel used in the company's marine transport operations.

One year later, Tobago still recovering from oil spill. *Guardian (Trinidad & Tobago)*.

10 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.guardian.co.tt/news/one-year-later-tobago-still-recovering-from-oil-spill-6.2.2229330.f561c0779b> On February 7, 2024, Tobago's coastline was devastated when a barge capsized, spilling thousands of gallons of fuel into the sea.

Russia Emergency Services Work to Prevent Oil Spill from Grounded Bulk Carrier. *gCaptain*.

10 February 2025. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/russia-emergency-services-work-to-prevent-pacific-oil-spill/> An emergency response team in Russia's Pacific port of Nevelsk is preparing to pump out fuel from a Chinese bulk carrier that ran aground over the weekend, according to regional authorities.

Russia's 'shadow fleet' brings 'high risk' of oil spill. *France 24*. 11 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20250211-russia-s-shadow-fleet-brings-high-risk-of-oil-spill> Security analysts say Russia is operating a large "shadow fleet" of hundreds of vessels, seeking to dodge the sanctions Western nations imposed on its oil exports over its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

Fishermen rescue humpback whale tangled in rope. *BBC News*. 11 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/videos/c4g97ezky3ol> 📺 Two fisherman have rescued a humpback whale found entangled in creel fishing gear off the coast of Skye.

How straws became an enduring symbol of the global plastic pollution crisis. Portia Jones.

Euronews. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/green/2025/02/13/how-straws-became-an-enduring-symbol-of-the-global-plastic-pollution-crisis> In 2015, the plastic-free movement gained significant momentum following a haunting viral video of a distressed sea turtle with a 4-inch plastic straw lodged in its nostril.

Scientists are racing to discover the depth of ocean damage sparked by LA wildfires.

Dorany Pineda. *Associated Press*. 16 February 2025. Available from:

<https://apnews.com/article/california-ocean-wildfires-los-angeles-pollution-ash-aff1102887e86b6e524a7ec2b027b564>

On a recent Sunday, Tracy Quinn drove down the Pacific Coast Highway to assess damage wrought upon the coastline by the Palisades Fire.

With AI against Ghost Nets: Mission GhostNetZero. *WWF*. 17 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.wwf.org/en/food/?17053441/With-AI-against-Ghost-Nets-Mission-GhostNetZero>

WWF Germany is expanding its search for ghost nets and, in collaboration with the Microsoft AI for Good Lab and Accenture, has launched an initiative to address this threat with a new level of efficiency: the AI-supported platform ghostnetzero.ai.

Oil Still Washing Ashore in Southern Russia 2 Months After Black Sea Spill. *Moscow Times*.

25 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2025/02/25/oil-still-washing-ashore-in-southern-russia-2-months-after-black-sea-spill-a88164>

New oil slicks have appeared along the coastlines of southern Russia, regional authorities said Tuesday, two months after a major spill in the Black Sea.

Tackling the Russia-Ukraine War's Environmental Damage in the Black Sea. Dimitar Bechev.

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. 24 February 2025. Available from:

<https://carnegieendowment.org/posts/2025/02/tackling-the-russia-ukraine-wars-environmental-damage-in-the-black-sea?lang=en>

Russia's war on Ukraine has severely damaged the Black Sea, with chemical pollution and loose mines endangering marine life.

A whale caught in fishing nets has been freed off Poland's Baltic coast. Monika Scislowska.

Associated Press. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/whale-rescued-nets-baltic-poland-stranded-miedzyzdroje-8beaa130246b3c570fc5b491c6e5a09f>

Teams of sea rescuers and wildlife experts on Wednesday successfully freed a whale that got caught in fishing nets near a popular Baltic Sea resort in Poland.

Visible White Plume In Road Town Assessed. *Government of the Virgin Islands*.

27 February 2025. Available from: <https://bvi.gov.vg/media-centre/visible-white-plume-road-town-assessed>

On Wednesday, 26th February, the Environmental Health Division, at the request of the Ministry of Communications and Works, conducted a comprehensive assessment of the visible white plume observed from the *Norwegian Epic*."

HEALTH & SAFETY

Safety data denotes industry crisis as crew welfare concerns mount. Edwin Lampert.

Riviera Maritime. 31 January 2025. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/safety-data-denotes-industry-crisis-as-crew-welfare-concerns-mount-83706>

InterManager secretary general Captain Kuba Szymanski presented troubling data showing senior officers accounting for 68% of enclosed space fatalities.

Crews in crisis: Research reveals 100-hour weeks and no days off. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*.

5 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/interviews/crews-in-crisis-research-reveals-100-hour-weeks-and-no-days-off/2-1-1774681>

New research has revealed an existential threat to shipping through a culture of incredibly long hours worked by seafarers.

IMO

IMO, cargo owners more crucial for green bunkers than financiers: Poseidon chair.

Max Lin. *S&P Global*. 30 January 2025. Available from: <https://www.spglobal.com/commodity-insights/en/news-research/latest-news/shipping/013025-imo-cargo-owners-more-crucial-for-green-bunkers-than-financiers-poseidon-chair> Cargo owners and the IMO could determine the pace of decarbonization in the shipping industry by providing more incentives to use low-carbon bunker fuels, according to Poseidon Principles Chair Michael Parker, as vessels capable of running on non-oil fuels hit the waters.

PPR12: UN Shipping Body Shows Support for Polar Fuels, But Takes No Action to Reduce Black Carbon Emissions.

Clean Arctic Alliance. 31 January 2025. Available from: <https://cleanarctic.org/2025/01/31/ppr12-un-shipping-body-shows-support-for-polar-fuels-but-takes-no-action-to-reduce-black-carbon-emissions/> As a meeting of the IMO's Pollution Prevention and Response sub-committee closes today in London, the Clean Arctic Alliance welcomed the broad support from IMO member states, and parts of the fuel and shipping industry, for the development of a polar fuels definition, but called on shipping nations to urgently move forward on regulating such fuels to reduce the impact of black carbon – a potent short-lived climate pollutant – on the Arctic.

Dead identities: over 25 ships using scrapped IMO numbers.

Bridget Diakun. *Lloyd's List*. 31 January 2025. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1152433/Dead-identities-over-25-ships-using-scrapped-IMO-numbers> Nearly 30 ships are sailing under what should be defunct International Maritime Organization ship identification numbers, highlighting security flaws in tracking systems at a time when shipping's dark fleet is under fire for directly facilitating sanctions evasion as well as being questioned for its role in grey-zone aggression.

Chairman of the Suez Canal Authority met Secretary-General of (IMO).

State Information Service (Egypt). 4 February 2025. Available from: [https://www.sis.gov.eg/Story/204712/Chairman-of-the-Suez-Canal-Authority-met-Secretary-General-of-\(IMO\)?lang=en-us](https://www.sis.gov.eg/Story/204712/Chairman-of-the-Suez-Canal-Authority-met-Secretary-General-of-(IMO)?lang=en-us) Admiral Osama Rabie, Chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, met today, Tuesday, with Mr. Arsenio Dominguez, Secretary-General of the IMO, on the sidelines of the first edition of the Seatrade Maritime Qatar conference and exhibition, organised by the Qatari Ministry of Transport over two days from February 4 to 5 in Doha.

Africa cannot wait on climate finance. We need a global shipping levy now.

Eldine Glees. *African Arguments*. 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://africanarguments.org/2025/02/africa-cannot-wait-on-climate-finance-we-need-a-global-shipping-levy-now/> 2025 could be a milestone on climate finance, providing the much-needed and much-overdue funds for the world's most climate vulnerable.

Navigating Consensus On Maritime Decarbonization.

Scoop (New Zealand). 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/WO2502/S00045/navigating-consensus-on-maritime-decarbonization.htm> On January 29, leading voices from the Pacific and beyond gathered for the webin "Negotiating Consensus: Breaking Down the 6PAC+ Submissions to ISWG-GHG 18."

IMO mulls higher biofuel blend cargoes on Type I ships.

Mahua Chakravarty. *Argus Media*. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news-and-insights/latest-market-news/2654616-imo-mulls-higher-biofuel-blend-cargoes-on-type-i-ships> The IMO is reviewing a proposal on the delivery of biofuel blends of up to 30pc on Type I barges, and is expected to approve this soon, according to several key maritime assessors and classification societies.

IMO on track to deliver Revised GHG Strategy - Secretary General. Gary Howard. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/regulations/imo-secretary-general-highlights-geopolitical-progress-during-qatar-visit> Speaking in Qatar Arsenio Dominguez recognises geopolitical and regulatory advances as IMO remains on track to meet Revised GHG Strategy timeline.

Balancing Climate Action And Food Security: The Pacific's Call For A Equitable IMO Transition. Micronesian Center for Sustainable Transport. *Scoop (New Zealand)*. 6 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/WO2502/S00053/balancing-climate-action-and-food-security-the-pacifics-call-for-a-equitable-imo-transition.htm> The International Maritime Organization is advancing mid-term greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction measures as part of its 2023 Strategy, aiming to decarbonize the global shipping sector.

Did cuts to shipping emissions spur more global warming? *France 24*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20250210-did-cuts-to-shipping-emissions-spur-more-global-warming> The main reason for global warming is the heat-trapping emissions from burning fossil fuels.

Countdown: Assessing compliance strategies under the MTMs. *Maersk Mc-Kinney Møller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.zerocarbonshipping.com/news/countdown-assessing-compliance-strategies-under-the-mtms/> In this sixth edition of the Countdown newsletter, we show results from our MTM Compliance Cost Calculator.

Iraq achieves historic milestone with first IMO certified auditor. *Shafaq News Agency (Iraq)*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://shafaq.com/en/Iraq/Iraq-achieves-historic-milestone-with-first-IMO-certified-auditor> Iraq has secured an achievement in maritime regulation with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) officially recognizing an Iraqi auditor for the first time.

New analysis shows a shifting landscape with strong support for a carbon price to reduce GHG emissions from shipping. *UCL Energy Institute. Shipping and Oceans Research Group*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.shippingandoceans.com/post/new-analysis-shows-a-shifting-landscape-with-strong-support-for-a-carbon-price> Two new reports led by UCL Energy Institute Shipping and Oceans Research Group, show what's at stake at the upcoming IMO meetings and in the crucial period in the run up to IMO MEPC 83 in April 2025.

IMO, GMA, RMU hold dialogue on decarbonisation, opportunities in maritime industry. *Ghanaian Times*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://ghanaiantimes.com.gh/imo-gma-rmu-hold-dialogue-on-decarbonisation-opportunities-in-maritime-industry/> The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) is taking significant steps towards achieving zero gas emissions from shipping and mitigating its devastating effects on the maritime industry.

EU must steer proposed shipping carbon levy towards needs of most vulnerable countries. Bastien Bonnet-Cantalloube. *Carbon Market Watch*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://carbonmarketwatch.org/2025/02/13/eu-must-steer-proposed-shipping-carbon-levy-towards-needs-of-most-vulnerable-countries/> With a final round of negotiations at the IMO coming up in April 2025 at the Marine Environment Protection Committee's 83rd session (MEPC 83), it is welcome to see an increasing number of countries joining forces around one single text for a global maritime carbon levy.

A strong carbon tax on shipping can give hope to climate-vulnerable communities.

Ralph Regenvanu. *Climate Home News*. 13 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.climatechangenews.com/2025/02/13/a-strong-carbon-tax-on-shipping-can-give-hope-to-climate-vulnerable-communities/> In 2023, the 176 member states at the UN's maritime regulator, the IMO, agreed on a historic target to transition shipping to zero emissions by 2050, in a way that is fair and equitable.

UN talks on a global carbon price on shipping enter final stage. *Hellenic Shipping News*.

14 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/un-talks-on-a-global-carbon-price-on-shipping-enter-final-stage/>

Governments are expected to close in on key shipping climate laws—including a global carbon price—at the 18th intersessional meeting at the UN's IMO, on 17-21 February in London.

Statement from Guy Platten, Secretary General of the International Chamber of Shipping, ahead of the UN IMO ISWG-GHG 18. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 14 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/statement/statement-from-guy-platten-secretary-general-of-the-international-chamber-of-shipping-ahead-of-the-un-imo-iswg-ghg-18/> “We are encouraged that there are now 51 co-sponsors, including the European Commission and ICS, of a joint submission which sets out fit for purpose text in support of a levy-based GHG pricing mechanism, with ships making annual contributions per tonne of CO2 equivalent emitted to a proposed IMO GHG Strategy Implementation Fund.

Only 11 days of talks left to decide economic tool charting shipping's path to key climate goals. Craig Eason. *TradeWinds*. 14 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/only-11-days-of-talks-left-to-decide-economic-tool-charting-shiping-s-path-to-key-climate-goals/2-1-1778689> Next week IMO member states meet behind closed doors for intense talks aimed at finding agreement on how shipping should be made to decarbonise.

Governments Expected to Agree on World's First Levy on Shipping Emissions At Upcoming IMO Meeting. Martina Iginì. *Earth.Org*. 14 February 2025. Available from:

<https://earth.org/governments-expected-to-agree-on-worlds-first-levy-on-shipping-emissions-at-upcoming-imo-meeting/> Support is growing for a global tax on shipping emissions, which is bound to be agreed upon at a key UN meeting next week.

How the IMO's Carbon Intensity Indicator could halve shipping's climate emissions.

John Maggs. *Splash 247.com*. 14 February 2025. Available from: <https://splash247.com/how-the-imos-carbon-intensity-indicator-could-half-shippings-climate-emissions/> The international shipping sector provides an outsized and growing contribution to the climate crisis.

IMO headed for 'difficult discussions' as shipping and green groups call for carbon progress.

Eric Priante Martin. *TradeWinds*. 14 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.tradewindsnews.com/sustainability/imo-headed-for-difficult-discussions-as-shipping-and-green-groups-call-for-carbon-progress/2-1-1780184> Shipping and environmental groups are urging the International Maritime Organization to make progress on adopting decarbonisation policies amid expectations of friction from some countries.

50+ Nations Rally Behind 6PAC+ Call for a levy to enable Equitable Shipping Climate Measures in London. *Micronesian Center for Sustainable Transport (MCST)*. 16 February 2025. Available from: <https://mcstrmi.org/breaking-stories/50-nations-rally-behind-6pac-call-for-a-levy-to-enable-equitable-shipping-climate-measures-in-london/> The 6PAC+ Alliance, a coalition of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) from the Pacific, Africa, and the Caribbean, along with key allies, have arrived in London ready to drive ambitious climate action at the 18th session of the IMO's Intersessional Working Group on Greenhouse Gas Emissions (ISWG-GHG 18).

IMO Secretary-General Arrives in Basra to Review Al-Faw Port Projects. *Iraqi News Agency*. 16 February 2025. Available from: <https://ina.iq/eng/38350-imo-secretary-general-arrives-in-basra-to-review-al-faw-port-projects.html> The Secretary-General of the IMO Arsenio Dominguez arrived at Basra International Airport on Sunday to assess Iraq's port infrastructure and ongoing projects at Al-Faw Grand Port, the Iraqi Ministry of Transport announced.

