



INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

MARITIME KNOWLEDGE CENTRE (MKC)

“Sharing Maritime Knowledge”

CURRENT AWARENESS BULLETIN

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[Maritime Knowledge Centre \(MKC\)](#)

maritimeknowledgecentre@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.

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IMO NEWS & EVENTS

IMO launches a year of action for seafarers

The World Maritime Theme for 2021 is dedicated to seafarers, highlighting their central role in the future of shipping.

IMO has chosen to make 2021 a year of action for seafarers, who are facing unprecedented hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic, despite their vital role as key workers for global supply chains. The World Maritime Theme for 2021, "Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future" seeks to increase the visibility of seafarers by drawing attention to the invaluable role they play now and will continue to play in the future.

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed extraordinary demands on seafarers, with hundreds of thousands of men and women stranded on ships for months beyond their original contracts, unable to be repatriated due to national travel restrictions. A similar number of seafarers are unable to join ships and earn a living. This crew change crisis, which has been ongoing for nearly a year, is a humanitarian emergency that threatens the safety of shipping.

[World Maritime Theme 2021](#) [Message from IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim](#) 🗉 [More...](#)

IMO and WISTA International launch first Women in Maritime Survey

IMO and WISTA International survey will obtain baseline data on number of women and their positions in maritime and oceans fields

The International Maritime Organization (IMO), and the Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA International) have launched the Women in Maritime – IMO and WISTA International Survey 2021 to examine the proportion and distribution of women working in the maritime sector, from support roles to executive level positions.

The survey is part of a series of activities aimed at laying the groundwork for further discussions on how to build a more diverse workforce within the maritime sector, essential for a sustainable future. The data obtained by the survey will help build a picture of diversity and gender equality in the industry. [Member State survey](#) [NGOS/Companies survey](#) [More...](#)

Covid, “white list” and training in focus at Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping Sub-Committee

The adverse effects of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic on seafarers, is one of the safety issues being discussed at the seventh session of the International Maritime Organization Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW 7), which runs from 15 - 19 February 2021. Digitalization of certificates and documents of seafarers; training quality issues; and potential measures to facilitate mandatory seagoing service under the Convention are matters the session will also be considering.

The Sub-Committee is slated to examine the challenges faced by Parties in the implementation of the STCW Convention, which should set the foundations for the work on this area at the next comprehensive review of the Convention. In particular, it will discuss the so called “white list” of confirmed STCW Parties and explore means to ensure that Parties submit the relevant information at the appropriate time, which will support full implementation and ensure the issued lists fully reflect the current status. [More...](#)

Programme of Meetings for 2021 (issued 8 December 2020) can be downloaded [here](#)

Previous Meetings (REMOTE)

Technical Cooperation Committee (TC 70) – 7-11 December

Consultative Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Convention 1972) and
Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Protocol 1996) (LC 42/LP 15) – 14-15 December

Forthcoming Meetings (REMOTE)

Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW), 7th session
15-19 February

Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR), 8th session – 22-26 March

IOPC Funds – 29 March – 1 April

IMO Council, 33rd extraordinary Session – 8 April

LATEST PRESS BRIEFINGS

[IMO symposium highlights pathways to shipping's decarbonization](#)

15 February 2021

[IMO urges action to deter piracy in Gulf of Guinea](#)

14 February 2021

RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

IMO Symposium on alternative low-carbon and zero-carbon fuels, ([Opening](#) remarks)
9-10 February 2021

IMO NEWS MAGAZINE [\(Autumn/Winter 2020\)](#)

IMO PUBLISHING [Just Published](#)

UNITED NATIONS

The virus that shut down the world: Economic meltdown. *UN News*. 30 December 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1080762> With millions forced to work from home this year, offices and shops closing as part of containment measures, and travel severely curtailed everywhere, it was inevitable that the economy would suffer.

Questions and answers about the UN mission to the SAFER oil tanker in Yemen. *UN News*. 30 December 2020. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1081162> SAFER is a Floating Storage and Offloading (FSO) oil vessel moored off Yemen's west coast, approximately 8 kilometers (4.8 nautical miles) South West of the Ras Isa peninsula on the West coast of Yemen, permanently anchored at the same location for more than 30 years without any dry-docking or shipyard repairs.

State of the ocean will 'ultimately determine the survival of our species': UN Special Envoy. *UN News*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1081742> Marking the opening of the International Decade for Ocean Science, the former top Fijian diplomat and General Assembly president, told UN News that a healthy planet is inextricably linked to a healthy ocean.

UN chief highlights need for climate action, pandemic response, in commemorating 75th anniversary of the General Assembly. *UN News*. 10 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1081752> In his first major speech of the year, the UN Secretary-General underlined the need for global cooperation to address today's challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change.

Guterres to seek second five-year term as UN Secretary-General. *UN News*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1081832> António Guterres confirmed on Monday that he will be seeking a second five-year term as UN Secretary-General, which would begin in January 2022.

WHO chief warns against 'catastrophic moral failure' in COVID-19 vaccine access. *UN News*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1082362> A "me-first approach" to COVID-19 vaccines on the part of some countries and manufacturers is putting equitable access to these lifesaving treatments at risk, the head of the World Health Organization warned on Monday.

UN calls for resumption of Mediterranean rescues, after 43 die in Libya shipwreck. *UN News*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1082582> Following another deadly shipwreck off the coast of Libya that claimed 43 lives on Monday, the UN migration and refugee agencies have called for countries to re-activate search and rescue operations.

Secretary-General welcomes US return to Paris Agreement on Climate Change. *UN News*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1082602> Following the inauguration of United States President Joe Biden on Wednesday, the UN Secretary-General said he looks forward to an era of new leadership towards accelerating climate action, with the US back inside the landmark Paris Agreement.

UN Agencies Are Not Exactly Zooming Toward Open Meetings. Toby McIntosh. *PassBlue*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.passblue.com/2021/01/25/un-agencies-are-not-exactly-zooming-toward-open-meetings/> With United Nations entities meeting mostly virtually In the Covid-19 pandemic, it is a good time for more of them to hold open sessions.

CASUALTIES

Icing believed to cause sinking of fishing boat in Barents Sea, 17 missing. Thomas Nilsen. *Independent Barents Observer (Norway)*. 28 December 2020. Available from: <https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/2020/12/icing-believed-cause-sinking-fishing-boat-barents-sea-17-missing> "At 07.30, information was received about the sinking of the ship Onega (MK 0331) in the Barents Sea near Novaya Zemlya, Arkhangelsk region.

Newly Released Documents Show BP Supplied Experimental Fuel In Mauritius Oil Spill. Nishan Degnarain. *Forbes*. 6 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/nishandegnarain/2021/01/06/special-report-explosive-documents-reveal-bp-behind-toxic-mauritius-oil-spill/> Newly released documents show that BP supplied the oil involved in the Mauritius oil spill in the Indian Ocean last year.

Report brands Irish Marine Casualty Investigation Board 'not fit for purpose'. *Nautilus International*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/report-brands-irish-marine-casualty-investigation-board-not-fit-for-purpose/> A new report presented to the Irish legislature (Oireachtas) has found that the country's Marine Casualty Investigation Board (MCIB) is 'not fit for purpose'.

Fatal incident onboard BW Offshore FPSO, two dead. Jason Jiang. *Splash 247.com*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/fatal-incident-onboard-bw-offshore-fpso-two-dead/> BW Offshore has announced that an incident occurred onboard its FPSO *Espoir Ivoirien* operating on the Espoir field offshore the Ivory Coast.

Turkey: Palau-flagged ship sinks off Black Sea coast. *Anadolu Agency (Turkey)*. 17 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-palau-flagged-ship-sinks-off-black-sea-coast/2112940> Rescue workers managed to save six crew members and reached the body of one other on the Arvin, which sank off the coast of Bartın province, said Bartın Governor Sinan Guner.

Three dead as Ukrainian cargoship breaks in two off Turkey. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/three-dead-as-ukrainian-cargoship-breaks-in-two-off-turkey/2-1-946105> Three crew members have died after a Ukrainian general cargoship broke its back and sank off Turkey's Black Sea coast.

MOL response to an article in Forbes.com on the grounding of Wakashio. *Mitsui O.S.K. Lines (MOL)*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.mol.co.jp/en/info/article/2021.html> Forbes.com published an article on 6 January entitled "Explosive Documents Reveal BP Behind Toxic Mauritius Oil Spill.

Maersk Boxship Loses 750 Containers Overboard in North Pacific. *Maritime Executive*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/maersk-boxship-loses-750-containers-overboard-in-north-pacific> Heavy weather in the North Pacific is being blamed for the loss of containers aboard one of Maersk's containerships.

Maersk ship is latest example of remarkable container losses in the Pacific. Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 21 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12705258.ece> For the second time in just a few months, a large number of containers went overboard in the Pacific during extremely harsh weather.

Storm-hit Maersk Essen reroutes to Mexico. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 22 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/storm-hit-maersk-essen-reroutes-to-mexico/> The 13,100 teu *Maersk Essen* boxship has rerouted to Mexico instead of its intended destination of Los Angeles.

Five seafarers missing after boxship and tug collide off Indonesia. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/five-seafarers-missing-after-boxship-and-tug-collide-off-indonesia/2-1-951248> Five crew members are missing after a tug overturned after a collision with a boxship off Indonesia.

ENVIRONMENT

Maritime Environmental Reports. *Gliese Foundation (Poland)*. 31 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.gliesefoundation.org/environmental-reports> We are assessing the quality of the environmental reporting presented by the twelve largest container carriers in the world in their sustainability reports. [The leading cruise companies on environmental reporting](#)

Concreted bid for quieter seas. David Tinsley. *The Motorship*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.motorship.com/news101/industry-news/concerted-quieter-seas> A major European research project is set to be launched to address the issue of underwater radiated noise, writes David Tinsley.

IJMS Editor's Choice - Best environmental practices for deep-sea mining: are we there yet? *International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.ices.dk/news-and-events/news-archive/news/Pages/IJMS-Editor's-Choice---Guilhon.aspx> Here, a study investigates Ecosystem-based Management principles in deep seabed mining.

An 'ecocide' is happening right in front of our eyes in the Caspian Sea. Matteo Lattuada. *World Economic Forum*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/01/caspian-sea-to-fall-by-9-metres-this-century-ecocide-imminent> By the end of the 21st century, the Caspian Sea is forecast to be nine metres to 18 metres lower.

NOAA, The Ocean Foundation team up to advance ocean science. *US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/noaa-ocean-foundation-team-up-to-advance-ocean-science> NOAA today announced a partnership with The Ocean Foundation to cooperate on international and national scientific efforts to advance research, conservation and our understanding of the global ocean.

Warming Arctic at the frontier of climate insight and risk, experts say. Clare Baldwin and Kate Abnett. *Reuters*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3bw1SLx> The environmental transformation happening in the Arctic is key to understanding the potential global impacts of climate change, an Alaska Native leader and a polar explorer told the Reuters Next conference on Monday.

'Ocean 100': Small group of companies dominates ocean economy. *EurekAlert!* 13 January 2021. Available from: https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2021-01 Most of the revenues extracted from use of the world's oceans is concentrated among 100 transnational corporations, which have been identified for the first time by researchers at Duke University and the Stockholm Resilience Centre at Stockholm University.

What can corporations do to help save the ocean? Peter Thomson. *Al Jazeera*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2021/1/13/what-can-corporations-do-to-help-save-the-ocean> We cannot have a healthy planet without a healthy ocean, but the health of the ocean is now in a clearly observable decline.

2020, one of three warmest years on record: World Meteorological Organization. *UN News*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1082132> The COVID-19 pandemic was not the only long-term crisis the world will remember from 2020.

Climate change is a ‘global emergency’, people say in biggest ever climate poll. *UN News*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1083062> Almost two-thirds of over 1.2 million people surveyed worldwide say that climate change is a global emergency, urging greater action to address the crisis, results from a new UN climate survey revealed on Wednesday.

UN global climate poll: ‘The people’s voice is clear – they want action’. Damian Carrington. *The Guardian*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/jan/27/un-global-climate-poll-peoples-voice-is-clear-they-want-action> The biggest ever opinion poll on climate change has found two-thirds of people think it is a “global emergency”.

Heavy industry, transport sectors to align on net-zero climate plans. Valerie Volcovici. *Reuters*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2MgkfM8> Over 400 companies across some of the world’s biggest greenhouse gas emitting industries – from shipping to steelmaking - have agreed to work together on plans to decarbonize by 2050, according to a coalition of climate advocacy groups that set up the partnership.

The new use for abandoned oil rigs. Isabelle Gerretsen. *BBC Future*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20210126-the-richest-human-made-marine-habitats-in-the-world> As offshore oil and gas platforms come to the end of their working lives, the remarkable ecosystems beneath the waves come into their own.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

Researchers develop new system for measuring ship-generated underwater noise. *University of Strathclyde (UK)*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.strath.ac.uk/whystrathclyde/news/researchersdevelopnewsystemformeasuringtheship-generatedunderwaternoise/> Strathclyde researchers have developed a novel way of measuring underwater noise created by ships which poses a danger to marine life.

Government of Canada program helps remove 63 tonnes of lost fishing gear from Atlantic ocean in 2020. *Government of Canada*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/01/government-of-canada-program-helps-remove-63-tonnes-of-lost-fishing-gear-from-atlantic-ocean-in-2020.html> Lost, abandoned and discarded fishing gear, or ‘ghost gear,’ is one of the largest causes of marine pollution today.

A.P. Moller- Maersk, The Ocean Cleanup extend relationship with new three-year partnership. *Maersk*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.maersk.com/news/articles/2021/01/13/ocean-cleanup-relationship-three-year-partnership> In addition to Maersk Supply Services providing marine offshore support to rid the oceans of plastic, Maersk will also give to the Dutch non - profit organization end - to - end supply chain management services for both ocean and river clean up systems.

Dirty fuel use in sight: Environment may be at stake. *Financial Express (Bangladesh)*. 17 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/dirty-fuel-use-in-sight-environment-may-be-at-1610876230> Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institution, or BSTI, has moved to lower the specification of petrol allowing local use of dirtier fuel that threatens environment and engines of motor vehicles.

Adrinet: an initiative exorcising the Mediterranean’s ‘ghost nets’. Aurora Velez. *Euronews*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.euronews.com/2021/01/18/adrinet-an-initiative-exorcising-the-mediterranean-s-ghost-nets> 🇮🇹 Sea is synonymous for work in Castro, a small port in Italy’s Puglia region.

International race to avert catastrophic Gulf oil-spill. *Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST)*. 22 January 2021. Available from:


<https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/on-the-radar/item/5937-international-race-to-avert-catastrophic-gulf-oil-spill> Moored five miles (8km) off the Yemeni coast, the ironically-titled *FSO Safer* – an abandoned 362m (1,188 ft) floating storage and offloading unit – hasn't been properly inspected or maintained for almost six years.


Rethink 'dangerous' ferry crossing advice, maritime expert urges. Ivan Martin. *Times of Malta*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/rethink-dangerous-ferry-crossing-advice-maritime-expert-urges.847689> Prime Minister Robert Abela should reconsider his decision to encourage commuters to stay in their cars during the Gozo ferry crossing, a leading maritime lawyer has advised.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Measures Taken to Safeguard Health and Safety of Shore-Based Personnel in Maritime Sector. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 2 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/5809f71d-1e02-4f47-a05b-00f6214f6064> The Ministry of Health (MOH) had earlier reported that a marine surveyor and a harbour pilot had tested positive for COVID-19 infection on 30 and 31 December 2020 respectively.

Singapore to tighten Covid-19 checks after LR surveyor catches virus. Dale Wainwright. *TradeWinds*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/singapore-to-tighten-covid-19-checks-after-lr-surveyor-catches-virus/2-1-938080> Singapore is to tighten Covid-19 testing requirements for shore-based staff after two people were found to have contracted the virus after flouting government advice designed to combat its spread.

New research highlights benefits of regular social interaction on board and common obstacles to overcome. *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/news/2021/new-research-highlights-benefits-of-regular-social-interaction-on-board-and-common-obstacles-to-overcome>; Regular social interaction on board benefits overall crew wellbeing, reduces isolation and stress and helps to build and motivate safe and efficient teams on board, new research shows. [Social Interaction Matters \(SIM\)](#) 

Covid-19 discovered in second group of Russian mariners. Charlie Gates. *Stuff (New Zealand)*. 10 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/news/123909938/covid19-discovered-in-second-group-of-russian-mariners>  A Covid-19 cluster has emerged for the second time among foreign mariners in a Christchurch isolation facility.

Diplomats trying to help two corona-positive Ukrainians stuck on bulk carrier off Malaysia coast. *UNIAN Information Agency (Ukraine)*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.unian.info/world/two-corona-positive-ukrainians-stuck-on-ship-off-malaysia-coast-11281430.html> Malaysian authorities have not been helpful in providing medical assistance to the ill crew members.

Mental hygiene: The science behind seafarer resilience. Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 12 January 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135366/Mental-hygiene-The-science-behind-seafarer-resilience> The coronavirus pandemic has pushed mental health higher up the agenda.

Industry Opinion: A blind eye to the mental health of seafarers. Glenn Mathias. *DCN - Daily Cargo News (Australia)*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thedcn.com.au/industry-opinion-a-blind-eye-to-the-mental-health-of-seafarers/> Many countries depend upon cargoes transported by ships that are operated by seafarers.

Urgent advice as cases of suicide at sea continue to climb. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/urgent-advice-as-cases-of-suicide-at-sea-continue-to-climb/> Suicide among today's seafarers is on the increase and is being fuelled as much by the negative aftermath of the Covid pandemic as it is by a lack of mental health awareness in the industry.

New SafeEntry@Sea platform to boost Covid-19 contact tracing efforts for maritime sector in Singapore. Fabian Koh. *Straits Times*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/new-safeentrysea-platform-to-boost-contact-tracing-efforts-for-maritime-sector-in> The national digital check-in system SafeEntry will be extended to the maritime sector in Singapore later this week.

Ship emissions off Southern California pose health risks. Eric Watkins. *Lloyd's List*. 17 January 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135431/Ship-emissions-off-Southern-California-pose-health-risks> The San Pedro Bay ports' clean air action plan, with tight at-berth regulations, does not apply to emissions of particulate matter from ships at anchor, which fall under the jurisdiction of the California Air Resources Board.

37,000 frontline aviation, maritime workers to be prioritised for COVID-19 vaccine. Zhaki Abdullah. *Channel News Asia (CNA)*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/37000-frontline-aviation-maritime-covid-19-vaccine-13985230> Plans to provide COVID-19 vaccines to 37,000 frontline workers in the aviation and maritime sectors kicked off on Monday (Jan 18), with vaccination centres for the two industries coming into full swing.

Over 10,000 Frontline Maritime Personnel to Receive COVID-19 Vaccinations by end January. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/248c9175-37b4-49c5-916a-7600ab8cc08d> Singapore became one of the first countries to prioritise COVID-19 vaccinations for frontline maritime personnel.

Shipping industry demands vaccine priority for seafarers amid renewed crew change struggles. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/shipping-industry-demands-vaccine-priority-for-seafarers-amid-renewed-crew-change-struggles/> The International Chamber of Shipping is leading calls for governments to put seafarers and frontline maritime shore workers at the head of the vaccine queue and to designate seafarers as keyworkers, to avoid a repeat of the 2020 'crew change crisis'.

Captain Lloyd writes to UK Secretary of State for Transport over Seafarer Vaccinations. *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 22 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/01/22/captain-lloyd-writes-to-uk-secretary-of-state-for-transport-over-seafarer-vaccinations/> Human Rights at Sea Advisory Board member, Captain Michael Lloyd RD**, MNM, CMMar, FNI has followed up an earlier correspondence to the IMO Secretary General, with a new letter directed to the Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP, the UK Secretary of State for Transport requesting engagement on the issue of inoculating seafarers as frontline key workers who are keeping world maritime trade flowing during the global pandemic.

UN health agency panel issues key guidance on second COVID vaccine doses. *UN News.* 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1083022> The development follows SAGE's recommendations on 5 January on how the similar Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine should be used, as deaths from the new coronavirus topped 2.1 million globally.

New COVID-19 Testing Kits for Maritime Industry to Aid Crew Change. *Maritime Executive.* 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/corporate/new-covid-19-testing-kits-for-maritime-industry-to-aid-crew-change> In an exclusive agreement between a leading pharma manufacturing company based in Singapore and AlphaRize Management Ltd. to distribute rapid result COVID-19 testing kits, one of the major barriers to solving the crew change crisis is solved.

Two Chinese flagged ships detained in Vanuatu remain in COVID-19 quarantine. *ABC (Australia).* 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/radio-australia/programs/pacificbeat/vanuatu-detains-chinese-fishing-vessels/13098208> © The crew onboard two Chinese flagged ships that were recently detained in Vanuatu remain in COVID-19 quarantine but local police say they are expecting to charge them soon.

IMO

UN human rights agency analyses IMO rules amid alleged 'shipping-gate' scandal. Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds.* 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/un-human-rights-agency-analyses-imo-rules-amid-alleged-shipping-gate-scandal/2-1-941704> Mauritian economist links introduction of VLSFO in IMO 2020 switch to Wakashio disaster.

IMO appoints Hoenders as emissions policy chief. Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List.* 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135352/IMO-appoints-Hoenders-as-emissions-policy-chief> With lengthy policymaking experience in the EU and a rapid rise within the IMO ranks, Mr Hoenders will be tasked with helping carry out some of the global regulator's biggest commitments.

LAW & POLICY

Year in Review: Africa's Maritime Sector. Brian Gicheru Kinyua. *Maritime Executive.* 27 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/year-in-review-africa-s-maritime-sector> It's the time of the year when we take stock of our achievements, despite the daunting year 2020 proved to be.

Nautilus welcomes approval of Brexit deal, but presses for certification confirmation. *Nautilus International.* 29 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/nautilus-welcomes-approval-of-brexit-deal-but-presses-for-certification-confirmation/> Nautilus International has cautiously welcomed approval of the future trade agreement with the European Union (EU) by the UK Parliament.

Congress Passes Significant Maritime Legislation Affirming American Maritime's Role in the Future of Clean Wind Energy. *American Maritime Partnership.* 1 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2Nwr4tB> The American Maritime Partnership, the voice of the domestic maritime industry, salutes Congress for passing the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) (H.R. 6395), which includes the most consequential maritime legislation enacted in many years.

South Korea asks Iran to release seized tanker, mobilises anti-piracy troops. Gary Dixon and Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/south-korea-asks-iran-to-release-seized-tanker-mobilises-anti-piracy-troops/2-1-938334> Seoul has reportedly called on Iran to release a South Korea-flagged tanker that was seized by the country's navy forces in the Strait of Hormuz.

Gulf States End Three-Year Embargo on Qatar. *Maritime Executive*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/gulf-states-end-three-year-embargo-on-qatar> In a deal brokered by the Trump administration, the Saudi and Qatari governments have agreed to stand down from a three-year diplomatic dispute that disrupted the flow of regional trade.


IRGC confirms seizing South Korean oil tanker. *Islamic Republic News Agency - IRNA (Iran)*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://en.irna.ir/news/84173663/IRGC-confirms-seizing-South-Korean-oil-tanker> Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has seized South Korean Hankuk Chemi vessel in the Persian Gulf on Monday for violating the environmental protocols, said the IRGC public relations office confirmed.

What's in a flag? *Engineering at Sea*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://engineeringatsea.skf.com/whats-in-a-flag/> Despite their tiny populations Panama, Liberia, and the Marshall Islands together hold 560 million gross tonnage of global tonnage.

Ministry official meets Iranian ambassador to protest seizure of S. Korean tanker. Kim Seung-yeong. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210105005751325> A foreign ministry official met with Iran's top envoy in Seoul on Tuesday to lodge a protest over this week's seizure of a South Korean oil tanker in the Strait of Hormuz.

Rethinking travel in a post-pandemic world. Josie Glausiusz. *Nature*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-03649-8> Climate scientists recommend ways to boost the value of virtual conferences and reduce carbon footprints even when travel curbs ease.

New Arctic Strategy Calls for Regular Presence as a Way to Compete With Russia, China. Megan Eckstein. *US Naval Institute News*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.usni.org/2021/01/05/new-arctic-strategy-calls-for-regular-presence-as-a-way-to-compete-with-russia-china> The Navy and Marine Corps released a new Arctic strategy today, calling to extend their new focus on day-to-day competition with Russia and China into the Arctic as it becomes more navigable and therefore more congested in the coming decades.

Department of the Navy Releases Strategic Blueprint for a Blue Arctic. *United States Navy*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.navy.mil/Press-Office/Press-Releases/display-pressreleases/Article/2463000/> The Department of the Navy released its strategic blueprint for the Arctic titled a Blue Arctic Jan. 5, delivering a regional outline spanning the next two decades as the Department continues to prepare for an increasingly accessible and navigable Arctic Region. [a Blue Arctic](#) 

S. Korea sees no evidence of marine pollution by seized S. Korean ship: official. Kim Seung-yeong. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 6 January 2021. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210106007151325?section=search> The government believes there is no evidence Iran's claim that a South Korean tanker polluted the ocean when it was seized by Tehran troops early this week over such allegations, a senior Seoul official was quoted as saying Wednesday.

Tanker seizure case may be prolonged. Kang Seung-woo. *Korea Times*. 7 January 2021. Available from: http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2021/01/120_302109.html Despite the government's efforts to get an early release of a Korean-flagged oil tanker and its crewmembers seized by Iran, including sending senior officials for negotiations, it remains to be seen if the move will pay dividends as Tehran is negative about the diplomatic visit, insisting the seizure was a technical matter related to marine pollution.

Bank lending to plastics industry faces scrutiny as pollution concerns mount. Matthew Green. *Reuters*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3ql3Fnb> Banks have provided \$1.7 trillion of finance to 40 companies in the plastics supply chain without imposing any requirements to tackle plastic pollution pouring into the world's rivers and oceans, according to a report published on Thursday.

For heavily indebted small islands, resilience-building is the best antidote. *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://unctad.org/news/heavily-indebted-small-islands-resilience-building-best-antidote> Small island nations are taking on water in the form of a vicious debt trap damaging their productivity and ability to recover from disasters and other structural constraints.

Isle of Wight oil tanker 'hijacking' case dropped against seven men. *BBC News*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hampshire-55586418> Seven men, including two who had already been charged, will face no action over a suspected hijacking of an oil tanker off the Isle of Wight.

CPS statement on decision to discontinue the prosecution of two men for merchant shipping offences. *UK Crown Prosecution Service*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/cps-statement-decision-discontinue-prosecution-two-men-merchant-shipping-offences> Joanne Jakymec, Chief Crown Prosecutor said: "On Sunday 25 October 2020 a distress signal was sent from the Nave Andromeda oil tanker once it had reached UK waters.

President Ali rejects Venezuela's decree to unilaterally extend maritime boundary with Guyana. Denis Chabrol. *Demerara Waves (Guyana)*. 9 January 2021. Available from: <https://demerarawaves.com/2021/01/09/president-ali-rejects-venezuelas-decree-to-unilaterally-extend-maritime-boundary-with-guyana/> President Irfaan Ali on Saturday afternoon rejected Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro's unilateral extension of his country's maritime boundary with Venezuela to take in the Atlantic waters off the Essequibo Region.

House bill sets Philippines archipelagic sea lanes. Edu Punay. *Philippine Star*. 9 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/01/09/2069185/house-bill-sets-philippines-archipelagic-sea-lanes> As the territorial dispute with China over areas in the West Philippine Sea remains unresolved, a measure setting limits on the entry and passage of foreign vessels and aircraft in the country's territorial seas has been filed at the House of Representatives.

Zero carbon shipping is a Biden-Harris win for the taking. Janis Searles Jones. *The Hill (US)*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/533517-zero-carbon-shipping-is-a-biden-harris-win-for-the-taking> America is on the cusp of welcome change with the incoming Biden-Harris administration.

IEA to produce world's first comprehensive roadmap to net-zero emissions by 2050. *International Energy Agency (IEA)*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.iea.org/news/iea-to-produce-world-s-first-comprehensive-roadmap-to-net-zero-emissions-by-2050> The International Energy Agency today announced that it will produce the world's first comprehensive roadmap for the energy sector to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 as it further strengthens its leadership role in global clean energy transitions.

New report shows difficulty in hitting EU's 2030 climate goals. Louise Wendt Jensen. *ShippingWatch*. 11 January 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12680182.ece> The EU must triple the speed of cuts to achieve its CO2 emissions reduction target by "at least 55 percent" before 2030, according to a new think tank report sceptical of whether the objectives are feasible.

More than 50 countries commit to protection of 30% of Earth's land and oceans.

Patrick Greenfield and Fiona Harvey. *The Guardian*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/jan/11/50-countries-commit-to-protection-of-30-of-earths-land-and-oceans> Coalition says promise is key to preventing mass extinctions and ensuring clean air and water.

Interpol issues 'red notices' for three linked to Beirut blast. Timour Azhari. *Aljazeera*.

12 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/1/12/interpol-issues-red-notices-for-three-linked-to-beirut-blast> Interpol has issued three international arrest notices for the owner and captain of a ship that brought 2,750 tonnes of explosive material into Beirut's port seven years before it exploded in the deadly August 2020 blast.

DNV GL changes name to DNV as it gears up for decade of transformation. Peter Lovegrove.

DNV GL. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.dnvgl.com/news/dnv-gl-changes-name-to-dnv-as-it-gears-up-for-decade-of-transformation-194340> DNV GL, the assurance and risk management company, will change its name to DNV on 1 March 2021.

The Poseidon Principles Disclosure Report is good, but the disclosure could have been better. *Gliese Foundation (Poland)*. 13 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.gliesefoundation.org/the-poseidon-principles-disclosure-report-is-good-but-the-disclosure> In December 2020, the signatories of the Poseidon Principles - currently twenty large banks - released their first Annual Disclosure Report.

Lawsuit Aims to Protect Endangered Whales in California Shipping Lanes. *Center for Biological Diversity*. 14 January 2021. Available from:

<https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-releases/lawsuit-aims-protect-endangered-whales-california-shipping-lanes-2021-01-14/> The Center for Biological Diversity and Friends of the Earth sued the Trump administration today for failing to protect endangered whales from being struck by ships using ports in California.

Pacific Island Nation Tells Venezuela 'That Oil Tanker Isn't Ours'. Lucia Kassai. *Bloomberg*.

14 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bloombergguint.com/business/pacific-island-nation-to-venezuela-that-oil-tanker-isn-t-ours> The island nation of Palau says a tanker that recently loaded Venezuelan crude was using a false signal to disguise its identity, potentially putting the Pacific country in the crosshairs of U.S. sanctions.

The Lloyd's List Podcast: Why shipping still needs to focus on human rights at sea.

Lloyd's List. 15 January 2021. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135414/> David Hammond, the founder and chief executive of Human Rights at Sea, explains why the crewing crisis has helped highlight wider abuses in the maritime sector and why we can't let that attention fade along with coronavirus once the vaccination programme kicks in.