Shipping companies call for limits on biofuels in shipping. *Transport & Environment*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/articles/shipping-companies-call-for-limits-on-biofuels-in-shipping> Shipping companies including the German shipping giant Hapag-Lloyd and a number of NGOs have called on the UN global shipping agency to exclude unsustainable biofuels from its list of green alternatives to traditional fossil fuels. [The IMO should not encourage crop-based biofuels for ships: Joint Statement](#) 📄

It's crunch time at the IMO. Or is it? *Lloyd's List*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1152603/Its-crunch-time-at-the-IMO-Or-is-it> 📍 Monday, February 17 kicks off the first of a crucial series of climate talks at the International Maritime Organization.

UN shipping body's green fuels law could worsen the sector's climate impact - study. *Transport & Environment*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/articles/un-shipping-bodys-green-fuels-law-could-worsen-the-sectors-climate-impact-study> Nearly a third of global shipping could run on biofuels in 2030, new T&E analysis shows, up from less than 1% today. [IMO: Fuelling deforestation](#) [Full steam ahead](#) 📄

Brazil asks UN to ditch proposed levy on global shipping. Fiona Harvey. *The Guardian*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/feb/17/brazil-asks-un-to-ditch-proposed-levy-on-global-shipping> Brazil has asked the UN to throw out plans for a new levy on global shipping that would raise funds to fight the climate crisis, despite playing host to the next UN climate summit.

INTERVIEW: ICS and ITF applaud IMO's progress on seafarer training guidelines for alternative fuels. Ariane Morrissey. *Bunkerspot*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.bunkerspot.com/global/64388-imo-training-guidelines-alternative-fuels-htw-11-ics-itf-wmu> Organisations representing seafarers, shipowners and operators have welcomed the development by the IMO of a first set of generic interim guidelines for the training of seafarers working on ships using alternative fuels or new technologies.

'Covert support': Russia rebukes IMO boss Arsenio Dominguez over dark fleet probe. Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/-covert-support-russia-rebuked-imo-boss-arsenio-dominguez-over-dark-fleet-probe/2-1-1780823> Russia has rebuked shipping's chief regulator, Arsenio Dominguez, and accused the International Maritime Organization of offering "covert support" to US-led sanctions imposed against its fleet following the invasion of Ukraine.

PM Al-Sudani Meets the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization.

Iraqi News Agency. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://ina.iq/eng/38385-pm-al-sudani-meets-the-secretary-general-of-the-international-maritime-organization.html> Prime Minister Mohammed S. Al-Sudani met on Tuesday, the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Mr. Arsenio Dominguez.

New analysis highlights trade-offs between a levy and a fuel standard, and the need to balance short-term with long-term gains for African nations.

UCL Shipping and Oceans Research Group. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.shippingandoceans.com/post/new-analysis-highlights-trade-offs-between-a-levy-and-a-fuel-standard> Two new reports released today, Namibia case study and Malawi case study, shed light on the potential economic consequences of the IMO's candidate mid-term measures on Malawi and Namibia.

IMO asked to develop legal guidelines to protect undersea cables and critical maritime infrastructure.

Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.lloydlist.com/LL1152614/IMO-asked-to-develop-legal-guidelines-to-protect-undersea-cables-and-critical-maritime-infrastructure> How to deal with acts of so-called "grey-zone aggression", including damage to undersea cables, will be on the IMO's legal committee agenda next month as it develops guidelines to manage maritime security threats.

IMO Secretary General, Mr. Arsenio Dominguez visits Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority and Seafarers War Memorial in Mumbai.

Government of India. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2104841> Secretary General of the IMO, Mr. Arsenio Dominguez visited the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) and the Indian Sailors Home Society (ISHS), Mumbai on 19th February 2025, as a part of three-day official visit, marking his first visit to India since assuming office in 2024.

Maritime carbon tax 'matter of survival' for Pacific Isles.

Pacific Islands News Association. 20 February 2025. Available from: <https://pina.com.fj/2025/02/20/maritime-carbon-tax-matter-of-survival-for-pacific-isles/> Establishing a carbon tax on maritime transport is a "matter of survival" for the Pacific islands, a representative of the region said Wednesday at an International Maritime Organisation (IMO) meeting.

Support grows for the GHG levy, as more countries see it as a viable measure to meet climate and equity goals of the IMO.

UCL Energy Institute. Shipping and Oceans Research Group. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.shippingandoceans.com/post/support-grows-for-the-ghg-levy> The 18th Intersessional Working Group on GHGs has concluded with the GHG levy in combination with a Global Fuel Standard as the most favoured candidate mid-term measure for reducing GHG emissions from shipping, with majority support across the African participants, SIDS and LDCs and developed economies actively participating in the debate.

WSC statement at conclusion of IMO ISWG-GHG 18.

World Shipping Council. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.worldshipping.org/news/wsc-statement-at-conclusion-of-imo-iswg-ghg-18> "We're encouraged by the progress made at the IMO this week ahead of the MEPC 83 meeting in April," WSC Vice-President Environment and Climate Bryan Wood-Thomas said.

Making Little Progress on Slashing Shipping Emissions, IMO Must Aim Higher To Remain Relevant In Tackling Climate Crisis.

Clean Shipping Coalition (CSC). 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://cleanshipping.org/news/making-little-progress-on-slashing-shipping-emissions-imo-must-aim-higher-to-remain-relevant-in-tackling-climate-crisis/> As a crucial IMO meeting on reducing the shipping sector's climate heating emissions closes with little progress made, the Clean Shipping Coalition expressed dismay at the lack of action and demanded greater ambition ahead of a looming April 2025 deadline

International Chamber of Shipping Statement following the conclusion of ISWG-GHG 18.

International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/statement/international-chamber-of-shipping-statement-following-the-conclusion-of-iswg-ghg-18/> Following a week of intensive greenhouse gas (GHG) negotiations at the UN IMO, Guy Platten, Secretary General of the ICS, emphasised the need for urgent progress ahead of the critical IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 83) in April: “While ICS is broadly satisfied with the progress made on a radical new package of global GHG reduction regulations, including a GHG emissions pricing mechanism, much work urgently remains to be done.”

IMO Secretary-General Mr. Arsenio Dominguez emphasize on India’s role in sustainable shipping and seafarer welfare.

Government of India. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseframePage.aspx?PRID=2105436> International Maritime Organisation (IMO), Secretary-General, Mr. Arsenio Dominguez emphasized on India’s role in sustainable shipping and seafarer welfare; reinforcing maritime cooperation.

Global tax on shipping emissions faces choppy waters despite growing support.

Chloé Farand, Megan Rowling and Sebastian Rodriguez. *Climate Home News*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2025/02/21/global-tax-on-shipping-emissions-faces-choppy-waters-despite-growing-support/> More than 60 countries – including European Union member states, the UK, Japan, Nigeria and Kenya – have now swung behind the proposal, championed by Pacific island nations, to tax pollution from ships to reduce the sector’s planet-warming emissions and generate revenue for climate action.

Future of maritime decarbonization at stake as carbon levy attracts supporters, opponents.

Naida Hakirevic Prevljak. *Offshore Energy*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/future-of-maritime-decarbonization-at-stake-as-carbon-levy-attracts-supporters-opponents/> These are Dominica, Georgia, Grenada, Kiribati, Malawi, Mexico, Namibia, Nauru, New Zealand, Senegal, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, and Türkiye, according to delegates at the talks.

International Maritime Organization Poised to Steer Global Shipping Toward a Just and Equitable Energy Transition.

Debora Schneider. *Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.edf.org/media/international-maritime-organization-poised-steer-global-shipping-toward-just-and-equitable> The International Maritime Organization (IMO) today concluded the 18th meeting of its Intersessional Working Group on Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Ships (ISWG-GHG 18).

6PAC+ Calls for Urgent Action: ISWG-GHG 18 Confirms Majority Support for a Universal Maritime Levy.

Micronesian Center for Sustainable Transport (MCST). 22 February 2025. Available from: <https://mcstrmi.org/breaking-stories/6pac-calls-for-urgent-action-iswg-ghg-18-confirms-majority-support-for-a-universal-maritime-levy/> With 51 co-sponsoring nations and growing backing from Africa, Latin America, and other Small Island Developing States, the levy+GFS (Greenhouse Gas Fuel Standard) remains the most widely supported proposal heading into MEPC 83.

Ship managers suggest changes to IMO’s net-zero framework to avoid future legal action.

InterManager. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.intermanager.org/2025/02/ship-managers-suggest-changes-to-imos-net-zero-framework-to-avoid-future-legal-action/> Ship managers have expressed concerns in connection with the International Maritime Organization’s future net-zero framework and have suggested concrete changes which they believe would make the proposals more effective.

SI issues strong stand in IMO meeting. Moffat Mamu. *Solomon Star (Solomon Islands)*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.solomonstarnews.com/si-issues-strong-stand-in-imo-meeting/> A Government delegation has issued a strong stance in the 18th session of the Inter-sessional Working Group on Greenhouse Gas Emissions (ISWG-GHG 18) underway at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) headquarters in London.

Small Island states welcome strong support for shipping levy. Christina Persico. *Radio New Zealand*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/542828/small-island-states-welcome-strong-support-for-shipping-levy> An alliance of small island developing states (AOSIS) says the latest meeting on creating a levy for international shipping confirms majority support for the move.

IMO working group fails to achieve consensus on GHG levy. Nick Savvides. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/regulations/imo-working-group-fails-to-achieve-consensus-on-ghg-levy> The IMO's 83rd Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 83) is due to take Place in the second week of April and is meant to establish an agreed method for Carbon charging before MEPC 84, from October 13-17, where final details are concluded.

How the IMO can construct a bridge to a zero-emission future. Jesse Fahnestock. *Global Maritime Forum*. 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://globalmaritimeforum.org/oped/how-the-imo-can-construct-a-bridge-to-a-zero-emission-future/> As negotiators gather at the intercessional working group of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee next week in London, they should remember that a bridge is only as strong as its pillars.

Lack of IMO convention could make insurance 'unaffordable' for nuclear-powered ships – NorthStandard. *Engine Technologies*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://engine.online/news/alternative-fuels/lack-of-imo-convention-could-make-insurance-unaffordable-for-nuclear-powered-ships-northstandard-6889> Owners of nuclear-powered commercial vessels may face significantly high insurance premiums and even potentially “unaffordable” coverage without a dedicated international maritime convention for nuclear-powered ships, a report by UK-based marine insurer NorthStandard warns.

LAW & POLICY

EU maritime transport: progress made, but environmental, sustainability challenges persist. *European Environment Agency (EEA)*. 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/newsroom/news/eu-maritime-transport> Maritime transport plays a crucial role in sustaining trade, economic growth, connectivity, and accessibility, while also contributing to energy security and job creation. [European Maritime Transport Environmental Report 2025](#) 

Oman, Cyprus sign two memoranda to enhance maritime cooperation. *Times of Oman*. 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://timesofoman.com/article/154711-oman-cyprus-sign-two-memoranda-to-enhance-maritime-cooperation> Represented by the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, the Sultanate of Oman signed two memoranda of understanding (MoU) with the Republic of Cyprus, represented by the Ministry of State for Maritime Transport.

Local and global cost of illegal tuna fishing off Somalia's coast. Valtino Omolo and Willis kumu. *Institute for Security Studies (ISS)*. 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/local-and-global-cost-of-illegal-tuna-fishing-off-somalia-s-coast> Illegal tuna fishing by Chinese vessels off Somalia's coast has reached alarming levels – with yellowfin tuna, one of the world's most commercially important fish, central to this concern.

Why 2025 Is a Critical Year for the Ocean. Tom Pickerell. *World Resources Institute*.


4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.wri.org/insights/opportunities-ocean-action-2025>

The ocean's alarm bells are ringing.

Joint letter for the Clean Industrial Deal to deliver on decarbonisation and competitiveness.

Transport & Environment. 5 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.transportenvironment.org/articles/joint-letter-for-the-clean-industrial-deal-to-deliver-on-decarbonisation-and-competitiveness>

This morning, T&E, alongside 15 other organizations, sent key recommendations to the Commission for the Clean Industrial Deal (CID), set for publication on February 26. [Letter](#) 

France's ratification of the UN agreement on marine biodiversity. *Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York*. 5 February 2025. Available from:

<https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-s-ratification-of-the-un-agreement-on-marine-biodiversity>

On 5 February, France deposited with the United Nations Secretary-General its ratification instrument for the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction, known as the BBNJ Agreement.

Creating a greener ocean economy. Edward Barbier. *Centre for Economic Policy Research*.

5 February 2025. Available from: <https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/creating-greener-ocean-economy>

The ocean economy – from fishing and mineral extraction to offshore energy, shipping, and coastal tourism – is expected to double in size by 2030.

Spain becomes the first country in Europe to ratify the Global Ocean Treaty. *The Diplomat in Spain*. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://thediplotatinspain.com/en/2025/02/05/spain-becomes-the-first-country-in-europe-to-ratify-the-global-ocean-treaty/>

This was announced by the Vice President of the Government and Minister for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, Sara Aagesen, after the deposit of the instrument by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the headquarters of the United Nations, in New York.

Pacific must drive Ocean Agenda at UNOC3 – Dr Manoni. Pita Ligaiula. *Pacific Islands*

News Association (PINA). 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://pina.com.fj/2025/02/05/pacific-must-drive-ocean-agenda-at-unoc3-dr-manoni/>

Pacific Ocean Commissioner Dr Filimon Manoni has urged the region to take the lead in shaping global ocean governance, warning that the Pacific cannot afford to lose momentum ahead of the third UN Ocean Conference (UNOC3) in Nice, France later this year.

Denmark and Kenya Strengthen Maritime Cooperation. *Danish Maritime Authority*.

7 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.dma.dk/news/2025/february/denmark-and-kenya-strengthen-maritime-cooperation>

This week, Denmark and Kenya have initiated a maritime collaboration with the hosting of a regional conference on green shipping.

African nations unite to develop maritime policy. Dativa Minja. *Daily News (Tanzania)*.

7 February 2025. Available from: <https://dailynews.co.tz/african-nations-unite-to-develop-maritime-policy/>

Maritime experts from several African countries have convened in Dar es Salaam for a two-day meeting this week to develop a regional, integrated maritime safety policy.

‘Backsliding’: most countries to miss vital climate deadline as Cop30 nears. Fiona Harvey. *The Guardian*. 8 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/feb/08/countries-miss-climate-deadline-cop30-trump-pollution> The vast majority of governments are likely to miss a looming deadline to file vital plans that will determine whether or not the world has a chance of avoiding the worst ravages of climate breakdown.

Chile Joins France as Co-Lead of 100% Alliance for Sustainable Ocean Management. *World Resources Institute*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.wri.org/news/release-chile-joins-france-co-lead-100-alliance-sustainable-ocean-management> Chile has been confirmed as the new co-lead of the 100% Alliance, an international campaign urging all coastal and ocean states to commit to the sustainable management of 100% of their national ocean areas.

How Marine Carbon Removal Is Governed in the High Seas. Katie Lebling and Carolyn Savoldelli. *World Resources Institute*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.wri.org/technical-perspective/ocean-carbon-removal-governance> The ocean plays a key role in regulating our climate, absorbing 30% of carbon dioxide emissions and 90% of excess heat.

Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform in Aviation and Shipping. Eduardo Posada, Vance Culbert and Anne Wendenburg. *International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.iisd.org/publications/report/fossil-fuel-subsidy-reform-aviation-shipping> Efforts to phase out fossil fuel subsidies in international aviation and maritime shipping are hindered by international agreements, global competition, and industry pressure. [Report](#) 

Singapore Strengthens Oil Spill Response and Coordination with Indonesia and Malaysia in Table-Top Exercise. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 11 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/media-centre/details/singapore-strengthens-oil-spill-response-and-coordination-with-indonesia-and-malaysia-in-table-top-exercise> The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore conducted a table-top exercise (TTX) with Indonesia and Malaysia today to enhance regional coordination and strengthen response capabilities for oil spills.

Spain and France first EU nations to ratify UN High Seas Treaty. Rob Hutchins. *Oceanographic*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://oceanographicmagazine.com/news/spain-and-france-first-eu-nations-to-ratify-un-high-seas-treaty/> France and Spain have become the first countries in the Europe Union to ratify the High Seas Treaty, a mechanism developed by the United Nations to protect the swathes of ocean that fall outside of national jurisdiction yet have been pinpointed as crucial to protect if the world is to achieve its globally-agreed target of preserving 30% of the ocean by 2030.

Will EU dark fleet crackdown be scuppered by legal loopholes? Harry Papachristou. *TradeWinds*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/will-eu-dark-fleet-crackdown-be-scuppered-by-legal-loopholes-/2-1-1779070> A Politico report this week about European countries working on legislation for large-scale seizures of substandard, Russian-trading vessels caused much excitement in shipping circles.

FG unveils bold maritime reforms to boost economy, create 20,000 jobs. Ekaete Basse. *The Nation (Nigeria)*. 16 February 2025. Available from: <https://thenationonlineng.net/fq-unveils-bold-maritime-reforms-to-boost-economy-create-20000-jobs-2/> The Federal Government is ramping up efforts to position Nigeria’s maritime sector as a key engine of economic growth, aligning with Africa’s Agenda 2063.

Gov't to closely monitor uncertainties in shipping industry amid growing tensions from U.S. tariffs: oceans minister. Kim Na-young. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20250217005200320> The oceans minister said Monday the government will closely monitor the shift in U.S. trade policies and its impact on South Korea's shipping industry to devise measures to help with the stable business operation of local shippers.

Singapore Hosts the 1st General Assembly of the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA) as an Inter-Governmental Organization. *International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA)*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.iala.int/joint-media-release/> This is IALA's inaugural General Assembly since becoming an intergovernmental organization (IGO) on 22 August 2024, following the entry into force of the Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation.

Joint Statement 4th Shadow Fleet Expert Group Meeting 19–20 February 2025. *Government of Norway*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.regjeringen.no/en/aktuelt/joint-statement-4th-shadow-fleet-expert-group-meeting-1920-february-2025/id3089098/> Joint statement by the coastal states of the Baltic Sea and North Sea – Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden and the United Kingdom – following the fourth expert-level meeting in Stockholm 19–20 February 2025.

US Navy fires master of aircraft carrier that collided with bulker. Harry Papachristou. *TradeWinds*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/us-navy-fires-master-of-aircraft-carrier-that-collided-with-bulker/2-1-1782815> The US Navy replaced the master of an aircraft carrier that collided with a Turkish bulker in the Suez Canal earlier this month.


Using UNCLOS to Combat Climate Change. Cross Conrad, Karson Taylor and Mikaela Wells. *Regulatory Review*. 22 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.theregreview.org/2025/02/22/seminar-using-unclos-to-combat-climate-change/> Global average sea levels have risen eight to nine inches since 1880, and the annual rate of increase more than doubled between 2006 to 2015.

Companies That Own and Operate Bulk Carrier Guilty, Sentenced For Environmental Crimes. *US Department of Justice*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edla/pr/companies-own-and-operate-bulk-carrier-guilty-sentenced-environmental-crimes> Acting United States Attorney Michael M. Simpson announced that two companies that owned and operated the bulk carrier *M/V ASL Singapore*—ASL Singapore Shipping Limited and Jia Feng Shipping (Fuzhou) Limited — pled guilty on February 20, 2025 to knowingly violating the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (APPS), and obstruction of justice related to the falsification of the vessel's Oil Record Book, a required log.

EU adopts 16th sanctions package against Russia. *European Commission*. 24 February 2025. Available from: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_585 The Commission welcomes the Council's adoption of the 16th Russia sanctions package. As Russia's illegal aggression enters its fourth year, this package is designed to further ramp up pressure on the aggressor and is part of the EU's unwavering commitment to a just and lasting peace for Ukraine.

The ocean economy is booming. But for how long? *UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://unctad.org/news/ocean-economy-booming-how-long>
Trade and innovation have driven growth, but mounting climate risks, weak governance and underinvestment threaten the sector's future and the lives of 600 million people worldwide.

EU's new clean deal lacks funds for a clean fuel supply chain. Mette Grube Condrup and Daniela De Lorenzo. *ShippingWatch*. 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article17935455.ece> The European Commission's long-awaited Clean Industrial Deal (CID) is about to be released, yet a leaked draft of the strategy has already circulated, leaving many – including the shipping sector – with questions on who will pay for the green transition the region should go through.

A Clean Industrial Deal for competitiveness and decarbonisation in the EU. *European Commission*. 26 February 2025. Available from: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_550 Today, the Commission presents the Clean Industrial Deal, a bold business plan to support the competitiveness and resilience of our industry. [Joint roadmap](#) 

Clean Industrial Deal: Time for urgent action to support industry competitiveness and energy transition. *ECSA European Shipowners*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://ecsa.eu/clean-industrial-deal-time-for-urgent-action-to-support-industry-competitiveness-and-energy-transition/>
European Shipowners strongly welcome the recognition of shipping under the five sectors across which the Clean Industrial Deal should be implemented.

UCS Delivers Letter Signed by more than 2,500 Scientific Experts Urging Congress and the Trump Administration to Protect NOAA. *Union of Concerned Scientists*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.ucsusa.org/about/news/more-2500-scientific-experts-urge-administration-protect-noaa> NOAA is one of several U.S. federal government agencies that has faced threats of budget cuts and staff layoffs under the Trump administration, as well as potential concerns about undermining agency science.

1st Ocean Decade Int'l Coastal Cities Conference held in Qingdao, E China. *Xinhuanet (China)*. 27 February 2025. Available from: <https://english.news.cn/20250227/dc6bed44a8e048ffbe14e6966ef1c420/c.html> Deputy Coordinator of the UN Ocean Decade Alison Clausen speaks at the first Ocean Decade International Coastal Cities Conference in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, Feb. 26, 2025.

Governments agree on the way forward to mobilise the resources needed to protect biodiversity for people and planet. *Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity*. 27 February 2025. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/2ycc4rmt> Governments agreed, on 27 February 2025, in Rome on the strategy to raise the funds needed to protect biodiversity and achieve the action targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, bringing the business of the UN Biodiversity Conference, COP16 that was suspended in Cali, Colombia in 2024, to a successful close.

Nations agree to hard-fought nature funding plan at UN talks. *Le Monde (France)*. 28 February 2025. Available from: https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2025/02/28/world-agrees-hard-fought-nature-funding-plan-at-un-talks_6738660_4.html Nations cheered a last-gasp deal to map out funding to protect nature on Thursday, February 27, breaking a deadlock at UN talks seen as a test for international cooperation in the face of geopolitical tensions.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY

Wind propulsion a keystone technology for shipping. Tom James. *BAR Technologies*.

28 January 2025. Available from: <https://www.bartechnologies.uk/insights/wind-propulsion-a-keystone-technology-for-shipping/> A new report from the UCL Energy Institute has highlighted the looming risk of maritime asset stranding, stating that a rapid energy transition could “lead to ‘premature scrapping’ of over a third of the fleet, valued at over 400bn USD, unless they undergo costly retrofits to remain competitive in the wake of new GHG policies and wider energy transition.”

What we can learn from aviation when it comes to all things digital. *Splash 247.com*.

3 February 2025. Available from: <https://splash247.com/what-we-can-learn-from-aviation-when-it-comes-to-all-things-digital/> Julian Panter, the CEO of SmartSea, on why maritime must embrace digital transformation to stay afloat in the 21st century.

INTERVIEW: DNV report finds wind propulsion can be a ‘cost-effective’ compliance solution.

Ariane Morrissey. *Bunkerspot*. 4 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.bunkerspot.com/global/64288-dnv-white-paper-wind-propulsion-compliance-cost-simulation-imo-eu-regulation> A white paper published today (4 February) by DNV highlights that wind-assisted propulsion systems (WAPS) could play an important role in helping shipowners meet current and upcoming GHG regulations, and describes the technology as an ‘enabler’ for the transition to new fuels.

Insurers work to develop liability framework for using cleaner fuels. Nidaa Bakhsh.

ShippingWatch. 11 February 2025. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article17849073.ece> There is currently no global liability and compensation framework to deal with incidents - when they arise - involving alternative fuels when being used as fuel in shipping.

Scientists Harness AI to Help Protect Whales, Advancing Ocean Conservation and Planning.

Kitta MacPherson. *Rutgers University (US)*. 11 February 2025. Available from:

<https://newbrunswick.rutgers.edu/news/scientists-harness-ai-help-protect-whales-advancing-ocean-conservation-and-planning> Researchers at Rutgers University-New Brunswick have developed an artificial intelligence (AI) tool that will help predict endangered whale habitat, guiding ships along the Atlantic coast to avoid them.

California aims to expand alternative bunkers. Stefka Wechsler. *Argus Media*. 11 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news-and-insights/latest-market-news/2656882-california-aims-to-expand-alternative-bunkers> California lawmakers will consider expanding alternative marine fuels use by ocean-going vessels on the state's coast.

Can maritime hydrogen overcome the headwinds? *Institute for Energy Economics and*

Financial Analysis. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://ieefa.org/articles/can-maritime-hydrogen-overcome-headwinds> Maritime shipping is both vital to the global economy, facilitating 80% of trade and enabling trillions of dollars in annual economic activity and responsible for more than 700 million tonnes (Mt) of carbon dioxide (CO₂) a year. [Report](#) 📄

Silicone-based hull coatings to deliver significant emissions reduction. *Lloyd's Register*.

12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/knowledge/press-room/press-listing/press-release/2025/silicone-based-hull-coatings-to-deliver-significant-emissions-reduction/> New analysis by the Maritime Emissions Reduction Centre (MERC) has found that silicone-based hull coatings could deliver significant emissions reductions, but challenges around application and mechanical strength remain.

Japanese shipping giant unpacks carbon insetting program to slash GHG emissions.

Sara Kosmajac. *Offshore Energy*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/japanese-shipping-giant-unpacks-carbon-insetting-program-to-slash-ghg-emissions/>
According to MOL, the Blue Action Net Zero Alliance program revolves around a vision to accomplish net zero operations by ‘enhancing’ low-emission marine transportation services using alternative fuels.

T&E, shipping and aviation industry jointly call for urgent action to ramp up clean fuel production.

Transport & Environment. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/articles/t-e-shipping-and-aviation-industry-jointly-call-for-urgent-action-to-ramp-up-clean-fuel-production> T&E and the two industry associations highlight that meeting the targets of the European Green Deal and ensuring that these industries remain competitive requires immense investments.

[Joint Public Statement on shipping and aviation in the Clean Industrial Deal ECSA, A4E and T&E](#) 

Maritime summit reveals ambitious plans for nuclear shipping.

Nuclear Engineering International. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.neimagazine.com/news/maritime-summit-reveals-ambitious-plans-for-nuclear-shipping/> The recent New Nuclear for Maritime Houston Summit, held at the Asia Society Texas Centre in Houston, and sponsored by UK-based start-up Core Power, saw a number of ambitious plans revealed for nuclear shipping.

VPS: Marine bunker fuels review.

Steve Bee. *Safety4Sea*. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/vps-marine-bunker-fuels-review/> Existing CII and EEXI requirements, plus EU ETS legislation, saw increasing demand for additional testing, lower-carbon fuels, data and digitalisation solutions across the shipping sectors.

Onboard carbon capture: a bridge to zero-emission shipping?

Gard. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://gard.no/insights/onboard-carbon-capture-a-bridge-to-zero-emission-shipping/>
In the long run, alternative fuels are expected to help shipping achieve net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050.

Call for UK to exploit ‘unique’ nuclear opportunity.

Martin Conway. *Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA)*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://rina.org.uk/publications/the-naval-architect/call-for-uk-to-exploit-unique-nuclear-opportunity/> A report jointly issued by tech firm Core Power, marine insurer NorthStandard and class society Lloyd’s Register paints an optimistic picture for the safe development and installation of small nuclear reactors aboard commercial ships and floating nuclear power plants in the UK – provided the government gets behind the effort.

Why e-methanol is a game changer for decarbonizing shipping and industry.

World Economic Forum. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/stories/2025/02/emethanol-a-game-changer-for-decarbonizing-shipping/> Worldwide, policy-makers and industry leaders are ramping up the decarbonization of “hard-to-abate” sectors such as shipping and the chemical industry.

ZEMBA E-Fuel-Focused Tender Now Accepting Bids.

Zero Emission Maritime Buyers Alliance. 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.shipzemba.org/e-fuel-focused-tender-now-accepting-bids/> ZEMBA’s latest tender is focused on stimulating the first commercial deployment of e-fuels in the maritime sector. Bids are due in spring 2025.

Methane Slip is Growing Decarbonisation Threat for Shipping: VPS. Emilian Buksak. *Ship & Bunker*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/456896-methane-slip-is-growing-decarbonisation-threat-for-shipping-vps> As an industry the world's shipping fleet consumes over 230 million metric tons of fuel per year, which in turn produces 716 million metric tons of CO₂-equivalent emissions

MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING


IMO Expert Lectures on GISIS Database. *World Maritime University*. 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.wmu.se/news/imo-expert-gisis-database> On 31 January, Mrs Leedwine David Pichon, Implementation Support Officer, Department for Member State, Audit and Implementation Support at the IMO delivered a lecture on casualty investigation and the role of IMO's Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) database in enhancing maritime safety.

In deep water: Ocean literacy among young people is worryingly low, new survey finds. Rebecca Ann Hughes. *Euronews*. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/green/2025/02/05/in-deep-water-ocean-literacy-among-young-people-is-worryingly-low-new-survey-finds> There's a concerning disconnect between young people's recognition of the ocean's vital role in climate change and the importance of measures required to protect it, a new global survey has found.

The great disconnect: Young people and ocean literacy. *Back to Blue Initiative*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://backtoblueinitiative.com/the-great-disconnect-young-people-and-ocean-literacy/> The ocean covers over 70% of the planet, yet it remains one of the most overlooked and underinvested areas in global sustainability efforts and conservation

Singapore and Indonesia Maritime Authorities Extend Co-operation on Human Resources Development. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 7 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/media-centre/details/singapore-and-indonesia-maritime-authorities-extend-co-operation-on-human-resources-development> The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore and the Directorate General of Sea Transportation (DGST), Ministry of Transportation, Republic of Indonesia, have renewed the memorandum of understanding (MoU) to advance the training and development of government officers in the maritime field for another two years.