The Asian Development Bank and the EIB join forces to protect the oceans and support the sustainable blue economy. *European Investment Bank (EIB)*. 15 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-018-the-asian-development-bank-and-the-european-investment-bank-join-forces-to-protect-the-oceans-and-support-the-sustainable-blue-economy>

The Asian Development Bank and the European Investment Bank signed an agreement for a new partnership to support clean and sustainable ocean initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region, and ultimately to contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the climate goals of the Paris Agreement.

Virtual progress towards a new global treaty on marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Christian Prip. *Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea (NCLOS) Arctic University of Norway (UiT)*. 16 January 2021. Available from: <https://site.uit.no/nclos/2021/01/16/virtual-progress-towards-a-new-global-treaty-on-marine-biodiversity-in-areas-beyond-national-jurisdiction/> Like many other international processes involving travelling and meeting activity, the COVID-19 pandemic has also affected the process to elaborate an implementing Agreement under the Law of the Sea Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ).

Judiciary Has Sole Power to Rule on Case of S. Korean Ship: Iranian Spokesman. *Tasnim News Agency (Iran)*. 17 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2021/01/17/2434228/judiciary-has-sole-power-to-rule-on-case-of-s-korean-ship-iranian-spokesman> The Iranian Foreign Ministry's spokesperson quashed rumour about the possibility of release of a South Korean vessel captured in the Persian Gulf, saying only the Judiciary has the authority to rule on the case.

VLCCs fleeing sanctions swell Djibouti shipping flag. Bob Rust. *TradeWinds*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/vlccs-fleeing-sanctions-swell-djibouti-shipping-flag/2-1-945266> The Djibouti International Ship Register has scored a coup with an influx of merchant tonnage over the past year.

NGOs demand action not promises as EU accused of 'failing to protect seas'. Karen McVeigh. *The Guardian*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/jan/18/ngos-demand-action-not-promises-as-eu-accused-of-failing-to-protect-seas> A coalition of NGOs is calling for an urgent ban on destructive bottom trawling in EU marine protected areas, after the failure of member states to defend seas.

US hits out at Venezuela again, with six ships caught in its sights. Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/us-hits-out-at-venezuela-again-with-six-ships-caught-in-its-sights/2-1-947645> The ships and companies were blacklisted alongside others that the US said constitutes a network to evade its sanctions.

Treasury Targets Venezuelan Oil Sector Sanctions Evasion Network. *US Department of the Treasury*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm1239> Today, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) designated three individuals, fourteen entities, and six vessels for their ties to a network attempting to evade United States sanctions on Venezuela's oil sector.

Qatar suspends WTO dispute with UAE as Gulf conflict thaws. Emma Farge. *Reuters*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3qlsvDB> Qatar has suspended its case at the World Trade Organization against the United Arab Emirates over measures it said were designed to isolate Qatar economically.

Greece appoints new Deputy Shipping Minister. David Glass. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/37CsrxE> The upgrading came in a minor cabinet reshuffle seen as a subtle move to better handle a growing workload and new multiple challenges.

International transport costs: Why and how to measure them? Jennifer Brown, Dominik Englert and Jan Hoffmann. *World Bank*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://blogs.worldbank.org/transport/international-transport-costs-why-and-how-measure-them> International transport is a key enabler of global trade and therefore of the economic development of countries.

How science can put the Sustainable Development Goals back on track. *Nature*.

20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00104-0>

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the UN's flagship plan to end poverty and protect the environment.

Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation Backs Arctic Shipping Heavy Fuel Oil Ban. *Clean Arctic Alliance*.

21 January 2021. Available from: [https://www.hfofreearctic.org/en/2021/01/21/prince-](https://www.hfofreearctic.org/en/2021/01/21/prince-albert-ii-of-monaco-foundation-backs-arctic-shipping-heavy-fuel-oil-ban/)

[albert-ii-of-monaco-foundation-backs-arctic-shipping-heavy-fuel-oil-ban/](https://www.hfofreearctic.org/en/2021/01/21/prince-albert-ii-of-monaco-foundation-backs-arctic-shipping-heavy-fuel-oil-ban/) The Clean Arctic Alliance welcomes the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation as the latest illustrious signatory of the Arctic Commitment, joining more than 165 companies, explorers, politicians and NGOs who have pledged their support for a ban on the use and carriage of heavy fuel oil (HFO) from Arctic shipping.

International Guidelines Would Help Stem Illegal Activity Tied to At-Sea Transfer of Fish.

Dawn Borg Costanzi and Esther Wozniak. *Pew Charitable Trusts*. 22 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2021/01/22/international-guidelines-would-help-stem-illegal-activity-tied-to-at-sea-transfer-of-fish>

In much of the world, the fastest way for commercially caught fish to get from sea to market is through transshipment, where catch is transferred from the fishing vessel to a carrier ship that takes it to port.

Indonesia seizes Iran, Panama-flagged tankers over alleged illegal oil transfer. Agustinus Beo

Da Costa. *Reuters*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2MgjjHC> Indonesia said its coast guard seized the Iranian-flagged *MT Horse* and the Panamanian-flagged *MT Freya* vessels over suspected illegal oil transfer in the country's waters on Sunday.

Iran asks Indonesia to explain seizure of tanker accused of illegal oil transfer. Parisa Hafezi

and Agustinus Beo Da Costa. *Reuters*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3umrK5m>

Iran has asked Indonesia to provide details about the seizure of an Iranian-flagged vessel, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said on Monday, a day after Jakarta said it had seized Iran and Panama-flagged tankers in its waters.

Greece, Turkey launch Mediterranean crisis talks after 5 years. John Psaropoulos. *Al Jazeera*.

25 January 2021. Available from: [https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/1/25/greece-and-turkey-](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/1/25/greece-and-turkey-resume-maritime-talks)

[resume-maritime-talks](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/1/25/greece-and-turkey-resume-maritime-talks) On Monday, neighbours Greece and Turkey will begin exploratory talks in Istanbul – after a five-year hiatus – that aim to settle maritime boundaries, a source of alarming friction during the past year.

The national security imperative to tackle illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.

Michael Sinclair. *Brookings Institution*. 25 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2021/01/25/the-national-security-imperative-to-tackle-illegal-unreported-and-unregulated-fishing/>

Over the last few years illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing has become more recognized as a national security concern.

China passes coast guard law to safeguard maritime interests. *China Global Television*

Network (CGTN). 25 January 2021. Available from: [https://news.cgtn.com/news/2021-01-25/China-](https://news.cgtn.com/news/2021-01-25/China-passes-coast-guard-law-to-safeguard-maritime-interests-Xk)

[passes-coast-guard-law-to-safeguard-maritime-interests-Xk](https://news.cgtn.com/news/2021-01-25/China-passes-coast-guard-law-to-safeguard-maritime-interests-Xk) Chinese lawmakers on Friday adopted a law on the coast guard at the 25th session of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislature.

Development of an Arbitration-based Mechanism for Resolution of Human Rights Disputes.

Human Rights at Sea (HRAS). 25 January 2021. Available from: [https://hrasarb.com/development-](https://hrasarb.com/development-of-an-arbitration-based-mechanism-for-resolution-of-human-rights-disputes/)

[of-an-arbitration-based-mechanism-for-resolution-of-human-rights-disputes/](https://hrasarb.com/development-of-an-arbitration-based-mechanism-for-resolution-of-human-rights-disputes/) The Human Rights at Sea Arbitration initiative, a collaboration between UK-based independent charitable NGO Human Rights at Sea and the international arbitration practice of global law firm Shearman & Sterling LLP, has entered a new phase of its work towards the creation of an arbitration-based mechanism to address human rights abuses occurring at sea.

AMP: Maritime Leaders Applaud Biden Administration. *Seafarers International Union (SIU)*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.seafarers.org/amp-maritime-leaders-applaud-biden-administration/> The American Maritime Partnership (AMP), the voice of the nation's domestic maritime industry, today applauds the new Executive Order to be signed by President Biden on January 25, 2021, "Strengthening 'Buy American' Provisions, Ensuring [the] Future of America is Made in America by All of America's Workers."

Biden signs 'milestone' order on Bering Sea protections, Indigenous knowledge.

Emily Hofstaedter. *Alaska Public Media*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.alaskapublic.org/2021/01/25/biden-signs-milestone-order-on-bering-sea-protections-indigenous-knowledge/> President Joe Biden signed several climate-related executive orders on his first day in office, including some that affect residents of the Bering Sea.

Palau deny claims of abandonment of flagged ship crew. Leilani Reklai. *Island Times (Palau)*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://islandtimes.org/palau-deny-claims-of-abandonment-of-flagged-ship-crew/> Palau denied the allegations by International Transport Workers' Federation claiming that Palau has "failed to do its job" by failing to step in to help the crew of a ship registered in Palau.

China seeks details about Chinese crew after tankers seized by Indonesia. Yew Lun Tian and Fathin Ungku. *Reuters*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3qJFTHD> China said on Wednesday it was seeking details about 25 of its nationals who were among 61 crew on two supertankers seized by Indonesia on suspicion of illegally transferring oil.

Neptune response to crew crisis needs to work for seafarers and global trade. Paul Berrill. *TradeWinds*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/neptune-response-to-crew-crisis-needs-to-work-for-seafarers-and-global-trade/2-1-950835> Another massive effort by the shipping industry to get the world's leaders to act on the crew-change crisis was unveiled this week at the World Economic Forum's Davos Dialogues.

Indonesia's Omnibus Bill on Maritime Security: the Making of a Global Maritime Hub?

Joseph Tertia. *The Diplomat*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://thediplomat.com/2021/01/indonesias-omnibus-bill-on-maritime-security-the-making-of-a-global-maritime-hub/> As part of its efforts to cut red tape and develop the country's maritime sector, the Indonesian government is preparing an "omnibus bill" that will integrate the various laws and regulations that govern its law enforcement at sea.

Switzerland's irresponsible reign on the sea. Mark Pieth. *SWI swissinfo.ch*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/switzerland-s-irresponsible-reign-on-the-sea/46314724> Though Switzerland is a landlocked country, it is the seat of some of the most prominent shipping companies in the world, including the Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), the second largest container shipper and the third biggest cruise ship operator.

China coast guard law can be challenged if used 'unlawfully'. Joyce Ann L. Rocamora.

Philippine News Agency (PNA). 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1128715> The new Chinese law allowing the China Coast Guard to fire on foreign vessels found to be infringing on their sovereignty or jurisdictions can be challenged before the international community if the use of force is found "unlawful", a Filipino security and Chinese studies expert said Wednesday.

John Kerry: UK climate summit is world's 'last best chance'. Justin Rowlatt. *BBC News*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-55836163> US climate envoy John Kerry has told the BBC a UN climate summit in the UK this November is "the last best chance" to avert the worst environmental consequences for the world.

Dispute concerning delimitation of the maritime boundary between Mauritius and Maldives in the Indian Ocean (Mauritius/Maldives). *International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS).*

28 January 2021. Available from:

https://www.itlos.org/fileadmin/itlos/documents/press_releases_english/PR_313_EN.pdf 

The Special Chamber formed to deal with the Dispute concerning the delimitation of the maritime boundary between Mauritius and Maldives in the Indian Ocean today delivered its Judgment on the Preliminary Objections raised by the Maldives on 18 December 2019.

UN court rejects UK claim to Chagos Islands in favour of Mauritius. Patrick Wintour.

The Guardian. 28 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/28/un-court-rejects-uk-claim-to-chagos-islands-in-favour-of-mauritius>

The UK has been urged to end its “unlawful occupation” of the Chagos Islands by the prime minister of Mauritius, after Britain’s claim to sovereignty over the strategically important islands in the Indian Ocean was comprehensively rejected by the United Nation’s special international maritime court in Hamburg.

Regional, international pressure mounts on Venezuela to release Guyanese fishing boats, crew. Denis Chabrol. *Demerara Waves (Guyana)*. 28 January 2021. Available from:

<https://demerarawaves.com/2021/01/28/regional-international-pressure-mounts-on-venezuela-to-release-guyanese-fishing-boats-crew/>

Venezuela is coming under mounting international pressure to release two Guyanese fishing vessels and 11 crew members that were intercepted by the Venezuelan Navy in Atlantic waters that both neighbouring South American nations claim as theirs.

Greek shipowner linked to Venezuelan oil cargo transfer off Malaysia. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd’s List*. 28 January 2021. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135588/Greek-shipowner-linked-to-Venezuelan-oil-cargo-transfer-off-Malaysia>

A tanker owned by Greek shipowner Andreas Hadjiyiannis was tracked alongside a tanker laden with sanctioned Venezuelan crude off Malaysia that loaded oil from the South American country last month, according to Lloyd’s List Intelligence data.

Liberian oil tanker steals Palauan vessel’s identity. Adam Somers. *Island Times (Palau)*.

29 January 2021. Available from: <https://islandtimes.org/liberian-oil-tanker-steals-palauan-vessels-identity/>

A crude oil tanker which loaded oil in Venezuela last month, in defiance of US sanctions, was flagged as a tanker from Palau– one which was scrapped two years ago.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY

Building a future with autonomous shipping. Alexander Pinskiy. *Splash 247.com*.

7 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/building-a-future-with-autonomous-shipping/>

Alexander Pinskiy, head of industry association MARINET, explains the long-term vision of the a-Navigation (autonomous navigation) project, its use in 2021, and ways in which the IMO can implement autonomous navigation on a global scale.

False economy: Remote-controlled autonomous ships? [Offshore Accounts]. *Baird Maritime*.

7 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bairdmaritime.com/work-boat-world/offshore-world/column-false-economy-remote-controlled-autonomous-ships-offshore-accounts/>

The news that the bulk carrier *Wakashio* grounded off Mauritius and broke in two in August last year because the crew were navigating dangerously close to the shore in order to – wait for it – be able to pick up a mobile phone signal, is probably the biggest argument in favour of autonomous ships.

RMI: Guidance on remote surveys for EU IHM. *Safety 4 Sea*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/rmi-guidance-on-remote-surveys-for-eu-ihm/> The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator issued a Technical Circular conveying its exceptional agreement for remote surveys/sampling to be conducted onboard RMI-flagged vessels with respect to the Inventory of Hazardous Materials (IHM) required under EU Regulation 1257/2013, when, due to COVID-19 restrictions, onboard attendance is not possible.

Interview: WinGD Discusses New Engine Tech to Help Tackle Methane Slip. *gCaptain*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/interview-wingd-discusses-new-tech-to-help-tackle-methane-slip/> With International Maritime Organization targeting a 50% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from ships by 2050, focus is shifting to which alternative fuels will help the industry achieve the ambitious target.

Maritime tech 2021: Optimisation still leads the agenda. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/maritime-tech-2021-optimisation-still-leads-the-agenda/> Operational optimisation is likely to be the key maritime tech trend of 2021, according to a survey carried by Splash.

Artificial Intelligence in shipping and how it works. Nic Gardner. *ShipInsight*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/artificial-intelligence-in-shipping-and-how-it-works/> Artificial intelligence, usually known as AI, is an umbrella term for computer programs that give machines “human-like” intelligence.

Remote and in-person: the future of class survey. John McDonald. *Cyprus Shipping News*. 12 January 2021. Available from: <https://cyprusshippingnews.com/2021/01/12/remote-and-in-person-the-future-of-class-survey/> The pandemic proved the business case for remote survey but surveyors will continue to play a critical role in the next industry evolution, says John McDonald, ABS Senior Vice President, Global Business Development.

DOD's Autonomous Vessel Sails Through Transit Test, Participates in Exercise Dawn Blitz. C. Todd Lopez. *US Department of Defense*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/News/Article/Article/2471165/> A Ghost Fleet Overlord unmanned surface vessel, part of a partnership between the Defense Department's Strategic Capabilities Office and the Navy, recently travelled a distance of more than 4,700 nautical miles, almost entirely autonomously.