Shippers Council Partners Niger Delta University To Foster Maritime Education. *Daily Focus (Nigeria)*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://dailyfocus.com.ng/shippers-council-partners-niger-delta-university-to-foster-maritime-education/> The Nigerian Shippers' Council has reaffirmed its commitment to partnering with key stakeholders in the maritime industry, including Niger Delta University (NDU).

Ammonia as Fuel - Competencies and Training. *Lloyd's Register*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/knowledge/research-reports/2025/ammonia-as-fuel-competencies-and-training/> With the need to reduce carbon emissions, vessel owners and operators are looking to the use of alternative fuels to aid with their emissions reduction efforts. [Project summary report](#) 

IMO Expert Lectures on MARPOL. *World Maritime University (WMU)*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.wmu.se/news/imo-expert-lectures-on-marpol> Dr Calleya's lectures were part of the Maritime Energy Management (MEM) specialization course, "Energy Efficient Ship Design and Operation."

Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement opens new training facility in Ghana. *Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.bs-shipmanagement.com/media-centre/article/416/bernhard-schulte-shipmanagement-opens-new-training-facility-in-ghana/> Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement's (BSM) has opened a new Maritime Training Centre (MTC) in Ghana, further cementing its position in the region.


Sustainable shipping at the core of Ghana's maritime curriculum upgrade. Buertey Francis Boryor. *Business & Financial Times (Ghana)*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://thebftonline.com/2025/02/17/sustainable-shipping-at-the-core-of-ghanas-maritime-curriculum-upgrade/> Ghana is set to revamp the educational curriculum of its maritime training institutions to incorporate green shipping concepts, Chairperson of the Ghana Maritime Authority (GMA) Decarbonisation Committee, Ms. Georgina Adia Nyadia has said.

Landmark case sparks maritime lecture in Jamaica. *The Gleaner (Jamaica)*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/shipping/20250218/landmark-case-sparks-maritime-lecture-jamaica> Jamaica's ambition to become a leading maritime centre took a significant step forward recently as legal experts and industry stakeholders gathered at the Norman Manley Law School for a crucial lecture on maritime law.

UARctic x LRF Research Fellows appointed to address maritime safety challenges in the Arctic. *Lloyd's Register Foundation*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.lrfoundation.org.uk/news/uarctic-x-lrf-research-fellows-appointed-to-address-maritime-safety-challenges-in-the-arctic> The University of the Arctic (UARctic), in partnership with Lloyd's Register Foundation, has announced the recipients of five prestigious research fellowships, funded by the Foundation through our new joint initiative: 'Maritime Safety: Learning from the Past to Address Challenges to the Safety of Peoples in the Arctic'.

Cyprus maritime scholarships to empower women, promote equality. Souzana Psara. *Cyprus Mail*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://cyprus-mail.com/2025/02/18/cyprus-maritime-scholarships-to-empower-women-promote-equality> Deputy Minister for Shipping, Marina Hadjimanolis, announced this week that the Deputy Ministry of Shipping has integrated gender equality promotion activities into its operations.

Maritime Skills Forum: well-trained seafarers securing Europe's future. *Nautilus International*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/telegraph/securing-europes-future-with-the-maritime-skills-forum/> Nautilus head of international Danny McGowan explains the Union's international work on seafarer skills at a recent event in Brussels.

A truly global perspective – the next generation of maritime speaks. *Sailors' Society*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://sailors-society.org/a-truly-global-perspective-the-next-generation-of-maritime-speaks/> An unparalleled global view of the voices of the next generation of maritime professionals is now available thanks to Sailors' Society, which publishes its latest Cadet Report today (February 26). [Cadet Report 2024/5](#) 

Maersk, KPA launch 12-month maritime Cadet Programme. *Kenya News Agency (KNA)*. 27 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.kenyanews.go.ke/maersk-kpa-launch-12-month-maritime-cadet-programme/> An international logistics firm-Maersk, in partnership with the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), has launched a comprehensive 12-month maritime training programme aimed at developing the country's maritime sector and the Blue Economy.

LR: Maritime education and training must evolve rapidly to keep pace with the rate of change. Natassa Kouvertari and Tim Slingsby. *Safety4Sea*. 27 February 2025. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-lr-maritime-education-and-training-must-evolve-rapidly-to-keep-pace-with-the-rate-of-change/> The challenges are numerous, as a recent report revealed, highlighting that these new fuels require tailored safety measures, procedural modifications, and competency-based training.

MARITIME SAFETY

Abandoned Ships at Sea- A Worsening Crisis That Threatens Maritime Safety and Marine Ecosystems. J. Y. Ellamo. *MarineLink*. 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/abandoned-ships-sea-a-worsening-crisis-521837> Abandoned ships at sea have emerged as a serious maritime industry crisis, creating both navigational hazards and humanitarian concerns.

Minimum safe manning – time to re-assess? Siri Skjørestad and David Hammond. *Gard*. 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/insights/minimum-safe-manning-time-to-re-assess/> Safe manning refers to the minimum number of qualified and capable crew members required to operate a vessel safely and efficiently.

Fire risks on container ships - still a major issue. Daniel Wood. *Insurance Business*. 7 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.insurancebusinessmag.com/asia/news/marine/fire-risks-on-container-ships--still-a-major-issue-523758.aspx> Eighteen (18) months ago, Hendrike Kühl, described the fire risks on container ships as a “huge issue” and “on everybody’s mind.”.

‘Incident on board’: What shipping can learn from the flight deck. Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/special-reports/-incident-on-board-what-shipping-can-learn-from-the-flight-deck/2-1-1773498> With claims rising and costs escalating from maritime casualties, one protection and indemnity club has raised its eyes to the skies to try to improve the poor decision-making that leads to costly problems.

INFLECIION project set to transform maritime safety and sustainability from space. *European Space Agency (ESA)*. 18 February 2025. Available from: https://www.esa.int/Applications/Connectivity_and_Secure_Communications/INFLECIION_project_set_to_transform_maritime_safety_and_sustainability_from_space With approximately 90% of international trade travelling by sea, maritime routes are becoming increasingly congested due to supply chain disruptions, changing trade patterns, and geopolitical tensions.


‘False flag’ ships a threat to Caribbean. Mark Bassant. *Trinidad Express*. 24 February 2025. Available from: https://trinidadexpress.com/news/local/false-flag-ships-a-threat-to-caribbean/article_288b8822-f254-11ef-ba5a-4fc9dbbbd3d8.html The presence of questionable vessels with false flags and registration in the Caribbean Sea, as well as several oil spills linked to Venezuelan oil refineries in late 2024, may pose future concerns for the Caribbean region.

New uncrewed vessels to support Royal Navy minehunting operations. *Royal Navy.* 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/news/2025/february/25/20250225-new-uncrewed-vessels-for-mtxg> The Mine and Threat Exploitation Group are now using three new Iver4 580 uncrewed underwater vessels (UUVs) delivered by L3 Harris.

Let's work together to enhance maritime safety— Minister urges GMA. *Eric Appah Marfo. Ghana News Agency.* 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://gna.org.gh/2025/02/lets-work-together-to-enhance-maritime-safety-minister-urges-gma/> Mr Joseph Bukari Nikpe, the Minister of Transport, Tuesday urged the Ghana Maritime Authority (GMA) to work closely with the Ministry to ensure the safety of Ghana's maritime space for business to thrive.


Maritime experts join forces for safer oceans. *Government of Australia.* 28 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2025-02-28/maritime-experts-join-forces-safer-oceans> Australia has reinforced its commitment to Western Indian Ocean maritime security, with Royal Australian Navy officers joining Exercise Cutlass Express, the region's premier multinational maritime security exercise.

MARITIME SECURITY

Russia's 'Shadow Fleet' and Sanctions Evasion: What Is To Be Done? *Nick Childs. Institute for Security Studies (ISS).* 31 January 2025. Available from: <https://www.iiss.org/research-paper/2025/01/russias-shadow-fleet-and-sanctions-evasion/> The activities of Russia's 'shadow fleet' have suddenly come under the global spotlight due to a growing focus on efforts to counter its role in evading sanctions and also amid growing suspicions of its involvement in an escalating Russian campaign of hybrid warfare against the West. [Report](#) 

Regional networking and future-proofing needed: Prof. Christian Bueger. *Asiri Fernando. The Morning (Sri Lanka).* 2 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.themorning.lk/articles/25gpgQt0DgzZ8lm0aNmo> Sri Lanka will need to plan ahead to face evolving challenges in the maritime domain around the island and link up with regional security and information sharing architecture to be better prepared for complex challenges in the future, maritime expert and University of Copenhagen Professor of International Relations Christian Bueger told The Sunday Morning in an exclusive interview, where he discussed the importance of Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) and its trends.

'Ongoing threat': Armed gang board cargo ship off West Africa. *Gary Dixon. TradeWinds.* 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/bulkers/-ongoing-threat-armed-gang-board-cargo-ship-off-west-africa/2-1-1773572> Maritime security companies have warned of an ongoing threat to merchant vessels in the Gulf of Guinea following a boarding on Sunday night.

Publication of the MICA Center's 2024 annual report. *Maritime Information Cooperation & Awareness Center (MICA).* 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.mica-center.org/en/publication-of-the-mica-centers-2024-annual-report/> On February 4, for the sixth year running, the Maritime Information Cooperation & Awareness Center (MICA Center) published its annual report on maritime security. [Report](#) 

Continued spike in sea robbery incidents in the Singapore Strait. Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/security/continued-spike-in-sea-robbery-incident-in-the-singapore-strait>

In an incident alert ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre highlighted that between 1 January and 3 February this year there had been 11 incident of sea robbery onboard ships while underway in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) of the Singapore Strait.

No change for now in Red Sea high-risk areas, say insurers. Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds*. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insurance/no-change-for-now-in-red-sea-high-risk-areas-say-insurers/2-1-1775001> The conditional halt to Houthi attacks on shipping will not lead to any immediate change in the boundaries of the high-risk area in the Red Sea, according to senior marine insurance players.

Operation Sea Guardian Patrols Eastern Mediterranean Sea Enhancing Maritime Situational Awareness. NATO Allied Maritime Command (MARCOM). 7 February 2025. Available from: <https://mc.nato.int/media-centre/news/2025/OSG-Patrols-EasternMed-Enhancing-Maritime-Situational-Awareness> During the two-week patrol, TCG Salihreis (F-246) conducted Maritime Situational Awareness activities engaging with merchant and fishing vessels, as well as other transiting ships, providing reassurance to local mariners and affirming the vital support NATO provides for the maritime community.

Recalibrating global and regional maritime security governance. Christian Bueger. *Pakistan Observer*. 9 February 2025. Available from: <https://pakobserver.net/recalibrating-global-and-regional-maritime-security-governance/> Since it was formulated as a concept and distinct agenda of international action, maritime security has consistently been discussed at high political agendas and reflected in United Nations Security Council debates.

Mitigating maritime security risks in high-risk zones. Enam Hussain. *Splash 247.com*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://splash247.com/mitigating-maritime-security-risks-in-high-risk-zones/> Following the declassification of the Indian Ocean high-risk area in early 2023, pirates have resumed operations with greater reach and sophistication, leveraging advanced technology, military-grade equipment, and intelligence on ransom negotiations.

Cyber security threats are not new, but shipping still unprepared. Gary Howard. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/security/cyber-security-is-nothing-new-but-shipping-is-not-yet-prepared> The maritime industry's mix of legacy systems, rapid data exchange, and rapid digitalisation create challenges around cyber security in need of urgent, collaborative solutions, according to an expert panel.

Cyprus bolsters maritime security with new police vessels. Charalambos Stylianou. *Cyprus Mail*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://cyprus-mail.com/2025/02/13/cyprus-bolsters-maritime-security-with-new-police-vessels> Cyprus has reinforced its maritime security by adding ten new patrol vessels to the marine and port police, a move hailed by President Nikos Christodoulides as a critical step in safeguarding the nation's waters.

Red Sea: Council prolongs the mandate of Operation ASPIDES. Council of the European Union. 14 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/02/14/red-sea-council-prolongs-the-mandate-of-operation-aspides/> The Council today decided to prolong the mandate of the EU maritime security operation to safeguard freedom of navigation in relation to the Red sea crisis (EUNAVFOR ASPIDES) until 28 February 2026, with a reference amount of over €17 million for the period.

Hybrid war: protecting undersea cables in the Baltic Sea. *European Parliament Committee on Security and Defence*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.youtube.com/live/2IfKEbPnNA> Critical undersea infrastructure in Europe is increasingly targeted with hybrid activities.

Sweden probes fresh Baltic cable break for sabotage. Craig Eason. *TradeWinds*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/sweden-probes-fresh-baltic-cable-break-for-sabotage/2-1-1782966> Swedish police have launched an investigation after new reports of potential cable sabotage in the Baltic Sea.

Russia Orders Divers to Inspect Ships After Tanker Blasts. *MarineLink*. 23 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/russia-orders-divers-inspect-ships-tanker-522675> Russia has ordered divers to inspect ships in its ports, a government letter seen by Reuters shows, after suspected attacks on four oil tankers that visited in recent weeks.

Enhancing Maritime Security in West Africa: 4th ECOWAS Sub-Committee of Chiefs of Naval Staff Meeting Takes Place in Cabo Verde. *Maritimafrica*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://maritimafrica.com/en/enhancing-maritime-security-in-west-africa-4th-ecowas-sub-committee-of-chiefs-of-naval-staff-meeting-takes-place-in-cabo-verde/> The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Sub-Committee of Chiefs of Naval Staff is meeting in Praia, Cabo Verde, from February 25 to 27, 2025, to discuss critical maritime security issues in the region.

Joint Maritime Information Center Meets with Cruise Ship Industry Officials to Discuss Red Sea Security. *Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://combinedmaritimeforces.com/2025/02/26/joint-maritime-information-center-meets-with-cruise-ship-industry-officials-to-discuss-red-sea-security/> The director of the Joint Maritime Information Center (JMIC) met with representatives of the cruise ship industry in both Bahrain and Dubai in February to discuss JMIC operations and purpose and to reassure industry officials of JMIC partner nations' commitment to regional maritime security.

MIGRANTS

Charge Greek coastguard officers over deadly shipwreck, says ombudsman. Nektaria Stamouli. *POLITICO*. 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.politico.eu/article/greek-ombudsman-suggests-charges-against-coastguard-for-the-pylos-shipwreck/> An independent investigation has recommended disciplinary charges against eight coastguard officers for alleged dereliction of duty over a shipwreck in the Mediterranean that killed hundreds of migrants.

Spanish police arrest crew of migrant boat over eight deaths - including toddler. *Sky News*. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://news.sky.com/story/spanish-police-arrest-crew-of-migrant-boat-over-eight-deaths-including-toddler-13312612> The Civil Guard said the crammed boat, which had 224 people on board, arrived in the Canary Islands in late December from Senegal.

NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

Huge Liberian drilling rig transits Suez Canal in 22 hrs with tugboat escort.

Ahram Online (Egypt). 2 February 2025. Available from:

<https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContentP/1/539670/Egypt/Huge-Liberian-drilling-rig-transits-Suez-Canal-in-.aspx> A 45-metre-long, 48-metre-wide Liberian-flagged drilling rig weighing 3,543 tons has transited the Suez Canal in 22 hours, travelling from the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea, according to a statement by the Suez Canal Authority (SCA).