This underwater robot cleans ships to cut emissions and protect marine ecosystems. Douglas Broom. *World Economic Forum*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/01/biofouling-ship-cleaning-robot/> The build-up of marine plants and animals on ship hulls is an age-old problem.

The challenge of integrating automation on ships. Adele Berti. *ShipTechnology*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/ships-automation/> For shipowners increasingly looking into the potential of automation in shipping, integrating new solutions with existing vessel hardware can be a struggle.

Tankers make a rush for scrubbers. Michael Grinter. *Hong Kong Maritime Hub*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <http://www.hongkongmaritimehub.com/tankers-make-a-rush-for-scrubbers/> Very large crude tankers lead the way when it comes to adopting marine scrubber technology.

MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING

MAAP adopts Kongsberg simulators and systems for training in Philippines. *ShipInsight*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/maap-adopts-kongsberg-simulators-and-systems-for-training-in-philippines/> Kongsberg Digital has announced that the Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific has adopted its new K-Sim eLearning solution, as well as commissioning installation of a cutting-edge K-Sim Safety firefighting simulator at its premises in the Philippines.

Seamen duped into oil and gas training course. *Guyana Times*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://guyanatimesgy.com/seamen-duped-into-oil-and-gas-training-course/> Several seamen, who were hoping to get employment in the oil sector are claiming that they were duped into doing an oil and gas training and have now been told that the certificate they received is fake.

Shipmanagement 2021: Covid and the lost generation of quality crew. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/shipmanagement-2021-covid-and-the-lost-generation-of-quality-crew/> In the first of a two-part preview of shipmanagement priorities in 2021, the world's top shipmanagers discuss crew welfare and the recruitment fallout from the pandemic.

MARINA lifts maritime training institute accreditation ban. Betheena Unite. *Manila Bulletin*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/01/08/marina-lifts-maritime-training-institute-accreditation-ban/> Maritime training institutions and assessment centers can now apply for accreditation after the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) lifted the temporary prohibition on the acceptance of applications issued in 2018.

From deck to bridge - training the next generation of seafarers. Tim Howse. *Gard*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/31003685/from-deck-to-bridge-training-the-next-generation-of-seafarers> If all goes well the 25-year old will graduate before the end of the year, becoming a fully licenced Merchant Navy Deck Officer.

National Maritime Institute setting up the country's first simulator complex. *Business Standard (Bangladesh)*. 9 January 2021. Available from: <https://tbsnews.net/bangladesh/national-maritime-institute-setting-countrys-first-simulator-complex-183040> The National Maritime Institute of Chattogram is setting up a first-of-its-kind simulator complex in the country for world-class cadet training in ship management.

Witherbys connects seafarers with launch of online marine library. *Ship Management International*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipmanagementinternational.com/witherbys-connects-seafarers-with-launch-of-online-marine-library/> Maritime publishers Witherbys has put cyber security, flexible access and increased data at the heart of its new ereader software, Witherby Connect, launched today to allow seafarers to access the latest information and guidance instantly and easily.

New Caribbean centre for oceanography, blue economy welcomed. *The Commonwealth*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://thecommonwealth.org/media/news/new-caribbean-centre-oceanography-blue-economy-welcomed> The Commonwealth Secretary-General has welcomed plans to establish a new Centre of Excellence in Oceanography and the Blue Economy at the University of West Indies Five Islands Campus in Antigua and Barbuda.

Oceanography & Blue Economy Centre to be created at UWI Five Islands.

Loop News (*St. Lucia*). 20 January 2021. Available from: <http://www.loopslu.com/content-oceanography-blue-economy-centre-be-created-uwi-five-islands-4> The Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne, the Vice-Chancellor of The University of the West Indies, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles and the Chair of the Association of Commonwealth Universities, Professor Sir Ed Byrne signed a Memorandum of Understanding yesterday to formalise their collaboration in support of a Centre for Excellence for Oceanography and the Blue Economy at The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus.

How will seafarers fare once automated ships take over? Scientists predict the future.

Sohyun Jo. *EurekAlert!* 25 January 2021. Available from: https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2021-01/nkma-hws012521.php Artificial intelligence and automation are changing the world, one industry at a time!

New maritime cybersecurity centre to fight pirates -- and not the swashbuckling kind.

Jean-Benoit Legault. *CTV News (Canada)*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/new-maritime-cybersecurity-centre-to-fight-pirates-and-not-the-swashbuckling-kind-1.5285656> A new research centre created at Montreal's Polytechnique University will aim to protect ships from pirates -- and they're not talking about Blackbeard or Captain Kidd.

Maritime decarbonisation must start at maritime academies. David Hume. *Splash 247.com*.

29 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/maritime-decarbonisation-must-start-at-maritime-academies/> Maritime decarbonisation won't happen without adoption of low-carbon energy technologies.

MARITIME SAFETY

New guidance document for cargo and cargo hold ventilation. DNV GL. 13 January 2021.


Available from: <https://www.dnvgl.com/expert-story/maritime-impact/New-guidance-document-for-cargo-and-cargo-hold-ventilation.html> A number of factors can compromise the cargo integrity during normal transit.

Article: Container stack collapses – causes and solutions. *Standard Club*. 18 January 2021.

Available from: <https://bit.ly/3dEBzFM> In 2019 the international liner shipping industry transported 226 million containers around the world with a cargo value of more than US\$4tn. [Master's Guides](#)

MARITIME SECURITY

Maritime Cyber Security: Information is the key and the vulnerable asset. *Global Maritime Consultants Group (GMCG)*. December 2020. Available from:

<https://gmcg.global/uploads/blogs/marine-cyber-security.pdf>  Time moves on and from 1 January 2021 there is a new IMO Code to help combat cyber-crime in the maritime world.

Cybersecurity Remains a Maritime Threat in 2021 as New IMO Code Comes Into Force.

Kylie Bielby. *Homeland Security Today*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.hstoday.us/industry/cybersecurity-remains-a-maritime-threat-in-2021-as-new-imo-code-comes-into-force/> A new report warns of increasing cybersecurity threats to the maritime industry.

Cyprus shipping calls for more naval assets to tackle Gulf of Guinea piracy. Masis der Parthogh. *Financial Mirror* (Cyprus). 29 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.financialmirror.com/2020/12/29/cyprus-shipping-calls-for-more-naval-assets-to-tackle-gulf-of-guinea-piracy/> The Cyprus Shipping Chamber, the umbrella organisation representing the majority of locally-based companies in the maritime sector, wants the international community to engage more actively to combat piracy off the Gulf of Guinea.

Operation ATALANTA's new mandate enters into force on 1st of January 2021. EU NAVFOR Somalia. 30 December 2020. Available from: <https://eunavfor.eu/operation-atalantas-new-mandate-enters-into-force-on-1st-of-january-2021-new-tasks-will-reinforce-the-eu-navfors-counter-piracy-core-responsibilities/> On 01.01.2021, Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/2188 will enter into force, which will extend the mandate of the European Union Naval Force Somalia Operation Atalanta for another two years, until 31 December 2022.

Iraq defuses mine attached to Iraqi oil tanker. Reuters. 2 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3umkqiH> A mine that was attached to the hull of an Iraqi oil tanker was defused two days after it was discovered, Iraq's military said in a statement on Saturday.

Ships urged caution after Iran seizes South Korean tanker. Declan Bush. *Lloyd's List*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135278> Iran's Revolutionary Guards seized the chemical and oil tanker Hankuk Chemi over alleged 'oil pollution' in the Middle East Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz.

South Korean forces arrive in waters near strait of Hormuz amid Iran tensions. Justin McCurry. *The Guardian*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/05/south-korean-forces-arrive-in-waters-near-strait-of-hormuz-amid-iran-tensions> South Korean forces have arrived in waters near the strait of Hormuz as pressure builds on Iran to free a South Korean tanker it seized along with its crew on Monday.

Industry update following incident in the Persian Gulf. BIMCO, ICS, INTERTANKO, INTERCARGO and OCIMF. 6 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.ocimf.org/media/174152/industry-update-following-security-incident-in-the-persian-gulf-jan-2021.pdf> A Tanker conducting STS Operations in International waters in the Persian Gulf reported a limpet mine attached to the hull of the vessel.

Maritime security recommendations for operations in the Persian Gulf. Gard. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/30998194/maritime-security-recommendations-for-operations-in-the-persian-gulf> On 5 January 2021, the Round Table of Industry Associations and OCIMF jointly published a set of recommended risk mitigating measures for vessels operating in the Persian (Arabian) Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Aden and Red Sea.

Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, Arabian Sea, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, and Indian Ocean-Threats to Commercial Vessels by Iran and its Proxies. US Maritime Administration (MARAD). 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://maritime.dot.gov/msci/2021-001-persian-gulf-strait-hormuz-gulf-oman-arabian-sea-red-sea-gulf-aden-and-indian-ocean> The U.S. government is continually assessing the maritime security situation in the region to safeguard freedom of navigation; ensure the free flow of commerce; and protect U.S. vessels, personnel, and interests.

Maritime Information Cooperation and Awareness Center (MICA Centre) 2020 annual report on worldwide maritime piracy and robbery. Government of France. 11 January 2021. Available from: https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/salle-de-presse/communiqués/press-release_mica-center-s-2020-annual-report-on-worldwide-maritime-piracy-and-robbery This annual report synthesizes the reports which are regularly transmitted to the maritime industry actors; its goal is to provide an analysis of the trends observed and to describe the evolution of the operating modes. [MICA Centre 2020 Annual Report](#)

Denmark assumes responsibility of European naval effort in Strait of Hormuz. Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12684990.ece> For the next six months, Denmark will have the overall responsibility for the joint European naval effort in the Strait of Hormuz, which aims to protect international shipping in the troubled region.

Ship insurers primed to raise rates after Red Sea attacks. Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3umnlil> Insurers are set to raise the cost of providing cover for merchant ships through the Red Sea after a series of incidents that have hit vessels around Saudi Arabian waters, industry sources said.

Proactive vs. reactive cyber security strategies in maritime. Tim Percival. *Lloyd's Register*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/insights/articles/proactive-vs-reactive-cyber-security-strategies-in-maritime/> 2020 has put maritime organisations in the firing line for cyber-attacks, and they can no longer afford to bury their head in the sand.

US blacklisting of Yemeni rebels risks maritime safety. Declan Bush. *Lloyd's List*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135403/US-blacklisting-of-Yemeni-rebels-risks-maritime-safety> The Donald Trump administration's designation of the Houthi rebels as a 'terror group' will worsen the Yemen crisis and make Joe Biden's job fixing it harder, maritime security sources say.

Maersk calls for increased military protection in piracy-plagued Gulf of Guinea. Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12690908.ece> Maersk now calls on authorities to launch an "effective military capacity" in the Gulf of Guinea to increase safety for vessels and crews, Maersk's head of safety tells ShippingWatch on the heels of two piracy attacks on Maersk vessels in less than a month.

US Navy chief: Gulf maritime region secure despite tensions with Iran. Mina Aldroubi. *The National (United Arab Emirates)*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/gcc/us-navy-chief-gulf-maritime-region-secure-despite-tensions-with-iran-1.1146609> The US Navy's operations chief said on Thursday that the Gulf maritime region is stable despite threats and malign activities amid rising tensions with Iran.

Iran fires long-range missiles into Indian Ocean in military drill - media. *Reuters*. 16 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3dzWTMy> Iran's Revolutionary Guards on Saturday fired long-range ballistic missiles into the Indian Ocean on the second day of a military exercise, state media reported.

Major shipping nations disagree on military solution in Gulf of Guinea. Dag Holmstad and Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12695802.ece> The two large shipping nations Norway and Denmark disagree about whether to initiate military action in the Gulf of Guinea.

Bimco welcomes Danish move on navy in Gulf of Guinea. *BIMCO*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20210118-bimco-welcomes-danish-move-on-navy-in-gulf-of-guinea> BIMCO welcomes the appointment of a Danish Special Representative for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea, Ambassador Jens-Otto Horslund.

Drugs found on Hapag-Lloyd boxship boarded by 'pirates'. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/drugs-found-on-hapag-lloyd-boxship-boarded-by-pirates/2-1-946137> Packages of cocaine have been discovered on a Hapag-Lloyd containership that was boarded by five men off Colombia.

Frontex to expand cooperation with Operation IRINI. *FRONTEX European Border and Coast Guard Agency.* 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://frontex.europa.eu/media-centre/news/news-release/frontex-to-expand-cooperation-with-operation-irini-lyCjyo> Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and Operation EUNAVFOR MED IRINI have agreed last Friday to expand their cooperation to address challenges and threats to EU security in the Central Mediterranean region.

Denmark at the forefront of raising security in the Gulf of Guinea. *Danish Shipping.* 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.danishshipping.dk/en/press/news/denmark-at-the-forefront-of-raising-security-in-the-gulf-of-guinea> With the appointment of a new special representative for maritime security, the government is demonstrating that Denmark is taking the lead in securing the right to free navigation.

Does Somali Piracy Hold Security Lessons for the Gulf of Guinea? Brian Gicheru Kinyua. *Maritime Executive.* 22 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/does-somali-piracy-hold-security-lessons-for-the-gulf-of-guinea> The subject of maritime security has gained prominence since the turn of this millennium as piracy and armed robbery at sea intensified.

Ship attacked off Nigeria not Turkish-owned: Company. Sena Guler. *Anadolu Agency (Turkey).* 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/ship-attacked-off-nigeria-not-turkish-owned-company/2122106> Though almost all of its kidnapped crew were Turkish nationals, the cargo ship that was attacked off Nigeria over the weekend is not Turkish-owned or registered in Turkey, said a Turkish marine company executive on Monday.

Gulf of Guinea: Council conclusions launching the pilot case for the Coordinated Maritime Presences concept. *Council of Europe.* 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/01/25/gulf-of-guinea-council-conclusions-launching-the-pilot-case-for-the-coordinated-maritime-presences-concept/> The Council today approved conclusions launching the first pilot case of the Coordinated Maritime Presences (CMP) concept in the Gulf of Guinea.

The EU launches its Coordinated Maritime Presences concept in the Gulf of Guinea. *European External Action Service (EEAS).* 25 January 2021. Available from: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/91970/eu-launches-its-coordinated-maritime-presences-concept-gulf-guinea_en The new tool is a light and flexible instrument that allows EU Member States present in areas of maritime interest to share awareness, analysis and information. [EU Maritime Security Factsheet: The Gulf of Guinea](#)

Navy unveils new maritime security flotilla, with armed ships that can go alongside vessels quickly. Aqil Haziq Mahmud. *Channel News Asia.* 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/navy-ship-maritime-security-flotilla-rsn-14043806> The Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) on Tuesday (Jan 26) inaugurated its new Maritime and Security Response Flotilla (MSRF), aimed at boosting Singapore's maritime security capabilities.

Singapore navy reacts swiftly as three ships boarded by robbers off Indonesia. Gary Dixon and Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds.* 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/singapore-navy-reacts-swiftly-as-three-ships-boarded-by-robbers-off-indonesia/2-1-953628> Piracy reporting bodies have said three attempted robberies involving a bulk carrier and a general cargo ship off Indonesia have failed.

MIGRANTS

97 migrants rescued in Maltese search and rescue area, seeking port of safety in Europe – NGO. Albert Galea. *Independent (Malta)*. 2 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.independent.com.mt/articles/2021-01-02/local-news/97-migrants-rescued-in-Maltese-search-and-rescue-area-seeking-port-of-safety-in-Europe-NGO-6736229856> 97 migrants were rescued in the Maltese search and rescue area and are now seeking a port of safety in Europe, the NGO Alarm Phone said on Saturday.