Is freedom of navigation under threat? *Lloyd's List*. 3 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.loydslist.com/LL1152451/Is-freedom-of-navigation-under-threat> From the Red and Black Seas to the Baltic and the Taiwan Strait: shipping's access to trade lanes is coming under fire while a political and legal war is being waged in the background to redefine what is and is not acceptable under the law of the sea.

MSC customers can now monitor 210,000 reefers across 500 vessels. Dag Holmstad.

ShippingWatch. 3 February 2025. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article17866638.ece> MSC is launching a new digital system that can monitor hundreds of thousands of reefer containers on 500 container ships, the Swiss-Italian container shipping company announces in a press release.

Oil tanker attacked last year crosses Red Sea as Houthi ceasefire holds. *Straits Times*.

4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/world/middle-east/oil-tanker-attacked-last-year-crosses-red-sea-as-houthi-ceasefire-holds> Liberian-flagged crude oil tanker *Chrysalis*, which was attacked by Yemen's Houthis last year, sailed through the Red Sea this week, the Suez Canal said on Monday, in one of the first voyages since the militia announced a halt in attacks on ships not linked to Israel.

Digital watchkeeping is key to mitigating accident risk. Dor Raviv. *Safety4Sea*. 5 February 2025.

Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/digital-watchkeeping-is-key-to-mitigating-accident-risk/>

The recent BSU (Germany's Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation) accident investigation report detailing the collision of a multipurpose cargo ship with a wind turbine in the North Sea in April 2023 that severely damaged the ship, serves as a stark reminder of the growing navigational challenges facing vessel operators.

Oil Executives Call for Cautious Return to Red Sea. *MarineLink*. 6 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/oil-executives-call-cautious-return-red-522042>

Oil executives called on Thursday for a return to navigation through the Red Sea en route to the Suez Canal following a halt in attacks by Iran-backed Houthi rebels, but said firms were cautiously monitoring shipping conditions and competitors.

Istanbul Strait and its famous currents. Cahit Istikbal. *SeaNews (Türkiye)*. 6 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.seanews.com.tr/authors/cahit-istikbal/istanbul-strait-and-its-famous-currents/162613/>

The Istanbul Strait—commonly known as the Bosphorus—is a natural waterway that stretches approximately 32 kilometers between the Black Sea and the Sea of Marmara, with an average width of about 1.5 kilometers.

MoT's hydrographic survey to ensure navigation safety. Shaffeeq Alingal. *Gulf Times (Qatar)*.

17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gulf-times.com/article/700494/qatar/mots-hydrographic-survey-to-ensure-navigation-safety> The hydrographic survey by the Ministry of Transport (MoT) will enhance the safety and protect navigation and the marine environment, a senior official has said.

How 'dark fleet' tankers do business in the world's busiest shipping lanes.

Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*. 19 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/how-dark-fleet-tankers-do-business-in-the-world-s-busiest-shipping-lanes/2-1-1779024> Tankers that make up the dark fleet — vessels transporting sanctioned crude oil across the world's oceans — are often depicted in the media as being something sinister.

New Satellite for Ocean Monitoring Built in Record Time. *Kystverket - Norwegian Coastal*

Administration. 20 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.kystverket.no/en/news/new-satellite-for-ocean-monitoring-built-in-record-time/> The Norwegian Coastal Administration has been building Norway's capacity for maritime surveillance since 2010.

Catch 22 situation for shipping's Red Sea return. Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*.

20 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/tankers/catch-22-situation-for-shipping-s-red-sea-return> A return to the Red Sea and Suez Canal transits by major shipowners in the tanker and dry bulk sectors is likely to be cautious with seafarer safety paramount.

A Timeline of Suspected Underwater Sabotage Incidents in the Baltic Sea. *gCaptain*.

21 February 2025. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/a-timeline-of-suspected-underwater-sabotage-incidents-in-the-baltic-sea/> The Baltic Sea region is on high alert after a string of power cable, telecom link and gas pipeline outages since Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022, and the NATO military alliance has boosted its presence with frigates, aircraft and naval drones.

Profile of Red Sea sailing fleet unchanged since ceasefire. Bridget Diakun. *Lloyd's List*.

21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1152664/Profile-of-Red-Sea-sailing-fleet-unchanged-since-ceasefire> The ownership affiliation of the fleet opting to sail through the Bab el Mandeb has not changed fundamentally since the Houthis announced a partial stop to their attacks, underscoring the industry's hesitancy to return to Red Sea transits.

Reducing ship speeds is the most effective way to lower emissions: Bharat Sheth. P Manoj.

Economic Times (India). 21 February 2025. Available from:

<https://infra.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/ports-shipping/reducing-ship-speeds-is-the-most-effective-way-to-lower-emissions-bharat-sheth/118448522> Reducing the speed of ships is a "better, least expensive and most optimised" option to cut ship emissions and safeguard India's interest, Bharat Sheth, Deputy Chairman and Managing Director (MD), Great Eastern Shipping, has said.

47 ships reroute to Suez Canal in Feb as regional stability improves – chair. *State Information*

Service (Egypt). 23 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.sis.gov.eg/Story/205128/47-ships-reroute-to-Suez-Canal-in-Feb-as-regional-stability-improves-%E2%80%93-chair?lang=> A total of 47 ships have changed their routes to transit through the Suez Canal instead of the Cape of Good Hope since the beginning of February, as shipping lines respond to growing signs of stability in the Red Sea.

Bulker Fleet Facing Speed Decline Amid Ageing Tonnage. *Ship & Bunker*. 26 February 2025.

Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/243742-bulker-fleet-facing-speed-decline-amid-ageing-tonnage> The bulker fleet's average speed has witnessed a decline amid older vessels in the fleet.

Restrictions on ship speeds removed in endangered Rice's whales' Gulf habitat.

Steve Newborn. *WUSF Public Media (US)*. 27 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.wusf.org/environment/2025-02-27/restrictions-ship-speeds-removed-endangered-rices-whale-gulf-habitat> Protections on ship speeds in the Gulf were removed by the Trump administration in areas where the endangered Rice's whale is known to breed.

PIRACY

Be vigilant, vessels warned as Somali pirate gang prowls key shipping lane. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 11 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/be-vigilant-vessels-warned-as-somali-pirate-gang-prowls-key-shipping-lane/2-1-1777890>
Ships have been alerted to a potential renewal of the piracy threat off the coast of Somalia.


Piracy: A persistent threat to seafarers. *Gard*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/insights/piracy-a-persistent-threat-to-seafarers/> Global piracy and armed robbery incidents decreased by 3% in 2024 compared to 2023, according to the International Maritime Bureau's Piracy Reporting Centre (IMB PRC).

Yemeni boat captured off Somalia amid fears of piracy resurgence. Charles Adinda. *Eastleigh Voice (Kenya)*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://eastleighvoice.co.ke/piracy/114526/yemeni-boat-captured-off-somalia-amid-fears-of-piracy-resurgence?amp=1> A Yemeni-flagged fishing boat has been hijacked off the coast of Eyl, northern Somalia, in what is feared to be a resurgence of piracy in the region.

Armed pirates raid Greek tanker and steal engine parts in busy shipping lane. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/armed-pirates-raid-greek-tanker-and-steal-engine-parts-in-busy-shipping-lane/2-1-1778585> A Greek-flagged tanker has been raided by pirates in one of the world's busiest shipping lanes.

44 attacks in 13 months: Rising piracy threat sparks surge in ship insurance costs. Anthony Kitimo. *The Nation (Kenya)*. 15 February 2025. Available from: <https://nation.africa/kenya/business/44-attacks-in-13-months-rising-piracy-threat-sparks-surge-in-ship-insurance-costs-4927750> Insuring ships against piracy could become more expensive and subject to tighter conditions following a rise in piracy cases in the Indian Ocean and along the Horn of Africa over the past year.

New suspected pirate attack on a Yemeni-flagged fishing boat in Garmaal, North coast of Puntland, Somalia. *EU NAVFOR Operation ATALANTA*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://eunavfor.eu/news/new-suspected-pirate-attack-yemeni-flagged-fishing-boat-garmaal-north-coast-puntland-somalia> On 17 February, EUNAVFOR ATALANTA was informed of a suspected pirate attack on a Yemeni-flagged dhow* off Garmaal, in the vicinity of Eyl, Northern coast of Puntland (Somalia).

Somali pirates have used the Red Sea Crisis and war in Gaza to stage a return. Soham Mitra, Lou Robinson and Patrick Gallagher. *CNN*. 22 February 2025. Available from: <https://edition.cnn.com/2025/02/22/world/somali-pirates-red-sea-gaza-dg/index.html> 
For weeks, an unpleasant dream haunted Md (short for Mohammed) Atik Ullah Khan.

The Yemeni-flagged fishing boat "Saytuun-2" has been released. *EU NAVFOR Operation ATALANTA*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://eunavfor.eu/news/yemeni-flagged-fishing-boat-saytuun-2-has-been-released> ATALANTA confirms the release of the "SAYTUUN-2", the Yemeni fishing boat hijacked off Garmaal, Northern coast of Puntland (Somalia).

Unauthorised boarding of chemical tanker in Singapore Strait. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 28 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/media-centre/details/unauthorised-boarding-of-chemical-tanker-in-singapore-strait> The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) has been alerted to an unauthorised boarding of a Singapore-registered chemical tanker, *BASSET* which occurred at about 07:00am (SGT) in the Singapore Strait, outside Singapore Territorial Waters.

PORT STATE CONTROL

Norway releases a ship initially suspected of involvement in damage to a Baltic Sea cable. *Associated Press*. 1 February 2025. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/norway-baltic-sweden-latvia-cable-ship-released-810885ae13a7143f83b5f946534b3e46> A Norwegian-owned and Russian-crewed ship that authorities initially suspected may have been involved in damage to an underwater fiber optic cable connecting Latvia and the Swedish island of Gotland has been released.

Sweden: Baltic Sea cable damage not sabotage, ship released. Matt Ford. *Deutsche Welle (Germany)*. 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.dw.com/en/sweden-baltic-sea-cable-damage-not-sabotage-ship-released/a-71495750> Swedish investigators have concluded that damage sustained by an underwater data cable beneath the Baltic Sea at the end of January was not a result of intentional sabotage and have released a suspected ship.

Denmark takes next step in shadow fleet crackdown. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 6 February 2025. Available from: <https://splash247.com/denmark-takes-next-step-in-shadow-fleet-crackdown/> The Danish Maritime Authority will carry out port state controls on tankers it deems high risk who anchor off Skagen in the far north of the country, a popular anchorage.

The shadow fleet: Nordic shipowners want stronger EU action now. Mette Grube Condrup. *ShippingWatch*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article17898391.ece> The Nordic shipowners' associations want to tighten the vice on Russia and call for more large-scale measures against shadow fleet tankers carrying Russian oil.

German Police Board Freightler on Suspicions of Subsea Cable Damage. *Maritime Executive*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/german-police-board-freighter-on-suspicions-of-subsea-cable-damage> An aging freighter was stopped and boarded in Kiel after a suspected cable damage incident off Gotland last weekend, according to German authorities - and in a familiar pattern, it was missing its port-side anchor.

PORTS & HARBOURS

Freight traffic at general interest ports closes 2024 with over 557.7 million tons. *Government of Spain*. 31 January 2025. Available from: <https://www.puertos.es/en/comunicacion/freight-traffic-general-interest-ports-closes-2024-over-5577-million-tons> Spain's general interest ports handled 557,784,253 tons in 2024, according to provisional data, marking a 2.7% increase compared to 2023 (543.2 million).

Qatar's ports begins 2025 on a solid note. Santosh V. Perumal. *Gulf Times (Qatar)*. 2 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gulf-times.com/article/699549/business/qatars-ports-begins-2025-on-a-solid-note> Qatar's maritime sector began 2025 on a solid note with Hamad, Doha and Al Ruwais ports witnessing a robust year-on-year growth in ship arrivals, containers, cargoes, vehicles (RORO) and livestock in January, according to the data of Mwan Qatar.

Hambantota International Port Ready to Facilitate Vehicle Imports to Sri Lanka. *Hambantota International Port Group*. 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.hipg.lk/2025/hambantota-international-port-ready-to-facilitate-vehicle-imports-to-sri-lanka> Hambantota International Port is fully prepared to support the expected surge in vehicle imports following the recent lifting of Sri Lanka's import ban.

Singapore to become key hub for Europe-Asia cargo under Maersk, Hapag-Lloyd alliance.

Kang Wan Chern. *Straits Times*. 3 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.straitstimes.com/business/singapore-to-become-key-hub-for-europe-asia-cargo-under-maersk-hapag-lloyd-alliance>

The Republic will serve as a key hub in a new ocean network formed under an alliance between two major container shipping lines.

PNG Ports renews five-year compliance for maritime safety. *The National (Papua New Guinea)*.

3 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.thenational.com.pg/png-ports-renews-five-year-compliance-for-maritime-safety/>

The PNG Ports Corporation Limited has renewed a five-year international ship and port facility security code (ISPS) statement of compliance for 10 ports with the Department of Transport to ensure maritime safety, security, and global trade.

First delivery of an "all-electric full container stacker" in the Port of Hamburg. *Port of Hamburg*.


4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.hafen-hamburg.de/en/press/news/first-delivery-of-an-all-electric-full-container-stacker-in-the-port-of-hamburg/>

As part of the decarbonisation of its handling processes, C. Steinweg (Süd-West Terminal) will be integrating a fully electric reachstacker from SANY MARINE into its workflows.

Ports Australia unveils new emissions guidance for ports. *Ports Australia*. 5 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.portsaustralia.com.au/media-centre/ports-australia-unveils-new-emissions-guidance-for-ports>

Ports Australia has developed first-of-its-kind guidance to support Australian ports in their transition to net-zero emissions, helping to drive sustainable practices and ensure long-term global competitiveness.

[Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Inventory Guidance for Ports 2025](#) 

Panama Canal Authority rejects US claim of free passage. Mette Grube Condrup.

ShippingWatch. 6 February 2025. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article17878411.ece>

There are conflicting statements early Thursday morning about whether ships owned by the US government will be able to sail through the Panama Canal for free in the future.

Ghana's 24-Hour Economy: Are the ports ready for non-stop trade? Samuel Eshun.

Ghana News Agency. 6 February 2025. Available from: <https://gna.org.gh/2025/02/ghanas-24-hour-economy-are-the-ports-ready-for-non-stop-trade/>

Few developments capture Ghana's economic aspirations more than its bustling ports, the gateways to West Africa's booming trade.

Finland's most significant northern port pilots security and resilience technologies as part of a €12.8 million international development project. Juhani Latvakoski. *VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd*. 6 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.vttresearch.com/en/news-and-ideas/finlands-most-significant-northern-port-pilots-security-and-resilience-technologies>

VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland and partners have launched a three-year project with Oulu Port aimed at enhancing secure situational awareness in critical cyber-physical systems.

Promoting Information Sharing Among Ports and RMIFC in Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean. Said Lavani. *Maritimafrica*. 6 February 2025. Available from:

<https://maritimafrica.com/en/promoting-information-sharing-among-ports-and-rmifc-in-eastern-and-southern-africa-and-the-indian-ocean/>

The Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre (RMIFC), based in Antananarivo, Madagascar, and the Regional Coordination Operations Centre (RCOC), based in Seychelles, in collaboration with the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA), successfully conducted the RECOPORT-ESA 25 joint exercise last week.

Jebel Ali Port welcomes historic first call of new Gemini service. *Gulf Today (UAE)*. 7 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gulftoday.ae/business/2025/02/07/jebel-ali-port-welcomes-historic-first-call-of-new-gemini-service> DP World has welcomed the first vessel arrival at Jebel Ali Port under the landmark Gemini Cooperation – a strategic alliance between Hapag-Lloyd and Maersk aimed at enhancing the ocean freight network and global trade connectivity.

Korea, Australia to create 'green' shipping route by 2029 for carbon neutrality. *Korea JoongAng Daily (South Korea)*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/news/2025-02-10/business/industry/Korea-Australia-to-create-green-shipping-route-by-2029-for-carbon-neutrality/2238929> Korea and Australia signed an initial agreement to create an environmentally friendly shipping route between the two countries by 2029 as part of joint efforts to reduce carbon emissions, Seoul's Oceans Ministry said Monday.

Klaipėda signs for port electrification to reduce emissions. *Safety4Sea*. 11 February 2025. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/klaipeda-signs-for-port-electrification-to-reduce-emissions/> This initiative will replace fuel usage with green electricity, marking a technological advancement for the port and a commitment to both the city and the environment.


The dream of offshore rocket launches is finally blasting off. *Becky Ferreira. MIT Technology Review*. 11 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.technologyreview.com/2025/02/11/1111467/the-dream-of-offshore-rocket-launches-is-finally-blasting-off/> The demand for rides off Earth is skyrocketing, pushing even the busiest spaceports, like Florida's Kennedy Space Center, to their operational limits.

Panama Canal Logistics Are at the Mercy of Weather and Climate. *Katherine Kornei. Eos Earth and Space Science News*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://eos.org/articles/panama-canal-logistics-are-at-the-mercy-of-weather-and-climate> Maybe it's a favourite sweater or the device you're using—something you've recently worn, held, or eaten very likely passed through the Panama Canal.

Ceuta becomes first Mediterranean port to mandate certified MFMs for STS bunkering. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/ceuta-becomes-first-mediterranean-port-to-mandate-certified-mfms-for-sts-bunkering/> The Port Authority of Ceuta on Wednesday (12 February) said it has become the first Mediterranean port to mandate the use of international ISO 22192 certified and calibrated Mass Flow Meters (MFMs) for marine fuel supply by barge, effective February 2025.

Hong Kong's green maritime fuel centre update as city prepares for first LNG bunkering. *Michael Grinter. Hong Kong Maritime Hub*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.hongkongmaritimehub.com/hong-kongs-green-maritime-fuel-centre-update-as-city-prepares-for-first-lng-bunkering/> Ahead of Hong Kong's first official LNG bunkering operation scheduled for tomorrow (14 February), Secretary for Transport and Logistics Mable Chan briefed lawmakers on developments since the promulgation of the Action Plan on Green Maritime Fuel Bunkering in November 2024.

Anthony Loke: MMSW expansion to make Malaysia a leading maritime hub. R. Loheswar. *Malay Mail (Malaysia)*. 17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2025/02/17/anthony-loke-mmsw-expansion-to-make-malaysia-a-leading-maritime-hub/166979> Transport Minister Anthony Loke has reaffirmed Malaysia's commitment to strengthening its maritime sector with the full implementation of the Malaysia Maritime Single Window (MMSW), a digital platform designed to streamline port operations and enhance trade efficiency.

New report shows that Green Shipping Corridors will need additional support under a global fuel standard. *University Maritime Advisory Services (UMAS)*. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.u-mas.co.uk/new-report-shows-that-green-shipping-corridors-will-need-additional-support-under-a-global-fuel-standard/> Under current and prospective policies from the IMO, EU, and US, the business case for green shipping corridors could improve markedly – but not sufficiently – according to a new report published by UMAS, UCL and the Global Maritime Forum (GMF). [Building a Business Case for Green Shipping Corridors](#) 

Suez canal remains indispensable amid Red Sea crisis: SCA chairman. El-Sayed Gamal El-Din. *Ahram Online (Egypt)*. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://english.ahram.org.eg/News/540749.aspx> Suez Canal Authority (SCA) Chairman Osama Rabie stated on Wednesday that the Red Sea crisis, caused by Houthi attacks over the past year, failed to provide "a sustainable alternative route" to the Egyptian canal; Instead, the crisis highlighted the Suez Canal's critical role in ensuring stable global supply chains.

Green corridors unviable without extra policy support. Declan Bush. *Lloyd's List*. 20 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1152649/Green-corridors-unviable-without-extra-policy-support> New regulations by the EU and IMO will help, but not enough, report finds.

China's ports adopt DeepSeek AI model to streamline operations, protect data. Carol Yang. *South China Morning Post*. 20 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.scmp.com/economy/china-economy/article/3299449/chinas-ports-adopt-deepseek-ai-model-streamline-operations-protect-data> China's home-grown technological innovations – like the DeepSeek large language model that has taken the artificial intelligence industry by storm – are enabling the world's second-largest economy to empower industries and critical infrastructure to carry out their core functions with fewer concerns over data security.

TNPA set to improve dredging volumes through cutting-edge technology upgrade to dredging fleet. *Maritimafrika*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://maritimafrika.com/en/tnpa-set-to-improve-dredging-volumes-through-cutting-edge-technology-upgrade-to-dredging-fleet/> Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) is set to improve its dredging capacity through the installation of a new marine excavator on the Italeni, a Grab Hopper Dredger used by the ports authority to maintain the promulgated depth of port berths, basin and entrance channels necessary for the safe navigation of vessels in the ports.

Maritime 'golden corridor' under BRI promotes cargo flows, shoring up more resilient global supply chains. Li Xuanmin and Zhang Yiyi. *Global Times (China)*. 23 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202502/1328939.shtml> In mid-January, a giant container vessel from Europe docked at Qingdao Port, East China's Shandong Province, marking the official launch of the port's first BRI shipping lane, linking Shandong with the Mediterranean countries.

How massive new US port fees could impact container shipping. Greg Miller. *Lloyd's List*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.loydslist.com/LL1152679/How-massive-new-US-port-fees-could-impact-container-shipping> Container shipping could be acutely impacted by the US Trade Representative plan to levy massive port fees on US calls by Chinese ships and vessels of operators who have Chinese vessels or newbuilds on order at Chinese yards.

National Port Authority Hosts US Coast Guard for ISPS Compliance Drills. *Global News Network (Liberia)*. 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://gnnliberia.com/national-port-authority-hosts-us-coast-guard-for-isps-compliance-drills/> In accordance with the ISPS Code of the IMO, the National Port Authority (NPA) today hosted the United States Coast Guard in a series of compliance drills and monitoring exercises aimed at reinforcing port security and operational resilience.

The Port of Thessaloniki becomes the first port in the EU and Mediterranean to pilot Ship Emissions Monitoring under HELMEPA-led METAVASEA. *Port of Thessaloniki*. 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.thpa.gr/the-port-of-thessaloniki-becomes-the-first-port-in-the-eu-and-mediterranean-to-pilot-ship-emissions-monitoring-under-helmepa-led-metavasea/> In a key milestone for maritime decarbonization, the Port of Thessaloniki has become the first port in the EU and the Mediterranean to integrate RightShip's Maritime Emissions Portal (MEP) under the HELMEPA-led METAVASEA project, with the support of Lloyd's Register Foundation.

Unlocking port decarbonisation: the role of increased grid capacity. *Ricardo*. 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.ricardo.com/en/news-and-insights/industry-insights/unlocking-port-decarbonisation-the-role-of-increased-grid-capacity> Ports are at the heart of global trade, acting as hubs for goods, services, and economic activity.

US dockworkers approve 6-year contract, averting a strike. Paul Wiseman. *Associated Press*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/us-dockworkers-union-labor-agreement-c3a2abcc2de362b2b104b54100ad8d15> Dockworkers on the U.S. East and Gulf coasts overwhelmingly approved a six-year contract Tuesday, averting the threat of a strike that could have crippled the economy.

Ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp-Bruges call for swift implementation of Clean Industrial Deal. *Port of Rotterdam*. 27 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/ports-rotterdam-and-antwerp-bruges-call-swift-implementation-clean> The CEOs of both port authorities regularly hear from the companies in the ports, and their international headquarters, that they are reconsidering their presence and investments in Europe.

V. O. C Port Trust initiates India's first port decarbonisation pilot with green methanol. *India Shipping News*. 28 February 2025. Available from: <https://indiashippingnews.com/v-o-c-port-trust-initiates-indias-first-port-decarbonisation-pilot-with-green-methanol/> V. O. Chidambaranar Port Trust has launched India's first pilot-scale port decarbonisation project, focusing on green methanol as a fuel source, according a release.

REGULATIONS

Has the time come for pleasure yachts to face more stringent regulation? Matthew Attard and Francesca Vassallo. *Times of Malta*. 2 February 2025. Available from:

<https://timesofmalta.com/article/has-time-come-pleasure-yachts-face-stringent-regulation.1104494>

The tragic sinking of the British-flagged Bayesian superyacht off the coast of Sicily last year, which resulted in the loss of seven lives, has sparked debates on the adequacy of safety regulations for pleasure yachts compared to their commercial counterparts.

Rotterdam: Bunker Sampling Rules to be Strictly Enforced. *Ship & Bunker*. 5 February 2025.

Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/emea/495021-rotterdam-bunker-sampling-rules-to-be-strictly-enforced> Rules for fuel oil sampling (the MARPOL sample) at Rotterdam and to be strictly enforced, the International Bunker Industry Association has been told.

Top EU official outlines green shipping priorities post-MEPC. Declan Bush. *Lloyd's List*.

6 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1152491/Top-EU-official-outlines-green-shipping-priorities-post-MEPC> The European Commission faces several challenges as it seeks to implement its regional carbon regulations in parallel to the IMO.

IBIA leads change in the rules for the carriage of biofuels by bunker vessels. *International*

Bunker Industry Association (IBIA). 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://ibia.net/ibia-leads-change-in-the-rules-for-the-carriage-of-biofuels-by-bunker-vessels/> In November 2023 IBIA submitted a document to IMO on the carriage of biofuels for supply to a ship for use as fuel oil on board that ship.

Jordan Commission Strengthens Digital Transformation, Maritime Regulations in 2024.

Jordan News Agency (Petra). 12 February 2025. Available from:

https://www.petra.gov.jo/Include/InnerPage.jsp?ID=68415&lang=en&name=en_news The Jordan Maritime Commission (JMC) signed 16 authorization agreements in 2024 to issue international classification certificates in compliance with IMO standards for ship safety at sea.

Charting Key Regulatory Change Across Maritime Law in 2025 and Beyond.

Stamatis Fradelos. *Maritime Executive*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/charting-key-regulatory-change-across-maritime-law-in-2025-and-beyond>

A tidal wave of new regulations is set to hit the global maritime sector this year, representing fresh, highly-complex compliance challenges.

Summit to regulate and end overfishing. Moffat Mamu. *Solomon Star (Solomon Islands)*.

26 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.solomonstarnews.com/summit-to-regulate-and-end-overfishing/> The 2025 Honiara Summit is to regulate, manage and end overfishing throughout the region and international.

SEAFARERS

Shore leave and abandonment - we need to do better for seafarers. Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/crewing/shore-leave-and-abandonment-we-need-to-do-better-for-seafarers>

As a journalist covering the shipping industry you tend to see the two extremes of seafarer welfare.

The Magna Carta rules: Practical implications. Betty Kalomiri. *Gard*. 6 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.gard.no/insights/the-magna-carta-rules-practical-implications/>

The Magna Carta is a ground-breaking legislation seeking to align the rights and welfare of Filipino seafarers with international standards, such as the Maritime Labour Convention.

Kenyan seafarers miss jobs due to lack of IDs. Anthony Kitimo. *East African (Kenya)*.

6 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business-tech/kenyan-seafarers-miss-jobs-due-to-lack-of-ids-4916268>

Kenyan seafarers have recently lost dozens of jobs and missed out on opportunities on cargo and cruise ships over the past year due to non-compliance with the IMO Convention.

Shipping organisations increasingly concerned about seafarer safety. BIMCO, ICS, INTERTANKO and INTERCARGO. 7 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news-insights/press-media/press-releases/2025/20250207-seafarer-safety/>

The chairpersons of the world's biggest shipping industry organisations gathered on 6 February in Athens to discuss topics including greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction and the impact of geopolitics on shipping.

Flag-state misuse hampering seafarer abandonment cases, warns ITF. Sandra Boga.

TradeWinds. 7 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/flag-state-misuse-hampering-seafarer-abandonment-cases-warns-itf/2-1-1776770>

Several flag states are impeding attempts to resolve abandonment cases, according to the International Transport Workers' Federation.

UN reviews regulation as seafarers revealed to work 74% above global average.

Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 7 February 2025. Available from: <https://splash247.com/un-reviews-regulation-as-seafarers-revealed-to-work-74-above-global-average/>

Following exhaustive research showing how jobs onboard are still too 24/7, the United Nations' International Labour Organization (ILO) will look to tighten up the language surrounding work/rest regulations at sea at a Special Tripartite Committee of the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), scheduled to be held in Geneva in April.

Nautilus Equality and Diversity Forum highlights unfair maritime career burdens for women and trainees. *Nautilus International*. 10 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/telegraph/nautilus-equality-and-diversity-forum-highlights-unfair-maritime-career-burdens-for-women-and-trainees/>

The 12th meeting of the Forum, held online on Thursday 14 November 2024, included a plenary session which reported on key topics discussed at the 'breakout' network meetings for women and young maritime professional members.

On our forum: Regrettable inhospitable havens for seafarers. Michael Grey. *Maritime Magazine*.

10 February 2025. Available from: <https://maritimemag.com/en/regrettable-inhospitable-havens-for-seafarers/>

The safe arrival in port after a sea passage might mark an interval in, or even the conclusion of, a voyage, but is, more often than not, a reason for stress and unpleasantness for those aboard ship.

Landmark MOU signed to simplify the future of digital seafarer certification.

International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/landmark-mou-signed-to-simplify-the-future-of-digital-seafarer-certification/> Today, the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), Lloyd's Register OneOcean (LROO) and the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) of the Republic of the Philippines Department of Transportation, signed a landmark joint Memorandum of Understanding.

PH, Latvia sign accord on seafarers' certificates. *Philippine News Agency (PNA)*.

12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1243960> The Philippines and Latvia have signed a memorandum for the recognition of International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) certificates issued by the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA).

Abandoned unpaid on vessels with no insurance or certificates. Nick Savvides. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/crewing/abandoned-unpaid-on-vessels-with-no-insurance-or-certificates>

Foul and insanitary living conditions, failure to pay seafarers and a lack of attention to safety issues is a continuing and growing problem according to the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), which highlights some of the conditions that seafarers are living under.