Open Arms brings over 250 migrants to Sicily after 2nd rescue. *InfoMigrants*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/29421/open-arms-brings-over-250-migrants-to-sicily-after-2nd-rescue> After rescuing 265 migrants in two operations in the Mediterranean Sea within three days, Italy has allowed the Spanish flagged rescue ship Open Arms to bring its passengers to the Italian island of Sicily.

Migrant crisis: Record year sees quadruple number of people make ‘dangerous’ journey to UK on dinghies and kayaks. Sabah Choudhry. *Sky News*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.sky.com/story/migrant-crisis-record-year-sees-quadruple-number-of-people-make-dangerous-journey-to-uk-on-dinghies-and-kayaks-12179159> More than 8,400 migrants and refugees travelled on small, sometimes makeshift boats to reach Britain’s shores in 2020.

Migrant boat turned away, given supplies. Gina Agapiou. *Cyprus Mail*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://cyprus-mail.com/2021/01/08/migrant-boat-turned-away-given-supplies/> Police said on Friday that a boat with migrants was refused landing while 19 other Syrian refugees were picked up in Peristerona later in the day.

2021: Migrants continue to cross Channel in hope of reaching UK. *InfoMigrants*. 12 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/29579/2021-migrants-continue-to-cross-channel-in-hope-of-reaching-uk> Over the weekend, more than 150 migrants arrived in the UK after attempting to cross the Channel between mainland Europe and Britain.

Greek coastguard recovers one dead, rescues 27 on Lesbos island. *Reuters*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3brYEJg> Greek coastguard officials recovered the body of one man and rescued 27 people from a rocky beach on the island of Lesbos after they apparently arrived by boat from Turkey, authorities said on Tuesday.

IOM, UNHCR: Shipwreck off Libya Claims over 40 Lives. *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.iom.int/news/iom-unhcr-shipwreck-libya-claims-over-40-lives> The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency are deeply saddened by a tragic shipwreck off the Libyan coast yesterday (19/01), the first of 2021 in the Central Mediterranean, which claimed the lives of at least 43 people.

Italy failed to rescue over 200 migrants in 2013 Mediterranean disaster, UN rights body finds. *UN News*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1083082> In a decision published on Wednesday, the Human Rights Committee – an independent expert body that monitors States’ compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights – said that Italy failed to respond promptly to various distress calls from the sinking boat, which was carrying more than 400 adults and children.

Italy failed to rescue more than 200 migrants, UN Committee finds. *United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=26691&LangID=E> Italy failed to protect the right to life of more than 200 migrants who were on board a vessel that sank in the Mediterranean Sea in 2013, the UN Human Rights Committee has found.

NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

How to speed up weather routing. Henry Chen. *Splash 247.com*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/how-to-speed-up-weather-routing/> Recent heavy weather related accidents involving the loss of thousands of containers overboard and ships sinking have created far reaching environmental damage.

New funding for innovative space tech to help solve problems on Earth. *UK Government*. 6 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funding-for-innovative-space-tech-to-help-solve-problems-on-earth> Space tech to make buildings more efficient, reduce ship carbon emissions and help preserve historical sites are among new projects receiving government funding.

UK space agency to fund satellite tracking of ships' emissions. *Ship & Bunker*. 9 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/emea/881580-uk-space-agency-to-fund-satellite-tracking-of-ships-emissions> The UK Space Agency is set to fund a project seeking to track ships' emissions using satellite imagery.

A Bridge Across Two Oceans: The Arctic Challenge to Panama Canal Shipping. Adrian Piecyk. *Arctic Institute*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thearcticinstitute.org/bridge-across-two-oceans-arctic-challenge-panama-canal-shipping/?cn-reloaded=1> Panamax vessels, like the container ship pictured here, were built to the absolute limit of the Panama Canal's dimensions.

Why the Strait of Hormuz Is a Global Oil Flashpoint. Verity Ratcliffe, Julian Lee and Javier Blas. *Bloomberg*. 10 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bloombergquint.com/quicktakes/why-the-strait-of-hormuz-is-a-global-oil-flashpoint-quicktake> The Strait of Hormuz, a narrow waterway at the mouth of the Persian Gulf, is rarely far from the center of global tensions.

Coast guard's new marine watch desk reports sightings in real time to protect B.C. orcas. *CTV News (Canada)*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://vancouverisland.ctvnews/coast-guard-s-new-marine-watch-desk-reports-sightings-in-real-time-to-protect-b-c-orcas-1.5267283> The Canadian Coast Guard will report whale sightings in real time from a new marine mammal desk established to protect endangered southern resident killer whales and other cetaceans in British Columbia waters.

Sovcomflot expands Northern Sea Route transit season as LNG carrier completes Arctic leg. Lucy Hine. *TradeWinds*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/gas/sovcomflot-expands-northern-sea-route-transit-season-as-lng-carrier-completes-arctic-leg/2-1-946596> A Sovcomflot (SCF Group)-owned Arc7 LNG carrier has completed an eastbound laden transit of part of the Northern Sea Route (NSR) in January.

A New Dawn for Arctic Shipping – Winter Transits on the Northern Sea Route. Malte Humpert. *High North News (Norway)*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.highnorthnews.com/en/new-dawn-arctic-shipping-winter-transits-northern-sea-route> For almost a hundred years the Northern Sea Route has served as an official shipping lane along Russia's Arctic coastline.

Egypt, Qatar resume maritime navigation. *Egypt Today*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.egypttoday.com/Article/1/96852/Egypt-Qatar-resume-maritime-navigation> Egypt announced on Monday the resumption of maritime navigation between Cairo and Doha, in light of the mutual obligations that resulted from the Al-Ula Gulf Declaration during the 41st Gulf Cooperation Council summit in Saudi Arabia.

PIRACY

Pirates release four seafarers kidnapped from *Marinakis* tanker. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/pirates-release-four-seafarers-kidnapped-from-marinakis-tanker/2-1-940906> All four crew members kidnapped from a Greek product tanker off Ghana have been released on Thursday after more than a month as hostages.

Norwegian shipowners want Nigeria to resolve piracy issues in the Gulf of Guinea. Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12675855.ece> Norway and Denmark are on the same page, says the Norwegian Shipowners' Association, in terms resolving the growing issues of pirate attacks and kidnappings of ships and seafarers in the Gulf of Guinea.

Gulf of Guinea records highest ever number of crew kidnapped in 2020, according to IMB's annual piracy report. ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB). 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.icc-ccs.org/index.php/1301> The International Chamber of Commerce's International Maritime Bureau (IMB)'s annual piracy report recorded an increase of piracy and armed robbery incidents in 2020.

Maersk boxship crew thwarts two pirate attacks off Nigeria. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/maersk-box-crew-thwarts-two-pirate-attacks-off-nigeria/2-1-944439> The 4,496-teu Maersk Cardiff (built 2013) was approached by a small craft on Wednesday evening, 150 nautical miles (278 km) south-west of Bonny, according to security consultancy Dryad Global.

Asia piracy incidents hit 5-year high in 2020, shipping insurance rates firm. Sameer C. Mohindru. *S&P Global Platts*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2MemGij> Sea robbery and piracy related incidents across Asia increased 17% year on year to just under 100 in 2020, amid consistent threat of possible attacks by the Abu Sayyaf Group, or ASG, prompting warnings for enhanced vigilance, an international watchdog monitoring the trend said over the weekend Jan 16-17.

Maersk Demands Military Action with Rising Pirates' Attacks in W'Africa. Emmanuel Addeh. *This Day (Nigeria)*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2021/01/19/maersk-demands-military-action-with-rising-pirates-attacks-in-wafrica/> Maersk, the world's biggest shipping company has demanded a more effective military response to surging pirate attacks and record kidnappings off the coast of West Africa.

Kidnaping in Gulf of Guinea highest in history. Sulaimon Salau and Adaku Onyenucheya. *Guardian (Nigeria)*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://guardian.ng/business-services/maritime/kidnaping-in-gulf-guinea> The latest report by the International Chamber of Commerce's International Maritime Bureau (IMB) has shown that piracy in the Gulf of Guinea recorded the highest number of crew kidnapped in 2020.

Maersk exec: "We have seafarers that are afraid of pirates – that shouldn't be the case in 2021". Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*. 21 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12705869.ece> Maersk, the world's biggest container shipping company, has gone on the offensive to restore safety and security for merchant vessels in the Gulf of Guinea off the African west coast.

Turkey launches diplomatic effort for kidnapped crew. Nazli Yuzbasioglu, Fatma Esma Arslan and Kaan Bozdogan. *Anadolu Agency (Turkey)*. 24 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/turkey-launches-diplomatic-effort-for-kidnapped-crew/2120763> Turkey launched diplomatic efforts to find crew members that were kidnapped after a pirate attack on a Turkish cargo ship off Nigeria, according to diplomatic sources.

After pirate attack, ship with Turkish crew at port in Gabon. Fatma Esma Arslan. *Anadolu Agency (Turkey)*. 24 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/after-pirate-attack-ship-with-turkish-crew-at-port-in-gabon/2121056> A cargo ship with a largely Turkish crew that was attacked off Nigeria on Saturday is now anchored off neighbouring Gabon, and the body of a slain Azerbaijani sailor is due to be brought to shore, according to Turkish officials.

Seafarer shot dead and 15 seized as pirates storm Borealis boxship citadel. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 24 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/seafarer-shot-dead-and-15-seized-as-pirates-storm-borealis-boxship-citadel/2-1-950250> One seafarer has been killed and 15 more kidnapped in an “exceptional” pirate attack in the Gulf of Guinea.

Crew in the crosshairs: Piracy, kidnappings, stranded by COVID. Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/crew-in-crosshairs-piracy-kidnappings-stranded-by-covid>; Seafaring ranks as one of the toughest, most emotionally taxing jobs in global transportation.

Liberian Government Strongly Condemns Piracy Attacks in the Gulf of Guinea. *Front Page Africa (Liberia)*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://frontpageafricaonline.com/news/liberian-government-strongly-condemns-piracy-attacks-of-guinea/> The Liberian Government, through the Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA), has strongly condemned the growing scourge of piracy and kidnapping in the Gulf of Guinea.

Explainer: Why are pirates attacking ships in the Gulf of Guinea? Libby George. *Reuters*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2NPuirl> Pirates are stepping up attacks on ships in West Africa’s Gulf of Guinea, defying regional navies.

Attacks at sea aren’t all linked to piracy. Why it’s important to unpick what’s what. Dirk Siebels. *The Conversation*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/attacks-at-sea-arent-all-linked-to-piracy-why-its-important-to-unpick-whats-what-153591> Pirate attacks against merchant ships off the African coast have been reported regularly over the past decade.

Business Daily - Kidnap in the Gulf of Guinea. *BBC World Service*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3csz8nx> ☎ Is there a new piracy crisis afflicting Africa’s shipping lanes?

Seafarer killed in horrific piracy attack: governments urged to act, or risk more deaths. *International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF)*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/seafarer-killed-in-horrific-piracy-attack-governments-urged-act-or-risk-more-deaths> Pirates in the Gulf of Guinea killed a seafarer and took another 15 seafarers hostage in an attack on Saturday.

All 15 crew members of ship attacked off Nigeria ‘in good health’. Tolga Yanik. *Anadolu Agency (Turkey)*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/all-15-crew-members-of-ship-attacked-off-nigeria-in-good-health> All 15 crew members of Liberian-flagged ship, Mozart, which remains anchored at Port-Gentil, Gabon, are together, in good health and uninjured, according to the ship’s Turkish technical operating company on Thursday.

PORT STATE CONTROL

Sri Lanka's offshore crew transit hub gains traction. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 31 December 2020. Available from: <https://splash247.com/sri-lankas-offshore-crew-transit-hub-gains-traction/> A public-private partnership that has been approved by the Sri Lanka government to carry out crew changes through an offshore crew transit hub (OCTH) positioned off the Port of Galle.

Philippines bans foreign seafarers from 21 countries to halt new virus strains. Paul Berrill. *TradeWinds*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3uo7S1C> The Philippines has temporarily banned entry to foreign seafarers from 21 countries in its efforts to stop the spread of new strains of coronavirus.

Philippines in temporary crew change ban on vessels arriving from 20 countries. Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2NSs9LS> The Philippines has suspended crew change for vessels coming from 20 countries until 15 January 2021 in bid to stop the new strain of Covid-19 from entering the country.

Paris MOU bans two ships for a year after repeated detentions. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/paris-mou-bans-two-ships-for-a-year-after-repeated-detentions/2-1-939025> Cargo vessel and livestock carrier barred following previous exclusion orders.

No way home for thousands of Filipino seafarers as home country shuts the door. Michael Grinter. *Hong Kong Maritime Hub*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <http://www.hongkongmaritimehub.com/no-way-home-for-thousands-of-filipino-seafarers-as-home-country-shuts-the-door/> Just as seafarers, marooned on vessels for months beyond their contract, thought it couldn't get any worse the Philippines, home to the largest contingent of marine crew in the world, has locked them out for the foreseeable future.

71 dry bulkers remain idle off the coast of China with no prospect of offloading. Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Bulk/article12673125.ece> The conflict between China and Australia, which prevents dry bulkers from offloading their Australian coal cargoes in China, continues unabated with no solution in sight.

Crew-change restrictions tighten around world as new coronavirus strains spread. Paul Berrill. *TradeWinds*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/crew-change-restrictions-tighten-around-world-as-new-coronavirus-strains-spread/2-1-939826> Several countries have adopted stricter crew-change restrictions in the first week of 2021, although none have yet gone as far as the Philippines' ban on seafarers from 21 nations.

Response to media queries: COVID-19 cases connected to NewOcean 6 Bunker Tanker. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA). 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/7941f421-36b0-4931-ab04-e4e274945fcc> As of 5 January 2021, there are nine identified COVID-19 cases connected to a bunker tanker *NewOcean 6* operated by Palmstone Tankers & Trdg Pte Ltd in the Port of Singapore.

AMSA bans *Barkly Pearl* from Australian waters for 24 months. Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/news-community/news-and-media-releases/amsa-bans-barkly-pearl-in-australian-waters-24-months> The Australian Maritime Safety Authority has issued its most severe banning to date to the master and operator of the Marshall Islands flagged livestock carrier, *Barkly Pearl* last night.

Great Eastern bulker set to leave after seven months stuck off China. Dale Wainwright. *TradeWinds*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/bulkers/great-eastern-bulker-set-to-leave-after-seven-months-stuck-off-china/2-1-941908> Indian shipowner says top priority is to help its crew members reach home.

33 countries barred from crew change hubs. Raymond Carl Dela Cruz. *Philippine News Agency (PNA)*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1127275> The Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) on Wednesday announced that five more countries have been added to the list of countries barred from conducting crew change activities in any Philippine port, bringing the total barred countries to 33.

Mutant virus makes resolving crew change crisis more difficult. Nidaa Bakhsh. *Lloyd's List*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135382> A group of international investors have written to the UN calling for a solution to the crew change crisis as the situation, exacerbated by a new strain of the coronavirus, poses health and safety risks.

Charterers under pressure to resolve Chinese coal carrier impasse. Jason Jiang. *Splash 247.com*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/charterers-under-pressure-to-resolve-chinese-coal-carrier-impasse/> Charterers are coming under pressure to resolve the dry bulk standoff on China's coastline that has stranded more than 1,100 seafarers.

OSM Maritime on new corona restrictions: We are close to the situation seen in the spring. Søren Pico and Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Bulk/article12689243.ece> Coronavirus restrictions are tightening across the world, and the situation is close to where it was in the spring last year, says ship management major OSM Maritime.

Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during December 2020. *UK Government*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-flagged-ships-detained-in-the-during-december-2020> The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) announced today that six foreign flagged ships remained under detention in UK ports during December 2020 after failing port state control (PSC) inspection.

Crew change crisis could revert to peak levels on Covid-19 mutation travel curbs. Marcus Hand. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3pHJDlj> With the mutation of the Covid-19 virus and a new wave of travel restrictions crewing specialist Danica warns that the height of the crew change crisis in spring 2020 could be repeated.

Crew change for cargo ships in the Port of Singapore. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notice/detail/ae1134-c5a0-4743-b3de-dcca4960745f> MPA will continue to consider the following circumstances for crew change applications...

DOTr temporarily bans crew change for non-Pinoy seafarers. Genivi Factao. *Manila Times*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/01/20/business/maritime-business/dotr-temporarily-bans-crew-change-for-non-pinoy-seafarers/829770/> The Department of Transportation (DOTr) extended the ban on all disembarking foreign nationals at any of the country's crew change hubs to prevent the entry of the new coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) variants through the ports.

Dozens of Bulklers Remain Stranded off China as Coal Standoff Drags On. *Maritime Executive*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/dozens-of-bulkers-remain-stranded-off-china-as-coal-standoff-drags-on> At this point in the COVID-19 pandemic, seafarers have become all too used to bureaucratic obstacles to crew change.

The seafarer crisis - a shipping problem being passed from port to port. Dileepa Fonseka. *Stuff (New Zealand)*. 24 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/business/12395> 📰
A major maritime crisis is getting so bad some seafarers are injuring themselves just to get home.

Mark O'Neil says worsening crew-change situation could last into 2022. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/mark-oneil-says-worsening-crew-change-situation-could-last-into-2022/2-1-950083>
The crew changeover situation is deteriorating again as Covid-19 lockdowns increase - and it could remain a problem for shipping into 2022.

PORTS & HARBOURS

Boxships waiting at anchor for up to two weeks on US west coast. James Baker. *Lloyd's List*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135279>
Containerships that arrived on Christmas Day remain at anchor awaiting terminal berths as ports struggle with high volumes.

Port of Tyne Clean Energy Programme cuts carbon emissions by 700 tonnes in 12 months. *Port of Tyne*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2NXqvJh> Port of Tyne has completed a detailed modelling exercise and long term analysis of its electricity network, as part of its award-winning decarbonisation and clean energy strategy.

He who pays the piper calls the tune. Malcolm Latarche. *ShipInsight*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/he-who-pays-the-piper-calls-on-the-tune/> Over the last year or two, I have written a number of articles on the subject of 'Just in Time' arrivals at ports (for example this one).

Major fire at a grain storage facility in Cork port brought under control. Barry Roche. *Irish Times*. 9 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/major-fire-at-a-grain-storage-facility-in-cork-port-brought-under-control-1.4454355> 📰
No reports of any casualties arising from the blaze which was spotted at about 8.40 am.

Inside California's colossal container-ship traffic jam. Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/inside-californias-colossal-container-ship-traffic-jam> 📰 Over 30 container ships are anchored in San Pedro Bay off Los Angeles and Long Beach.

Activists Keep Watchful eye on Valleta Emissions. *Ship & Bunker*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/emea/883863-activists-keep-watchful-eye-on-valleta-emissions> Environmentalists and residents monitoring emissions at the Maltese port of Valleta have raised concerns about inefficient monitoring equipment.

Crisis? What Crisis? *Port Strategy*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.portstrategy.com/news101/world/south-america/crisis-what-crisis> Despite the COVID-19 pandemic causing economic havoc globally, container terminals in Panama are posting healthy throughput increases in transshipment.

The risk of a two-tier system of digital and non-digital countries and ports. Martin Humphreys. *Splash 247.com*. 21 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/the-risk-of-a-two-tier-system-of-digital-and-non-digital-countries-and-ports/> Martin Humphreys, the lead transport economist at the World Bank, writes exclusively for Splash today.

IAPH global ports survey on the implementation of electronic data exchange to conform with the IMO. *International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH)*. 21 January 2021. Available from: <https://sustainableworldports.org/wp-content/uploads/IAPH-FAL-Survey-Report-Jan-2021.pdf> Report outlining the progress of ports in implementing the IMO FAL mandatory requirement for national governments to enable the electronic exchange of information between ships and ports, in order to facilitate port clearance processes.

How Mtwara Port Shows its potential in Cargo Transport. Rodgers Luhwago. *Daily News (Tanzania)*. 21 January 2021. Available from: <https://dailynews.co.tz/news/2021-01-2060084d5a2ef4b.aspx> Boasting its pride of being a natural harbour Mtwara Port is the country's strategic terminal that plays a significant role in facilitating cargo transport for the southern regions of Mtwara, Lindi and Ruvuma.

How Africa's largest city is staying afloat. Ayodele Johnson. *BBC Future*. 22 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20210121-lagos-nigeria-how-africas-largest-city-is-staying-afloat> Navigating the thronging streets of Lagos, Nigeria, is a challenge at the best of times.

Congested LA and Long Beach ports battle major Covid outbreak. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/congested-la-and-long-beach-ports-battle-major-covid-outbreak/> California's main two boxports, already suffering extreme congestion (see MarineTraffic map created today below), are having to fight a severe outbreak of Covid-19 among their workforces, something that could hamper productivity further.

Tangier Med upholds position as leading container port in Mediterranean. *North Africa Post*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://northafricapost.com/47104-tangier-med-upholds-position-as-leading-container-port-in-mediterranean.html> All port activities in Tangier Med have posted sustained growth in 2020, thus allowing the port complex to uphold its position as the leading container port in the Mediterranean basin.

Massive congestion in Long Beach is the wild card in the container sector. Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article1278.ece> The large build-up of container ships off Long Beach and Los Angeles is having a ripple effect throughout the container sector, where an alliance has recently heralded cancelled sailings.

New shoreside power system reduces carbon emissions at the Port of Gothenburg. *Port of Gothenburg*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3aQn6EP> The Gothenburg Port Authority has been working for a long time to encourage ships calling at the port to connect to the shoreside power system when at berth instead of keeping their engines running.

Panama Canal Helps Save the Planet More Than 13 Million Tons of CO2 in 2020. *Panama Canal Authority*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2021/01/27/pr703.html> By offering a shorter route for ships, the Panama Canal contributed to a reduction of more than 13 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) equivalent emissions in 2020, in comparison to the most likely alternative routes.

'Things can only get better...' Ports survey reflects mood of tentative optimism for 2021. *British Ports Association*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.britishports.org.uk/news/things-can-only-get-better-ports-survey-reflects-mood-of-tentative-optimism-for-2021> The BPA has today published the results of a survey of UK ports to illuminate the issues they are facing at present and their view of the year ahead.

MPA provides response and clarification over Covid-19 measures for bunkering and surveying sectors. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/mpa-provides-response-and-clarification-over-covid-19-measures-for-bunkering-and-surveying-sectors/> The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) on Wednesday (28 January) provided its response and clarification towards the latest Covid-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019) measures introduced at Singapore port.

REGULATIONS

Heavier fines, more regulation key to meeting decarbonisation targets, say experts. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 24 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/greater-fines-more-regulation-are-key-to-meeting-decarbonisation-targets-say-experts-62454> At the Regulatory compliance to ensure your fleet sails webinar, part of Riviera's Maritime Air Pollution Asia Webinar Week, experts from flag states, industry and P&I discussed methods for achieving decarbonisation.

Regulation the key driver of future fuels, long-term decarbonisation. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 31 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/regulation-the-key-driver-of-future-fuels-long-term-decarbonisation-62488> The industry's fuel mix will have to change to meet IMO's 2050 emissions reductions goals, said WinGD general manager for global sales Carmelo Cartalemi, who added that the industry has both an upstream problem – a lack of infrastructure, availability and fuel cost, and a downstream problem – the need to upgrade technology, safety and regulation challenges regarding new fuels.

ClassNK Advises Existing Ships to Install Ballast Water Management Systems Early On (Updated in January 2021). *ClassNK*. 5 January 2021. Available from: https://www.classnk.com/hp/en/hp_news.aspx?id=5665&type=press_release&layout=1 Leading Classification Society ClassNK has been analyzing the retrofitting status of ballast water management systems (BWMS) on its registered ships periodically since 2018.

Charting the 2021 maritime regulatory landscape. Siddharth Mahajan. *Gard*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/30998197/> 2021 ushers in a new cyber era for the shipping industry with the introduction of the requirement to address cyber risks in a vessel's safety management system.

Major milestone achieved in 2020 towards shipping's decarbonisation. Kostas Gkonis. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/opinion/major-milestone-achieved-in-2020-towards-shipping-s-decarbonisation-62671> The centrestage of the latest meeting of IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee meeting (MEPC 75), which took place 16-20 November 2020, was quite rightly occupied by the measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by ships.

The IMO 2021 Cyber Guidelines and the Need to Secure Seaports. Michael C. Petta. *Maritime Executive*. 10 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/the-imo-2021-cyber-guidelines-and-the-need-to-secure-seaports> The coming of a new year often holds promise for the future.

ABS debriefs EEXI regulations. *Safety 4 Sea*. 12 January 2021. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/abs-debriefs-i-regulations/> ABS issued a white paper discussing the new EEXI regulations that were approved by the recent MEPC, further explaining the amendments to MARPOL Annex VI, Chapter 4.

Sulfur Regs Group Trident Alliance Wound Up at End of 2020. *Ship & Bunker*. 12 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/748773-sulfur-regs-group-trident-alliance-wound-up-at-end-of-2020> Emissions enforcement lobbying group the Trident Alliance was wound up at the end of the 2020, a year after the 0.50% sulfur limit came into force.

MARINA regulates ships' harmful anti-fouling paints, systems. Raymond Carl Dela Cruz. *Philippine News Agency (PNA)*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1127871> The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has issued new rules and regulations on the application of anti-fouling paints and systems in ships to prevent the use of harmful substances.

Shipping Executive: We Can't Order New Tonnage While Carbon Rules Are So Uncertain. *Ship & Bunker*. 21 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/943773-shipping-executive-we-cant-order-new-tonnage-while-carbon-rules-are-so-uncertain> A shipping executive has lifted the lid on the chronic uncertainty owners currently face over decarbonisation while pondering new additions to their fleet.

Why the MLC is failing as a regulatory response to the Covid-19 global pandemic. Carolyn Graham. *Splash 247.com*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/why-the-mlc-is-failing-as-a-regulatory-response-to-the-covid-19-global-pandemic/> In a January 13, 2021 bulletin, Transport Canada indicated that it will be enforcing the repatriation and contract duration provisions of the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC).

New regulations to safeguard welfare of Kenyan seafarers. Winnie Atieno. *Business Daily (Kenya)*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/bd/corporate/shipping-logistics/new-regulations-welfare-of-kenyan-seafarers-3269744> Maritime players have welcomed the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) directive on employment of seafarers saying it will protect locals from bogus recruitment agents.

Regulations continue to evolve, despite the pandemic. *Lloyd's Register*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/insights/articles/regulations-continue-to-evolve-despite-the-pandemic/> Long before the COVID-19 pandemic updates to the regulatory regime were already planned for 2021.

SALVAGE

Capesizes Were The Most Scrapped Ship Class During 2020. Nikos Roussanoglou. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/capesizes-were-the-most-scrapped-ship-class-during-2020/> 2020 has been a turbulent year for shipping to say the least and things weren't that different when it comes to the shipbreaking industry as well.

Second Section Cut in Golden Ray Wreck Removal. Mike Schuler. *gCaptain*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/section-second-cut-in-golden-ray-wreck-removal/> Crews finished with the second cut of the Golden Ray wreck in St. Simons Sound, Georgia on Saturday and the section now awaits lifting onto a barge for disposal, the incident command reported.

SEAFARERS

The Cruise Ship Suicides. Austin Carr. *Bloomberg*. 30 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.bloomberg.com/features/2020-cruise-ship-suicides/> Confined mostly to tiny cabins as the pandemic unfolded, crew members struggled to cope.

Australian seafarers can now seek Canadian recognition of their STCW certificates - SSB No.: 29/2020 (Ref. STCW). *Government of Canada*. 30 December 2020. Available from: <https://tc.canada.ca/en/marine-transportation/marine-safety/ship-safety-bulletins/australian-seafarers-can-now-seek-canadian-recognition-their-stcw-certificates-ssb-no-29-2020> Australian seafarers can now seek Canadian recognition of their valid STCW certificates.

Goodbye 2020, Hello 2021: Lena Dyring, Norwegian Seafarers' Union. Lena Dyring. *Safety 4 Sea*. 30 December 2020. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/cm-goodbye-2020-hello-2021-lena-dyring-norwegian-seafarers-union/> This time of the year is always a good opportunity to consider lessons learned and set new year's resolutions for a new start.

India weighs various options to evacuate sailors stranded in Chinese waters. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/india-weighs-various-options-to-evacuate-sailors-stranded-in-chinese-waters/> India said it is looking at several options to assist 39 Indian sailors stranded on two merchant vessels in Chinese waters for months, including a crew change at sea or at a Chinese port, so that the men could be brought home.

Australia fails to designate seafarers as 'key workers' in line with International Maritime Organisation resolutions. *Maritime Union of Australia*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.mua.org.au/news/australia-fails-designate-seafarers-%E2%key-workers%E2%80-line-international-maritime-organisation> In December 2020, the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) passed several resolutions specifically addressing the need for seafarers, and other marine personnel, to be designated as key workers.


Corona restrictions are unchanged and the new normal for Cpt Debie Morera and his crew. Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12666454.ece> The coronavirus has had large human and economic costs for crews and companies, and seafarers have probably suffered the most.

My vow to help the lives of seafarers. Manish Singh. *Splash 247.com*. 6 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/my-vow--help-the-lives-of-seafarers/> Manish Singh, CEO of Ocean Technologies Group, outlines his new year's resolutions to help improve the lot of seafarers, urging peers to support his initiatives.

'An unwanted prison sentence' for seafarers stuck at home and stranded at sea. *UN News*. 6 January 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1068431482> Hundreds of thousands of seafarers have been on board for many months longer than planned, stranded at sea due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Anastasia seafarer attempts suicide amidst crew change stand-off. Shirish Nadkarni. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 6 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2Nwrd07> An Indian seafarer onboard the MSC bulk carrier *Anastasia*, which has been thwarted in crew change plans since June 2020, attempted suicide in desperation over his inability to return home to his family in India.

Two Indonesians aboard S. Korean tanker seized by Iran are safe. A. Muh. Ibnu Aqil. *Jakarta Post*. 6 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2021/01/two-indonesians> The Foreign Ministry has announced that two Indonesian nationals who were working aboard a South Korean vessel when it was seized by Iranian authorities earlier this week are safe.

All at sea: the shipping crews stranded by COVID-19. Robin Pomeroy. *World Economic Forum*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/01/shipping-crews-seafarers-stranded-by-covid-wvv-podcast/> Seafarers have been stranded at sea for months due to COVID restrictions. [All at sea - the countless ship workers stranded by COVID](#) 

Indian seafarers stuck in China to return by January 14. Jagriti Chandra. *The Hindu (India)*. 9 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/indian-seafarers-stuck-in-china-set-to-return-by-jan-14/article33535865.ece> Twenty three seafarers stranded aboard Indian vessel m.v. Jag Anand off the Chinese coast for the past 10 months are likely to return to India by January 14, Minister of State for Shipping Mansukh Mandaviya tweeted on Saturday.

Sailor accused of breaching WA coronavirus quarantine by jumping ship may miss boat home. Toby Hussey. *ABC (Australia)*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-01-11/sailor-in-court-accused-of-wa-quarantine-breach-by-jumping-ship/13047910> A Vietnamese man who allegedly jumped ship in Albany and swam to shore over the weekend could be stranded in Western Australia if his ship leaves port on schedule.

All at sea: half a million seafarers stranded by the pandemic – in pictures. *The Guardian*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/gallery/2021/jan/11/all-at-sea-half-a-million-seafarers-stranded-by-the-pandemic-in-pictures> Up to 400,000 seafarers have been trapped on board cargo ships during the Covid pandemic, some for more than 18 months.

Global investors call for end to seafarers marooned at sea due to coronavirus. Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2ZCrAse> A group of leading investors on Wednesday called for an end to a crisis involving hundreds of thousands of seafarers stuck on ships for many months due to COVID-19, warning that the situation was creating bigger risks every day.

Marine Administration of the Russian Federation extends validity of seafarers' documents. *Port News*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://en.portnews.ru/news/307432/> Marine Administration of the Russian Federation extends the validity of the expired of expiring credentials till 31 March 2021, says press center of RF Ministry of Transport.

Crew changes twice as stressful for businesses since Covid-19 pandemic. *ATPI Group*. 14 January 2021. Available from: https://www.atpi.com/en/press/crew-changes-twice-as-stressful-for-businesses-since-covid-19-pandemic/?_locale=en_GB Over 90 per cent of shipping businesses are re-thinking how crew changes are managed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, according to new research carried out by specialist travel management company, ATPI Marine & Energy. [Infographic: Crew travel and changes](#)

Safeguarding Seafarers' Welfare. Eromosele Abiodun. *This Day (Nigeria)*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2021/01/15/safeguarding-seafarers-welfare/> Eromosele Abiodun writes on the commitment by the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency to ensure the safety, training and welfare of seafarers in the country.

Australian government raises fears about the 'human cost' of China coal standoff. Daniel Hurst. *The Guardian*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2021/jan/15/australian-government-raises-fears-about-the-human-cost-of-china-coal-standoff> Like other Australian ministers, Keith Pitt has been unable to secure a call with his Chinese counterpart amid ongoing tensions.

Opinion: The key sea workers who are forgotten in this pandemic. Paul Jennings. *Northern Echo (UK)*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/19016112.opinion-key-sea-workers-forgotten-pandemic/> As vaccine roll-out accelerates, the time has come to recognise the economically vital work of maritime workers and ensure they receive their vaccinations as a matter of urgency.

Ongoing investigation of Indonesian fishers abandoned and exploited in Fiji. *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 16 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/01/16/ongoing-investigation-of-indonesian-fishers-abandoned-and-exploited-in-fiji/> Humanitarian ship visitors' working with the UK charitable NGO, Human Rights at Sea, have been alerted to two exploited Indonesian crew on a Chinese owned Fijian-flagged long-liner abandoned in the Port of Suva without their wages apparently being paid for 12 months.

'Caught in a political war': First sailors set free after months stuck at sea. Eryk Bagshaw. *Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)*. 18 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.smh.com.au/world/asia/caught-in-a-political-war-first-sailors-set-free-after-months-stuck-at-sea-20210118-p56uzu.htm> 📰 Two dozen Indian sailors stranded on ships carrying Australian coal will reach land for the first time in seven months on Monday night, as scores of others remain in limbo in Chinese waters.

Indian sailors stranded for months on Chinese coast reach Japan. *Aljazeera*. 19 January 2021.

Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/1/19/indian-sailors-stranded-for-months-on-chinese-coast-reach-japan> A group of Indian sailors stranded off the Chinese coast for seven months, caught up in a trade dispute between China and Australia, have been allowed to leave for Japan, union officials said.

Indonesian Fishers fight for Safe Working Conditions and Repatriation from the Marshall Islands. *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 19 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/01/19/indonesian-fishers-fight-for-safe-working-conditions-and-repatriation-from-the-marshall-islands/> "They have been directed to sign a statement letter of deduction of salary for five months amounting to USD 100 for administrative costs of registration and departure."

New animation launched as part of Fair Treatment campaign. *Nautilus International*.

20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/new-animation-launched-as-part-of-fair-treatment-campaign/> 📰 The animation forms part of the Union's Fair Treatment campaign, which calls for seafarers to be treated fairly in all aspects of their work.

Open Letter: EU Member States must enable crew changes to take place without further delays and prioritise seafarers for vaccination. *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 21 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.ecsa.eu/news/open-letter-eu-member-states-must-enable-crew-changes-take-place-without-further-delays-and> The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented crew change crisis, impacting upon hundreds of thousands of seafarers, with some approaching two years stuck at sea.

EU Member States must enable crew changes to take place without further delays and prioritise seafarers for vaccination. *European Transport Workers' Federation*. 21 January 2021.

Available from: <https://www.etf-europe.org/eu-member-states-must-enable-crew-changes-to-take-place-without-further-delays-and-prioritise-seafarers-for-vaccination/> The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented crew change crisis, impacting upon hundreds of thousands of seafarers, with some approaching two years stuck at sea.

[Letter to Heads of State and Government of EU Member States](#) 📄

Seafarers on hunger strike, hospitalised in Kuwait. *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 22 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/seafarers-on-hunger-strike-hospitalised-in-kuwait> Indian, Turkish, Azerbaijani and Bangladeshi seafarers are in the third week of a hunger strike in the port of Shuaiba, Kuwait.

Coronavirus: Seafarers stuck at sea ‘a humanitarian crisis’. Jonathan Josephs and Mary-Ann Russon. *BBC News*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-55802514> 📰 The fate of more than 200,000 seafarers who play a crucial role in keeping global trade flowing is being labelled a “humanitarian crisis at sea”.

Top global traders work to ease seafarer crisis due to coronavirus. Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2ZDXmoR> Over 300 leading companies said on Tuesday they would work together to help hundreds of thousands of merchant sailors stuck on ships for many months due to COVID-19 in a crisis that risks creating more dangers at sea.

Latest Seafarers Happiness Index proves small steps have a big impact. *Mission to Seafarers*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/news/latest-seafarers-happiness-index-proves-small-steps-have-a-big-impact> The latest Seafarers Happiness Index report, published today by The Mission to Seafarers, reveals that small investments can make a tangible difference to the lives of seafarers. [Seafarers Happiness Index Quarter 4/2020](#) 📰

Quarantining like criminals in a prison camp: Seafarers Happiness Index. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/quarantining-like-criminals-in-a-prison-camp-seafarers-happiness-index/> The survey, undertaken with the support of the Shipowners’ Club and Wallem Group, reports on the experiences of seafarers between October and December 2020.

Exploited Indonesian Fishers to be repatriated. Vessel de-listed from MSC-Certification. *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS)*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/01/26/exploited-indonesian-fishers-to-be-repatriated-vessel-de-listed-from-msc-certification/> Following the public highlighting on 16 January by Human Rights at Sea (HRAS) of the case of two exploited Indonesian fishers of the Chinese-owned, Fijian-flagged He Shun 38 (No.00359) vessel, both crew are reported as being repatriated to Indonesia on Thursday 28th January with some wages paid.

Covid-19: Calls grow for seafarers to be given “key worker” status. Lydia O’Kane. *Vatican News*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/world/news/2021-01/covid-19-calls-grow-for-seafarers-to-be-given-key-worker-status.html> There are currently 400,000 seafarers at sea not knowing when they will be able to return home to their families.

Cyprus Shipping Deputy Ministry prioritises crew welfare and decarbonisation. *Cyprus Shipping News*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://cyprusshippingnews.com/2021/01/27/cyprus-shipping-deputy-ministry-prioritises-crew-welfare-and-decarbonisation/> The Cyprus Shipping Deputy Ministry (SDM) is a leading flag state and is well positioned to support the European and global shipping industry.

Tanker crew stranded off UAE coast tell of return to a changed world. Nick Webster. *The National (United Arab Emirates)*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/uae/transport/tanker-crew-stranded-off-uae-coast-tell-of-return-to-a-changed-world-1.1154399> The haunted look in their eyes and the ragged clothes worn by the five abandoned sailors on the oil tanker grounded in Umm Al Quwain betrayed the horrors of their four years trapped at sea.

Many Seafarers Are Stranded Aboard Ships Because Of The Coronavirus. Jackie Northam. *National Public Radio (US)*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.npr.org/2021/01/28/961470026/many-seafarers-are-stranded-aboard-ships-because-of-the-coronavirus?t=1611919434722> 📰 The COVID-19 pandemic has trapped hundreds of thousands of seafarers aboard cargo ships, unable to get off or switch crews due to fears of spreading the infection.

An anchor for stranded sailors. Kamini Mathai. *Times of India*. 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/an-anchor-for-stranded-sailors> The first SOS of the day to Manoj Joy comes from a group of four sailors from West Bengal stuck on a ship docked at the Mumbai Port.

SEARCH & RESCUE

8 Filipinos, 2 Chinese seafarers rescued in South China Sea. *Manila Times*. 25 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/12/25/news/latest-stories/8-filipinos-2-chinese-seafarers-rescued-in-south-china-sea/817284/> Ten crew members, eight of them Filipinos, have been rescued after abandoning a cargo ship that was listing to one side in the South China Sea, according to the provincial maritime search and rescue center of Hainan, China.

Search and rescue operation in Onega fishing boat's wreck area completed. TASS Russian News Agency. 30 December 2020. Available from: <https://tass.com/emergencies/12414> The *Onega* fishing boat sank on Monday due to icing in the Barents Sea near the Novaya Zemlya archipelago; only two sailors of the 19 on board were rescued.

The *Ocean Viking* is headed for the central Mediterranean after half a year of imposed blockade. *SOS Mediterranee*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://sosmediterranee.com/press/the-ocean-viking-is-headed-for-the-central-mediterranean-after-half-a-year-of-imposed-blockade/> This morning, the rescue ship *Ocean Viking* of European search and rescue association SOS MEDITERRANEE is leaving Marseille, France, headed for the central Mediterranean for the first time in six months.

All 22 crew rescued as bulk carrier sinks in the Philippine Sea. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/all-22-crew-rescued-bulk-carrier-in-the-philippine-sea/> A Taiwanese fishing vessel rescued all 22 crew from a Panama-flagged bulk carrier which sank this morning in the Philippine Sea.

At least 19 people died at sea since the beginning of the year while most humanitarian rescue ships remain hindered. *SOS Mediterranee*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://sosmediterranee.com/at-least-19-people-died-at-sea-since-the-beginning-of-the-year-while-most-humanitarian-rescue-ships-hindered/> The following publication by SOS MEDITERRANEE intends to shed light on events which unfolded in the central Mediterranean in the past two weeks.

Onboard the *Ocean Viking* for her 10th mission at sea: situation recap – 373 survivors disembarked in Augusta, Sicily. *SOS Mediterranee*. 22 January 2021. Available from: <https://sosmediterranee.com/mission-report-starting-on-january-11th-2021/> Following the release of the *Ocean Viking* from a 5-month detention by Italian authorities on December 21, the ship sailed from Augusta, Sicily, to Marseille, France, to restock and embark the SOS MEDITERRANEE teams.

34 seafarers rescued from an abandoned Korean fishing vessel damaged by fire. Richa Noriega. *Manila Bulletin*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/01/28/34-seafarers-rescued-from-an-abandoned-korean-fishing-vessel-damaged-by-fire/> The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) rescued 34 seafarers from a Korean fishing vessel that was abandoned after it was damaged by a fire inside its engine room in the waters off Pangasinan, Catanduanes on Wednesday.

SHIP RECYCLING

Demystifying Ship Recycling: Impermeable Floor at the Recycling Facilities in India. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 7 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/demystifying-ship-recycling-impermeable-floor-at-the-recycling-facilities-in-india/> End-of-life vessels are delivered to the recycling facilities located on the coast of the Alang, India.

25-year-old rule prevents permissions for shipbreaking in India. Thomas Kristiansen.

ShippingWatch. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/suppliers/article12.ece>

There are still no Indian yards on the list of approved shipbreaking facilities currently being completed by the EU.

Alang goes green. P Manoj. *Hindu BusinessLine (India)*. 10 January 2021. Available from:

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/worlds-largest-shipbreaking-stretch-alang-goes-green/article33542154.ece> Ship recycling plots in Alang, home to the world's largest stretch of shipbreaking facilities in Gujarat's Bhavnagar district, beached 196 ships in calendar year 2020 for dismantling, benefiting from the green recycling policies of global ship owners for their end-of-life ships.

Ships' Recycling Activity Start 2021 On a Positive Note. Nikos Roussanoglou. *Hellenic Shipping*

News. 12 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/ships-recycling-activity-start-2021-on-a-positive-note/> An upwards pricing trend in the demolition market, could trigger more tonnage sales towards recycling yards.

Platform publishes South Asia Quarterly. *NGO Shipbreaking Platform*. 14 January 2021.

Available from: <https://shipbreakingplatform.org/platform-publishes-south-asia-quarterly-update-24/>; In this quarterly publication, the NGO Shipbreaking Platform informs about the shipbreaking industry in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. [Update #24](#) 📄

NGO Shipbreaking: Beaching of ships in Bangladesh continues to claim lives.

Jasmina Ovcina. *Offshore Energy*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/ngo-shipbreaking-beaching-of-ships-in-bangladesh-continues-to-claim-lives/> At least five workers have lost their lives while dismantling out of service ships at shipbreaking facilities in Bangladesh in the final quarter of 2020, the latest quarterly report from the NGO Shipbreaking Platform shows.

Maersk's COVID-19 'tool kit' for 2021: higher agility and contingency plans. *MundoMaritimo*.

18 January 2021. Available from: <https://mundomaritimo.net/noticias/maersks-covid-19-tool-kit-for-2021-higher-agility-and-contingency-plans> MundoMaritimo talked in exclusive with Head of Operations for the Americas Maersk, Lars Oestergaard Nielsen.

Ships' Recycling Activity Loses Some Steam. Nikos Roussanoglou. *Hellenic Shipping News*.

20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/ships-recycling-activity-loses-some-steam/> The ships' recycling market started 2021 rather strongly.

Unemployed supertankers are about to get junked on Asia's beaches. Alex Longley and

Alaric Nightingale. *ShippingWatch*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12712666.ece> The coronavirus pandemic is paralyzing the market for VLCC supertankers, and the result is likely to be a surge in scrapping of the large vessels on the beaches in Southeast Asia.

SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR

Korean Shipbuilders Bag New Orders Worth US\$13.9 Bil. in Q4 of 2020. Jung Min-hee. *Business Korea (South Korea)*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/news/articleView.html?idxno=579> Korean shipbuilders made an impressive comeback in the fourth quarter of 2020 by bagging new orders worth US\$13.9 billion.

Ship Orders Slump 50% With Owners Unsure Which Green Fuel to Use. Elizabeth Low and Jack Wittels. *gCaptain*. 8 January 2021. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/ship-orders-slump-with-owners-unsure-which-green> Ship owners facing looming deadlines to use less-polluting fuels have slashed the number of new vessels on order because they don't know which alternative technology to switch to.

Can onboard rollercoasters save the cruise industry? Tim McDonald. *BBC News*. 10 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-55496436> It has the world's first rollercoaster at sea, a micro-brewery, restaurants from celebrity chefs and sports figures, and, in a sign of the times, a massive medical facility.

Shipyards tackle complicated conversions and vessel upgrades. Martyn Wingrove. *Offshore Support Journal*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3uvcoLL> Shipyards are being asked to convert OSVs for new ventures in aquaculture, renewables and icebreaking.

Ship repair gets the Airbnb treatment. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/ship-repair-gets-the-airbnb-treatment/> Newport Shipping has unveiled an online portal designed to ease the complexities of ship repair and retrofit works.