Seafarer salaries have risen but so have retention rates, Danica survey reveals.

Danica Maritime Services. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.danica-maritime.com/2025/02/13/seafarer-salaries-have-risen-but-so-have-retention-rates-danica-survey-reveals/> Retaining seafarers has improved slightly over the past year, thanks in part to salary raises, the annual Crew Managers' Survey by Danica Crewing Specialists has revealed. [Danica Crew Managers' Survey 2024](#) 📄

Ship's master and operator sentenced over fatal crash at sea. *UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency*. 14 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ships-master-and-operator-sentenced-over-fatal-crash-at-sea>

Two crew members on the Denmark-registered *Karin Hoj* lost their lives when it was struck by the *Scot Carrier* and capsized in the Bornholmstrait during the early hours of 13 December 2021.

More Filipino seafarers are being abandoned at sea. Lian Buan. *Rappler (Philippines)*.

14 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.rappler.com/newsbreak/in-depth/filipino-seafarers-abandonment-flags-of-convenience/> In two to three days, this is going to be a dead vessel, Angel Brito remembers thinking.

PH, Georgia sign pact on mutual recognition of seafarer's certificates. *Philippine News Agency*.

17 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1244245> The Philippines and Georgia have inked a pact to strengthen maritime ties by mutually recognizing seafarers' certificates under the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) 1978, as amended.

NIMASA Exploring Amendments To Enhance The Rights Of Nigerian Seafarers.

Kelechi Onyemaobi. *Nigerian Voice*. 20 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.thenigerianvoice.com/news/347110/nimasa-exploring-amendments-to-enhance-the-rights-of-nigeria.html> The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) is reviewing 16 proposals for amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 – which is often referred to as the “Seafarers' Bill of Rights”.

A Legacy for Filipino Seafarers. *Philippine Information Agency (PIA)*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://pia.gov.ph/a-legacy-for-filipino-seafarers/> Under the chandeliers of Malacañang Palace, President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. stood as a defining moment in his administration unfolded—the signing of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers.

IMO and Saudi Arabia’s attempt to address seafarer shortage welcomed by welfare community. Sandra Boga. *TradeWinds*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/imo-and-saudi-arabia-s-attempt-to-address-seafarer-shortage-welcomed-by-welfare-community/2-1-1782503> An initiative led by the International Maritime Organization and Saudi Arabia to bridge the global seafarer gap has been applauded by bodies concerned with workforce well-being.

Seafarers jailed for 30 years ‘guilty until proven innocent’ says ITF. Nick Savvides. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 21 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eVjfp0j6Yw> Officials from the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) slammed the Turkish authorities following the conviction of two officers for drug offences last year, claiming that “maritime is the only industry where people are guilty until proven innocent”.

Seafarers in the UK Shipping Industry: 2024. *UK Government*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/seafarers-in-the-uk-shipping-industry-2024/seafarers-in-the-uk-shipping-industry-2024> This statistical release provides estimates for the number of UK nationals working as seafarers, including some demographic breakdowns.


RMT condemns another annual fall in UK Ratings numbers. *National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT)*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.rmt.org.uk/news/rmt-condemns-another-annual-fall-in-uk-ratings-numbers/> Maritime union RMT has today condemned yet another fall in the total number of UK resident seafarers despite a big increase in the number of seafarer jobs to over 160,800.

‘Losing hope with every day that passes’: torment of the ships’ crews abandoned at sea. Karen McVeigh. *The Guardian*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/feb/26/losing-hope-with-every-day-that-passes-torment-of-the-ships-crews-abandoned-at-sea> When Vihaan set off from his home in Tamil Nadu, south India, to work on a vessel crossing the Bay of Bengal into neighbouring Bangladesh, he told his family he would be gone a few months.

SEARCH & RESCUE

Bulker crew save 34 seafarers from burning fishing boat. Harry Papachristou. *TradeWinds*. 27 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/bulker-crew-save-34-seafarers-from-burning-fishing-boat/2-1-1785787> A Bulgarian bulker pulled up alongside a burning fishing boat to evacuate 34 seafarers in a daring and dramatic rescue operation.

SHIP RECYCLING

Platform publishes list of ships dismantled worldwide in 2024. *NGO Shipbreaking Platform.* 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://shipbreakingplatform.org/platform-publishes-list-2024/> The data reveals that 80% of the global tonnage scrapped last year was broken under substandard conditions on the beaches of Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan. [Dataset](#) 

Another Bangladeshi ship-breaking yard receives green certificate.
BD still holds top position in ship-breaking. Monira Munni. *Financial Express (Bangladesh).* 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bd-still-holds-top-position-in-ship-breaking-1738609653> Bangladesh maintained its position as the world's top ship-breaking destination in 2024 despite a fall in imports of scrapped vessels compared to 2023.

Safe and green recycling for shipowners: DNV issues guidance to help navigate sustainability regulations. *DNV.* 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.dnv.com/news/safe-and-green-recycling-for-shipowners/> The ship recycling process is a key contributor to a circular economy where materials and components may be reused or recycled.

Tariffs Destabilizing Ship Recycling Market. *MarineLink.* 16 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/tariffs-destabilizing-ship-recycling-522401> The effects of the US 25% tariffs announced on Chinese steel and aluminum products is already seeing destabilizing effects on ship recycling markets, says cash buyer GMS.

Bangladesh shipyards brace for recycling boom. *Daily Star (Bangladesh).* 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-shipyards-brace-recycling-boom-3828266> On the southwest coast of Bangladesh, workers armed with gas torches, laser cutters and winches break apart the carcasses of the giant, old ships that are grounded on their sandy beach.

EU Ship Recycling Regulation: Evaluation and list update. *European Commission.* 19 February 2025. Available from: https://environment.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-ship-recycling-regulation-evaluation-and-list-update-2025-02-19_en The European Commission on Wednesday published the results of the EU Ship Recycling Regulation evaluation. [14th edition of the European List of ship recycling facilities](#)

EU's ship recycling regulation is still riddled with holes five years later. Liv Almer. *ShippingWatch.* 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article17933234.ece> According to EU Commission, the rules have been undermined by shipping companies' practice of re-flagging ships shortly before selling them as scrap.

Shipbreaking industry traders, workers rally in Ctg, demand protection against 'conspiracies'. *Business Standard (Bangladesh).* 27 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/shipbreaking-industry-traders-workers-rally-ctg-demand-protection-against> Several thousand traders and workers associated with the shipbreaking industry formed a human chain today (27 February) along the Dhaka-Chattogram Highway at the Bhatiyari area in Chattogram to condemn alleged conspiracies against the shipbreaking industry and to demand measures for its protection.

Flag-hopping undercuts EU ship recycling guidelines, European Commission found. Sara Kosmajac. *Offshore Energy.* 28 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/flag-hopping-undercuts-eu-ship-recycling-guidelines-european-commission-found/> In an evaluation released in late February, 2025, the European Commission highlighted the progress that the SRR has made thus far in supporting global standards, both existing and upcoming, such as the "Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships", set to enter force in June 2025, with full compliance required by 2030.

SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR

Chinese Orderbook Tops \$123 Bn with Containers Making Up c.38%. Rebecca Galanopoulos. *VesselsValue*. 30 January 2025. Available from: <https://blog.vesselsvalue.com/chinese-orderbook-tops-123-bn-with-containers-making-up-c-38/> To mark the start of the Lunar new year this week, we take a look at the Chinese newbuilding orderbook, using VesselsValue data.

World's longest cargo sail ship launched in Turkey. *France 24*. 31 January 2025. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20250131-world-s-longest-cargo-sail-ship-launched-in-turkey> The 136-metre (450-foot) *Neoliner Origin* was floated at the Turkish port of Tuzla, and will now undergo six months of fitting-out.

How sail-powered cargo ships use sustainability on the high seas. *PBS NewsHour (US)*. 31 January 2025. Available from: <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/classroom/daily-news-lessons/2025/01/how-sail-powered-cargo-ships-use-sustainability-on-the-high-seas> Eighty percent of all global trade travels by sea, and the ships carrying those goods account for 3 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Union Budget boosts Shipbuilding with New Mega Clusters in India: Sonowal. *Government of India*. 1 February 2025. Available from: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2098573> The forward-looking document aims at further enabling India's shipbuilding industry with spurring & innovative initiatives to drive investment, generate income for the economy, train and employ human capital and create value for the future of the country.

Govt Launches First Scheduled Roll-On/Roll-Off Freight Vessel. *Eagle Online (Uganda)*. 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://eagle.co.ug/2025/02/03/govt-launches-first-scheduled-roll-on-roll-off-freight-vessel/> East Africa Marine Transport (EAMT) has taken a major step toward creating a more sustainable and efficient logistics solution for Lake Victoria with the commissioning of *MV MPUNGU*, the lake's first scheduled roll-on/roll-off (RoRo) freight vessel.

Hapag-Lloyd concludes green financing of its 24 new container ships. *Hapag-Lloyd*. 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.hapag-lloyd.com/en/company/press/releases/2025/02/hapag-lloyd-concludes-green-financing-of-its-24-new-container-sh.html> Hapag-Lloyd will use green financings for the 24 large container ships it ordered in October 2024.

Container Ships Are Dominating Newbuilding Orders. Nikos Roussanoglou. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/container-ships-are-dominating-newbuilding-orders/> Container ships have been dominating newbuilding ordering activity over the past week.

HD Korea Shipbuilding Secures 538.3 Billion Won Contract for LNG Bunkering Vessels. Jung Suk-ye. *Business Korea (South Korea)*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.businesskorea.co.kr/news/articleView.html?idxno=235098> HD Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering has secured a significant contract to construct four 18,000m class LNG bunkering vessels for an African shipping company, valued at 538.3 billion won.

MV Iana delivered: Fuel efficient, future-proof and ready to go. Sara Kosmajac. *Offshore Energy*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/mv-iana-delivered-fuel-efficient-future-proof-and-ready-to-go/> With the delivery ceremony wrapped up, *MV Iana* is now reportedly set to be chartered by Dutch shipowner and operator Royal Wagenborg.

Maersk and Cochin Shipyard partner to explore ship repairs and shipbuilding activities in India. *Maersk*. 17 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.maersk.com/news/articles/2025/02/17/maersk-and-cochin-shipyard-partner-to-explore-ship-repairs-and-shipbuilding-activities-in-india>

A.P. Moller - Maersk (Maersk) and Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) today announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore collaboration opportunities in ship repair, maintenance, and building activities in India.

Maersk and Cochin Shipyard form strategic partnership on shipbuilding and repairs.

P Manoj. *Economic Times (India)*. 17 February 2025. Available from:

<https://infra.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/ports-shipping/maersk-and-cochin-shipyard-form-strategic-partnership-on-shipbuilding-and-repairs/118331194>

Integrated logistics company A.P. Moller-Maersk A/S and state-run shipbuilder Cochin Shipyard Ltd have formed a strategic partnership to explore collaboration opportunities in ship repair, maintenance, and ship building, becoming the first major global ship owner to show confidence in the nation's capabilities days after the Budget announced a bonanza to make India a big shipbuilding hub.

EU awards €7.8 million to develop next-generation power systems for green shipping.

European Commission. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/mtstpkbb>

With Norway's Maritime CleanTech at the helm, 13 European partners will collaborate on the development of an innovative power distribution system tailored to the needs of tomorrow's zero-emission vessels.

Nigeria behind as global shipping sees 50% surge in LNG-powered vessels.

Adaku Onyenucheya. *Guardian (Nigeria)*. 19 February 2025. Available from:

<https://guardian.ng/business-services/maritime/nigeria-behind-as-global-shipping-sees-50-surge-in-lng-powered-vessels/>

Nigerian shipowners are behind in the global push for decarbonisation, even as the shipping industry recorded a 50 per cent increase in vessels using alternative fuel propulsion in 2024.

SHIPPING

Shipowners have made £4.8bn selling tankers to Russian 'shadow fleet'. Jon Henley.

The Guardian. 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/feb/04/us-and-european-shipowners-sold-230-ageing-tankers-to-russian-shadow-fleet>

European and US shipowners have sold at least 230 ageing tankers into the "shadow fleet" used by Russia to evade western sanctions on its oil exports and help fund its war against Ukraine, an international investigation reveals.

Seatrade Maritime puts spotlight on tech innovations, logistics trends. Deepak John.

The Peninsula (Qatar). 4 February 2025. Available from:

<https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/04/02/2025/seatrade-maritime-puts-spotlight-on-tech-innovations-logistics-trends>

The first edition of 'Seatrade Maritime Qatar' Conference & Exhibition was inaugurated by the Minister of Transport (MOT) H E Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani, yesterday.

How European companies feed the global shadow fleet. Nathaniel Peutherer. *Eco-Business*.

4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.eco-business.com/news/how-european-companies-feed-the-global-shadow-fleet/>

On 19 July 2024, the oil tanker *Hafnia Nile* was nearing its top speed when it collided with the supertanker *Ceres I*, off the east coast of Malaysia.

IKEA leads on green shipping, but more action needed for zero-emission ships.

Pacific Environment. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.pacificenvironment.org/press-releases/ikea-leads-on-green-shipping-but-more-action-needed-for-zero-emission-ships/>
Pacific Environment's Ship It Zero coalition commends IKEA for continuing to prioritize maritime shipping decarbonization, as reflected in the company's FY24 Climate and Sustainability reports released this week.

Carriers deny responsibility for tankers ending up in Russian shadow fleet.

Mette Grube Condrup. *ShippingWatch*. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article17873533.ece> Torm, Maersk Tankers and Hafnia have since 2022 sold ships that have ended up in the Russian shadow fleet.

With the New "Maritime" UN Security Council, Opportunities Abound for Strengthening Maritime Security.

Christian Bueger. *International Peace Institute. Global Observatory*. 7 February 2025. Available from: <https://theglobalobservatory.org/2025/02/with-the-new-maritime-un-security-council-opportunities-abound-for-strengthening-maritime-security/> This year's composition of the United Nations (UN) Security Council presents a unique opportunity to address global maritime security.

Maritime stakeholders discuss zero-emission shipping strategies.

Chari Suche. *Kenya News Agency (KNA)*. 7 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.kenyanews.go.ke/maritime-stakeholders-discuss-zero-emission-shipping-strategies/> Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy, and Maritime Affairs Cabinet Secretary Hassan Joho Hassan has said that Kenya will match with other African countries towards green shipping.

Melina Travlos re-elected as president of Union of Greek Shipowners.

Adis Ajdin. *Splash 247.com*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://splash247.com/melina-travlos-re-elected-as-president-of-union-of-greek-shipowners/> The head of Neptune Group of companies, which includes car carrier owner and operator Neptune Lines as well as a dry bulk outfit, Neptune Dry Management, will lead the nation's shipowner association for another three years.

Opinion: The carriers have now made the impact of the Red Sea crisis concrete.

Lars Jensen. *ShippingWatch*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article17882874.ece> The Red Sea crisis has been dominating the dynamics of container shipping for almost 14 months now.

Shipping remains committed to decarbonise despite Trump, say industry leaders.

Nigel Lowry. *Lloyd's List*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1152523/Shipping-remains-committed-to-decarbonise-despite-Trump-say-industry-leaders> Industry leaders are optimistic about the course of decarbonising the shipping business is on but alarmed by the impact continual mistreatment of seafarers could have on an already fragile seagoing labour force, a conference in Athens has heard.

President Trump is 'very focused' on maritime sanctions compliance.

Barry Parker. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/regulations/president-trump-is-very-focused-on-maritime-sanctions-compliance> "President Trump is very focused on the maritime industry," were the words of Dan Tadros, COO of the American Club, moderating a session touching on Sanctions, at last week's 2025 HACC NACC event, in New York.

BIMCO: Regional container trade imbalances increase 33%. *Safety4Sea*. 11 February 2025. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/bimco-regional-container-trade-imbalances-increase-33/> Since 2019, the global container market has grown 8% but growth has been very uneven.

Not decarbonising? Then we won't lend, says ING. David Osler. *Lloyd's List*. 11 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1152542/Not-decarbonising-Then-we-wont-lend-says-ING> ING will flatly turn down loan applications from shipowners who refuse to engage in decarbonisation, its global head of shipping finance Stephen Fewster has confirmed.

Global Marine Fuel Sales Jump in 2024 on Red Sea Diversions. *gCaptain*. 12 February 2025. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/global-marine-fuel-sales-jump-in-2024-on-red-sea-diversions/> Global marine fuel sales jumped in 2024 after attacks by Yemen's Houthis starting in late 2023 prompted most shipping companies to divert vessels around southern Africa rather than through the Red Sea, according to data and analysts.

Panama vessel registry says it is 'not a haven for sanctions evasion'. *Straits Times*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/world/panama-vessel-registry-says-it-is-not-a-haven-for-sanctions-evasion> Panama has made progress stripping vessels from its registry that do not meet its flag's standards, the Central American nation's Maritime Authority said on Wednesday, responding to U.S. criticism that it allowed sanctioned countries to move ships with the Panamanian flag.

Net zero and UK shipping: Government Response. House of Commons. Environmental Audit Committee. *UK Parliament*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/46642/documents/238547/default/> The Environmental Audit Committee published its Seventh Report of Session 2023–24, Net zero and UK shipping (HC 509) on 29 May 2024.

“More questions than answers”: EAC publishes Government response on decarbonising shipping. *UK Parliament*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/62/environmental-audit-committee/news/205254/more-questions-than-answers-eac-publishes-government-response-on-decarbonising-shipping/> An uncertain immediate future for Government support for net zero shipping, combined with continued delays to an updated maritime decarbonisation strategy, could put at risk the UK's leadership in cleaning up international shipping, the Environmental Audit Committee warns.


ABS Chief: Nuclear Power Essential for Shipping's Net-Zero Goals. Mike Sculer. *gCaptain*. 13 February 2025. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/abs-chief-nuclear-power-essential-for-shippings-net-zero-goals/> Nuclear technology is becoming increasingly vital for maritime decarbonization, with American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) Chairman and CEO Christopher J. Wiernicki declaring it indispensable for achieving net-zero emissions in shipping by 2050.

Rewriting Women into Maritime History initiative goes global. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 14 February 2025. Available from: <https://splash247.com/rewriting-women-into-maritime-history-initiative-goes-global/> The Lloyd's Register-backed Rewriting Women into Maritime History initiative to uncover and showcase the critical role of women in the maritime sector, past and present has entered a new, international phase.

49 International Shipping Companies Opt In to Protect Endangered Whales and Reduce Air Pollution in Coastal Communities. *Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies*. 17 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.bluewhalesblueskies.org/press/celebrating-the-2024-vsr-season>

Vessels are critical to our economy, with over 80% of the world's trade facilitated by the maritime industry.

International Chamber of Shipping updates Flag State Performance Table. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/international-chamber-of-shipping-updates-flag-state-performance-table/> Using a wide range of objective performance indicators, the ICS Table provides an analysis of the extent to which flag State administrations adhere to their responsibilities to follow global standards and regulations governing safety, environmental protection and the employment conditions of seafarers – as adopted by the UN International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization. [Shipping Industry Flag State Performance Table 2024/2025](#) 

Mapping of Global Financial Support Opportunities for Zero-Emission Ships and Energy Efficiency. *Mission Innovation*. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://mission-innovation.net/missions/shipping/mapping-of-global-financial-support-opportunities-for-zero-emission-ships-and-energy-efficiency/> The study consists of a report done in an illustrative Power Point format, and an Excel sheet that dives into the specifics of the funding opportunities and provides direct access through URLs. [Report](#) 

Phantom tanker with fake IMO number exposed in new deceptive shipping scam.

Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List*. 18 February 2025. Available from:

<https://www.loydslist.com/LL1152611/Phantom-tanker-with-fake-IMO-number-exposed-in-new-deceptive-shipment-scam> A phantom newbuilding tanker with a fake International Maritime Organization number has appeared in shipping databases, in a fresh twist to the increasingly sophisticated practice of vessel identity fraud.

Expansion of Cypriot shipping registry a top priority, says Hadjimanolis. Souzana Psara.

Cyprus Mail. 18 February 2025. Available from: <https://cyprus-mail.com/2025/02/18/expansion-of-cypriot-shipment-registry-a-top-priority-says-hadjimanolis> Addressing Tuesday's 8th Capital Link Shipping Forum in Limassol, the Deputy Minister for Shipping Marina Hadjimanolis emphasised that "expanding the Cypriot registry remains a top priority for the government".

Backward steps on DEI will damage determination to deal with shipping's pressing issues.

Splash 247.com. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://splash247.com/backward-steps-on-dei-will-damage-determination-to-deal-with-shippings-pressing-issues/> As the maritime industry embraces digitalization and strives to meet its decarbonization objectives, fostering diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) is essential to ensure success.

EU imposes new sanctions on 73 shadow fleet ships. *ShippingWatch*. 19 February 2025.

Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article17918949.ece> In a new sanctions package approved on Wednesday, the EU is taking several steps in the fight against the Russian shadow fleet

DCSA releases final versions of Booking 2.0 and Bill of Lading 3.0 standards. *Digital Container*

Shipping Association (DCSA). 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://dcsa.org/newsroom/final-versions-of-booking-bill-of-lading-standards-released> Digital Container Shipping Association (DCSA) – a neutral, non-profit organisation driving standardisation and digital innovation in container shipping – has announced the release of the final versions of its Booking 2.0 and Bill of Lading 3.0 standards.

BIMCO's next President: Paul Pathy, CEO and adventurer. *BIMCO*. 19 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news-insights/bimco-news/2025/02/19-paul-pathy-interview/>

He is the third generation of CEO in the family business, Canada's largest dry bulk shipowner, Fednav, and in May, he will be taking over as President of BIMCO.

Shipping colossals deepen ties with India amid growing maritime ambitions. Sara Kosmajac.

Offshore Energy. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/shipping-colossals-deepen-ties-with-india-amid-growing-maritime-ambitions/>

As disclosed, during his state visit to France in mid-February 2025, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with French President Emmanuel Macron travelled to CMA CGM Group's headquarters in Marseille where discussions were held regarding the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) with the group's Chairman and CEO Rodolphe Saadé.

Why tankers carrying dirty cargoes are lagging on uptake of alternative fuels. Eric Priante

Martin. *TradeWinds*. 19 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/special-reports/why-tankers-carrying-dirty-cargoes-are-lagging-on-uptake-of-alternative-fuels/2-1-1776910>

Wandering trading patterns, and a lack of regulatory and public pressure, mean that crude tankers are lagging behind the shipping industry average in adopting alternative fuels.

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates the Green Shipping Conclave, 2025.

Government of India. 20 February 2025. Available from:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2105136> The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal reaffirmed India's commitment to global maritime sustainability and international cooperation while speaking after inaugurating the Green Shipping Conclave, 2025 in Mumbai today.

7th BIMCO ESG network meeting shines a light on the complexity of incorporating human rights in ESG reporting. *BIMCO*. 20 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news-insights/bimco-news/2025/02/20-outcomes-of-the-7th-esg-network-meeting/>

In recent years, the shipping industry has become increasingly aware of its role in environmental sustainability—climate-related disclosures are becoming more important nestled in new ambitious goals set by the IMO, and there is a growing awareness of “nature-related disclosures” related to the impact of shipping on biodiversity.

Ship energy savers, top to bottom. John Snyder. *Riviera Maritime*. 21 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/ship-energy-savers-top-to-bottom-83875>

Ocean shipping is by far the most efficient form of transportation to move cargo, far outpacing rail, truck and air when considering the volume of freight moved, distance travelled and the amount of fuel used.

Treasury Imposes Additional Sanctions on Iran's Shadow Fleet as Part of Maximum Pressure Campaign. *US Department of the Treasury*. 24 February 2025. Available from:

<https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sb0026> Today, the Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), and the U.S. Department of State are imposing sanctions on over 30 persons and vessels in multiple jurisdictions for their role in brokering the sale and transportation of Iranian petroleum-related products.

Argus launches FuelEU greenhouse gas reduction prices. *Argus Media*. 24 February 2025.

Available from: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/about-argus/media-centre/press-releases/argus-launches-fueu-greenhouse-gas-reduction-prices> Global energy and commodity price reporting agency Argus has launched two calculated prices that value the cost of compliance generated under the FuelEU Maritime regulation.

EU, UK ramp up sanctions against Russia, targeting more than 100 vessels. Jamey Bergman. *Riviera Maritime*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://tinyurl.com/mr4yaad6> Marking the third anniversary of Russia's war against Ukraine, Europe has published a new round of sanctions against Russia, even as recently re-elected US President Donald Trump has initiated unilateral talks with Russia's internationally ostracised president Vladimir Putin.

Russia continues to sell oil using 'shadow fleet' bought from European shipowners.

Murat Temizer. *Anadolu Agency (Türkiye)*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/energy/energy-diplomacy/russia-continues-to-sell-oil-using-shadow-fleet-bought-from-european-shipowners/47687> Russia, under various European sanctions and a \$60-per-barrel oil cap since December 2022, is allegedly still selling oil using a 'shadow fleet' of old tankers purchased from Europe.

Carbon emissions from Norwegian shipowners rise in 2024. Jonas Walsgård. *TradeWinds*. 24 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/sustainability/carbon-emissions-from-norwegian-shipowners-rise-in-2024/2-1-1783755> The fleet of members of the Norwegian Shipowners' Association emitted 28.7m tons of CO2 equivalents last year, according to a climate report from the organisation.

Why 2025 is such an important year for shipping decarbonisation. *Global Maritime Forum*. 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://globalmaritimeforum.org/article/why-2025-is-such-an-important-year-for-shipping-decarbonisation/> International shipping is the lifeblood of the global economy, transporting more than 80 percent of all goods.

DEI backlash impacting shipping. Gary Howard. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 25 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/crewing/dei-backlash-impacting-shipping> Ahead of her participation in early April at the 40th edition of CMA Shipping in Connecticut, USA, Heidi Heseltine, Founder of the Diversity Study Group (DSG), spoke with Seatrade Maritime News about current issues in the DEI space, the first cohort undertaking DSG's Crest mentoring programme, and the benefits the maritime industry will reap from a diverse workforce and inclusive workplaces.

EU's Clean Industrial Deal Must Ensure Green Fuels for the Green Transition of the Shipping Sector. *Danish Shipping*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://danishshipping.dk/en/latest-news/2025/eu-s-clean-industrial-deal-must-ensure-green-fuels-for-the-green-transition-of-the-shipping-sector/> Today, the European Commission has unveiled its long-awaited Clean Industrial Deal, a framework consisting of around 40 new initiatives designed to enhance Europe's competitiveness and accelerate the green transition.

EU plans to boost green aviation and shipping fuels, but sends worrying signal on 2040 climate goal. *Transport & Environment*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/articles/eu-plans-to-boost-green-aviation-and-shipping-fuels-but-sends-worrying-signal-on-2040-climate-goal> New EU plans to lower energy costs by doubling down on deployment of renewable electricity, and to activate more investment and trade instruments to scale clean-tech, have been welcomed by green group T&E.

Pacific Environment: Greater industry investment is needed to achieve zero emissions by 2030. Jonathan Butler. *Safety4Sea*. 26 February 2025. Available from:

<https://safety4sea.com/cm-pacific-environment-greater-industry-investment-is-needed-to-achieve-zero-emissions-by-2030/> Despite groundbreaking advancements, including the launch of the world's first zero-emissions tug, ferry, and container ship, the industry still needs stronger leadership and financial backing to scale these solutions.

Gender equality in the Nordic region – where are we? Line Scheistrøen. *Nordic Labour Journal*. 26 February 2025. Available from: <http://www.nordiclbourjournal.org/artikler/editorials-2018/editorial-2025/article.2025-02-25.2984846493>

“I want to become a sailor,” said the girl. She was around 16 and a student on one of the few school ships sailing along the Norwegian coast.

Maersk changes course and postpones clean fuel targets for its fleet. Mette Grube Condrup. *ShippingWatch*. 28 February 2025. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article17950678.ece> The uncertain access to alternative fuels is now prompting the Danish shipping major, known for being at the forefront of the green transition, to change its intermediate climate goals.

Maritime diversity and inclusivity in the Trump era. Claudia Paschkewitz. *Splash 247.com*. 28 February 2025. Available from: <https://splash247.com/maritime-diversity-and-inclusivity-in-the-trump-era/>

US President Donald Trump's recent ruling against diversity and inclusivity measures is a step backwards in the progress that has been made around the world, and it could have rippling effects through the maritime industry.

RESEARCH

Şanlıer Uçak Ş and Çelik Maşalacı B. **An in-depth study of factors influencing retention and career paths of Turkish seafarers in the profession.** *Research in Transportation Business & Management*. 29 January 2025. Available from:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2210539525000148> This research comprehensively explored the elements affecting the career retention of trained Turkish seafarers as oceangoing watch-keeping officers, using a survey-based approach to include perspectives from both individuals actively employed on vessels and those who transferred to shore-based positions.

Hansen JE, Kharecha P, et al. **Global Warming Has Accelerated: Are the United Nations and the Public Well-Informed?** *Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development*. 3 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00139157.2025.2434494>

Global temperature leaped more than 0.4°C (0.7°F) during the past two years, the 12-month average peaking in August 2024 at +1.6°C relative to the temperature at the beginning of last century (the 1880-1920 average).

Chan F, Sokolova I, et al. **Ocean hypoxia: The science of climate change in the sea.** *Scientific Reports*. 4 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-025-86706-4>

The oxygen inventory of the global ocean is declining.

Zoubir M, Schwarz B, et al. **Anchoring autonomy: understanding seafarers' interaction with energy efficiency decision support systems for route planning and the role of basic psychological needs.** *Cognition, Technology & Work*. 5 February 2025. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10111-025-00789-7>

Onboard Decision Support Systems (DSS) for energy-efficient maritime route planning are key for global carbon reduction and sustainable transportation goals.

Bevacqua E, Schleussner C-F, et al. **A year above 1.5°C signals that Earth is most probably within the 20-year period that will reach the Paris Agreement limit.** *Nature Climate Change*. 10 February 2025. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-025-02246-9>
The temperature goals of the Paris Agreement are measured as 20-year averages exceeding a pre-industrial baseline.

To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email with your contact details to:
mck@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.