ABS classifies Suezmax tanker as ammonia-ready. Nana Kutin. *Argus Media*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2178359-abs-classifies-suezmax-tanker-as-ammoniaready> Maritime classification society the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) has classed a Suezmax tanker as ammonia-ready, the first ship to receive this categorisation.

World's first digital platform launched for repairs and retrofits. Paul Bartlett. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3sIEEyP> Newport Maritime Services, a wholly owned subsidiary of UK-based Newport Shipping, has launched a digital platform to streamline the ship repair and retrofit.

SHIPPING

The Neptune Declaration on Seafarer Wellbeing and Crew Change. *Global Maritime Forum*. December 2020. Available from: <https://www.globalmaritimeforum.org/content/2020/12/The-Neptune-Declaration-on-Seafarer-Wellbeing-and-Crew-Change.pdf> The Covid-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented crew change crisis which has led to hundreds of thousands of seafarers being impacted and in many instances left stranded on ships, beyond the expiry of their contracts.

Shipping Faces New Turmoil in European Emissions Trading Plan - Wall Street Journal. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 31 December 2020. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/shipping-faces-new-turmoil-in-european-emissions-trading-plan/> Cooperation in the shipping industry to cut pollution from oceangoing vessels is running aground in Europe.

Why transparency sits at the heart of shipping's future. Richard Meade. *Lloyd's List*. 31 December 2020. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL11352> The big miners, energy companies and traders are all under huge pressure to clean up their act.

ClassNK releases Guideline for Survey and Facilities/Equipment of LNG Bunkering Ships.

ClassNK. 4 January 2021. Available from: https://www.classnk.com/hp/en/hp_news.aspx? Leading Classification Society ClassNK released its Guideline for Survey and Facilities/Equipment of LNG Bunkering Ships, which outline the additional safety requirements of liquefied gas carriers that supply LNG fuel at sea.

No happy new year for shippers as rates on major tradelanes stay sky high. Mike Wackett.

The Loadstar. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://theloadstar.com/no-happy-new-year-for-shippers-as-rates-on-major-tradelanes-stay-sky-high/> The final Shanghai Containerized Freight Index (SCFI) for 2020, published on 31 December, recorded a staggering 190% gain on the year.

Does biodiesel have a place in the marine fuel purchasing portfolio? Tim Wilson.

Lloyd's Register. 4 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/insights/articles/biodiesel-marine> As the industry looks to prove the technical feasibility and commercial viability of fuels like ammonia, hydrogen and methanol – and ensure the safe application of electro-fuels – biodiesel is another option becoming more readily available that could provide short-term emission reductions.

What does 2021 hold for shipping? Malcolm Latarche. *ShipInsight*. 4 January 2021.

Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/what-does-2021-hold-for-shipping/> For each of us there are personal milestones to celebrate or look forward to but for the shipping industry as a whole this time of year is generally about attempting to foresee market conditions for the coming year and for wondering if the new regulations that come each year have been properly prepared for.

A Year at Sea: The Poseidon Principles and the Possibilities of Sectoral Decarbonization.

Sharvan Bhat and James Mitchell. *Global Maritime Forum*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.globalmaritimeforum.org/news/a-year-at-sea-the-poseidon-principles-and-the-possibilities-of-sectoral-decarbonization> It's the moment climate finance professionals live for: when an idea—an initiative—is turned into real world action by real world actors.

How would shipping function within the Europe's emission trading system (ETS)?

Paul Gunton. *ShipInsight*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/how-would-shipping-function-within-the-europes-emission-trading-system-ets/> Europe's emission trading system (ETS) is "a cornerstone of the EU's policy to combat climate change" according to the European Commission (EC).

Grimaldi Group Seeks to Cut Emissions With New Ships. *Ship & Bunker*. 5 January 2021.

Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/emea/104212-grimaldi-group-seeks-to-cut-emissions-with-new-ships> Shipping Company Grimaldi Group is seeking to cut its bunker consumption and emissions as it adds its new eco-friendly vehicles to its fleet.

Shipowners call off fears of UK becoming "European Singapore" after Brexit. Astrid Stularson.

ShippingWatch. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article-12666-465.ece> Ahead of Brexit, shipowners and offshore companies in the EU feared that Great Britain would use its independence to create "Europe's Singapore" with low taxes.

Maritime UK appoints Sarah Kenny as its new chair. Jason Jiang. *Splash 247.com*.

5 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/maritime-uk-appoints-sarah-kenny-as-its-new-chair/> Maritime UK has announced the appointment of Sarah Kenny as its new chair, replacing Harry Theochari.

The environmental, regulatory, digital and political factors that will help shape the maritime sector in 2021. *Cyprus Shipping News*. 5 January 2021. Available from:

<https://cyprusshippingnews.com/2021/01/05/the-environmental-regulatory-digital-and-political-factors-that-will-help-shape-the-maritime-sector-in-2021/> As we hesitantly enter 2021, it's easy to remain pessimistic about what the new year brings for shipping after what has been a chaotic, challenging, and devastating year across the globe.

Looking back, going forward. Carlos C. Salinas. *Manila Times*. 6 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/01/06/business/maritime-business/looking-back-going-forward/823077/> The month of January is named after the Roman god Janus.

Welcome to 2021: 3 things on our radar this year. Kevin Daffey. *Marine Professional (IMarEST)*. 6 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/the-long-read-item-5913-welcome-to-2021> The growth of autonomy, improving seafarer safety and cyber security are three of the big issues we are facing – along with the ever present issue of climate change.

EU's shipping carbon quotas may come into force as soon as January 2022. Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12657668.ece> Despite outspoken dissatisfaction from the shipping industry and suggestions of separate fees for the shipping industry, it looks like the EU will plough ahead with its plans to include the maritime industry in its Emissions Trading System, and it could even happen in just a years' time.

The Bunker industry's 2020 fell flat for all the wrong reasons. Jack Jordan. *Ship & Bunker*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/719625-feature-the-bunker-industrys-2020-fell-flat-for-all-the-wrong-reasons> No-one said 2020 was supposed to be an easy year for the bunker industry.

LR unveils first members of Maritime Decarbonisation Hub advisory panel. *Lloyd's Register*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/latest-news/first-members-of-decarbonisation-hub-advisory-panel/> LR has named the industry experts who have joined the advisory panel of its Maritime Decarbonisation Hub and will ensure that the Hub fulfils its mission of providing the right level of insight, collaboration and leadership to support the shipping industry address its decarbonisation challenges.

Passenger Vessels Steering a Course Through Testing Waters. Mike Corrigan. *Maritime Global News*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <http://maritimeglobalnews.com/news/passenger-vessels-steering-course-edzmm8> The head of global trade association Interferry reflects on the unprecedented challenges of 2020 and those ahead-but makes a case for cautious optimism.

Empowering women in shipping. *Cyprus Shipping News (CSN)*. 11 January 2021. Available from: <https://cyprusshippingnews.com/2021/01/11/empowering-women-in-shipping/> Although shipping has been historically male-dominated, the number of women nowadays who belong in the maritime industry is about 23,000 worldwide.

Extracting positive value from 2020. Steen Lund. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 12 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/opinion/extracting-positive-value-from-2020-62723> RightShip chief executive Steen Lund shares his thoughts on why data is the key to unlocking a better future for shipping.

LNG as a fuel through to 2050. Peter Keller. *Splash 247.com*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/lng-as-a-fuel-through-to-2050/> 2020 was a year of tough choices for everyone in shipping.

MSC and Søren Toft join association working to develop hydrogen as future fuel. Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12684994.ece> Container line MSC now shows its support of hydrogen by joining industry body Hydrogen Council, which works to develop hydrogen as fuel.

Ships make the world go. *BIMCO*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/ShipsMakeTheWorldGo> 🇳🇱 Without shipping, life would be different.

Decarbonisation survey results: Just how do we cut the carbon? *Marine Professional (IMarEST)*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.imarest.org/themarine-professional-interactions/item/5926-decarbonisation-survey-results-just-how-do-we-cut-the-carbon>
A new survey from the IMarEST and Marine Professional shows solid support for decarbonisation targets, but less certainty about how to achieve them.

IAPH, Green Award team up to improve Environmental Ship Index. Naida Hakirevic. *Offshore Energy*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/iaph-green-award-team-up-to-improve-environmental-ship-index/> The International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) has signed a contract with the Green Award Foundation to administer and expand the formula-based index which rewards vessels for improved energy efficiency and reduced emissions.

Asia's fuel oil trade nearly halved in 2020 due to COVID and rule changes. Roslan Khasawneh. *Reuters*. 14 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3pI5LIK> Trading volumes in Asia for fuel oil, a key shipping fuel, nearly halved in 2020 to the lowest levels in at least five years as stricter emission rules for marine fuel altered trade patterns and as the COVID-19 pandemic hurt demand.

APM appoints Japan's first female container terminal CEO. Irene Ang. *TradeWinds*. 15 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ports/apm-appoints-japans-first-female-container-terminal-ceo/2-1-945282> APM Terminals Japan has named Sakura Kuma as its new chief executive.

Ocean Carriers Battle the COVID Cargo Crunch. Anna Larsson. *World Shipping Council*. 18 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.worldshipping.org/pressroom/article-news-article>
Ocean carriers are taking all available measures to improve the speed and efficiency of cargo movement including employing all available vessel tonnage.

Taxation May Be Global Shipping's Upcoming Game Changer. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/taxation-may-be-global-shippings-upcoming-game-changer/> The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development recently released a blueprint for an internationally-coordinated minimum tax for multinational enterprises, and aims to reach a global agreement on this in 2021.

Maersk CEO: We expect to order first ships running on new fuels in three years. Jasmina Ovcina. *Offshore Energy*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.offshore-energy.biz/maersk-ceo-we-expect-to-order-first-ships-running-on-new-fuels-in-three-years/> Maersk expects to resolve safety and all other issues faced by ammonia and fuel types based on alcohols in two to three years, clearing the way to order the first ships to run on these fuels in the next three years, the company's CEO Søren Skou said in a podcast hosted by Global Optimism.

Tonnage Tax Reductions Of Up To 30% With New Cyprus Green Incentives Programme (19/01/2021). *Government of Cyprus*. 19 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.dms.gov.cy/dms/shipping.nsf/All/71CC0D5462255CC1C225866200455942?OpenDocument> The Cyprus Shipping Deputy Ministry (SDM) has announced a new range of green incentives to reward vessels that demonstrate effective emissions reductions.

Collaboration and women empowerment. Carlos C. Salinas. *Manila Times*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/01/20/business/maritime-business/collaboration-and-women-empowerment/829755/> Last January 14, I had the honour and privilege to have been invited to speak before the leading lights of the Greek Shipping Industry in an e-conference on "Expanding Filipino-Greek Cooperation in the Shipping Industry".

Facing green push on farm, fertilizer makers look to sea for growth. Rod Nickel and Victoria Klesty. *Reuters*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3dAzLgZ> Two of the world's biggest fertilizer producers, CF Industries Holdings Inc and Yara International Asa, are seeking to cash in on the green energy transition by reconfiguring ammonia plants in the United States and Norway to produce clean energy to power ships.

Costing the future – some unpleasant surprises in the offing. Malcolm Latarche. *ShipInsight*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/costing-the-future-some-unpleasant-surprises-in-the-offing/> Two separate and unconnected events last week may have a disconcerting message for ship operators who currently may have far more on their mind than preparing for a future that is still shrouded in fog.

Leveling the ship management playing field. Yashika F. Torib. *Manila Times*. 20 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/01/20/business/maritime-business/leveling-the-ship-management-playing-field/829759/> Deciding whether to go with a large or small company is among the many considerations a seafarer takes in an employer.


Joint Media Release: “RightShip and INTERCARGO announce important new quality standard for dry bulk sector to be governed by new NGO”. *International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (INTERCARGO)*. 21 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.intercargo.org/joint-media-release-on-drybms/> RightShip and INTERCARGO have today announced the launch of an important new quality standard for the dry bulk sector, DryBMS.

Digitalizing the Maritime Sector Set To Boost the Competitiveness and Resilience of Global Trade. *World Bank*. 22 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/01/21/digitalizing-the-maritime-sector-set-to-boost-the-competitiveness-and-resilience-of-global-trade> A new report launched today by the World Bank and the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) shows that better digital collaboration between private and public entities across the maritime supply chain will result in significant efficiency gains, safer and more resilient supply chains, and lower emissions.

[ACCELERATING DIGITALIZATION: Critical Actions to Strengthen the Resilience of the Maritime Supply Chain](#) 

Shipping crisis: I'm being quoted £10,000 for a £1,600 container'. Vivienne Nunis. *BBC News*. 22 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-55740063> The founder of start-up Houseof.com, which imports lighting from China, says the rise in shipping costs means she's making a loss on what she sells.

No shot in the arm for shipping – except in Singapore. Malcolm Latarche. *ShipInsight*. 22 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/no-shot-in-the-arm-for-shipping-except-in-singapore/> Shipping is now entering the second year of disruption caused by the COVID pandemic.

The Lloyd's List Podcast: What are the shipping market tipping points for 2021? Peter Sand. *Lloyd's List*. 22 January 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com-LL1135501>  With the help of BIMCO's chief shipping analyst Peter Sand we're taking a quick run through the key tipping points that will shape the shipping markets in 2021 on the podcast this week.

Pandemic aftershocks overwhelm global supply lines. David J. Lynch. *Washington Post*. 24 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2021/01/24/pandemic-shipping-economy/> One year after the coronavirus pandemic first disrupted global supply chains by closing Chinese factories, fresh shipping headaches are delaying U.S. farm exports, crimping domestic manufacturing and threatening higher prices for American consumers.

Shipping Industry Flag State Performance Table 2020/2021. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org-publication-shipping-industry-flag-state-performance-table-2020-2021/> The Shipping Industry Flag State Performance Table brings together data regarding the performance of flag States against specific criteria, including Port State Control (PSC) records, ratification of international conventions and IMO meeting attendance. [Flag State Table 2021](#) 📄

Neptune Declaration: More than 300 shipowners and charterers join forces to speed crew changes and vaccinations. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/37Ev3> Shipowners, charterers and other shipping stakeholders have launched a new concerted effort to protect seafarers from Covid-19 and make crew changes easier as lockdowns bite.

Shipping NGOs to cooperate on 'blue growth'. *Financial Mirror (Cyprus)*. 25 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.financialmirror.com/2021/01/25/shipping-ngos-to-cooperate-on-blue-growth/> Two non-governmental organisations active in the Cyprus maritime sector have agreed to cooperate for the 'blue economy', in innovation, education, training, engaging with society, ocean literacy and marine cultural heritage.

Neptune Declaration resets expectation, accountability on maritime industry to act to end crew change crisis. *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/neptune-declaration-resets-expectation-accountability-maritime-industry-act-end-crew-change> A new global pledge signed by over 300 maritime industry and human rights leaders has reset expectations and put accountability on the industry to use their leverage to end the deepening crew change crisis.

Global industry and human rights leaders join forces to resolve humanitarian crisis on the world's oceans. *InterManager*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.intermanager.org/2021/01/global-industry-and-human-rights-leaders-join-forces-to-resolve-humanitarian-crisis-on-the-worlds-oceans/> Over 300 world-leading companies have signed the Neptune Declaration on Seafarer Wellbeing and Crew Change, which seeks for a worldwide call to action to end the unprecedented crew change crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

ABS and partners to collaborate on a study of ammonia as bunker fuel in Singapore. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 26 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com-news-abs-and-partners-to-collaborate-on-a-study-of-ammonia-as-bunker-fuel-in-singapore/> Classification society American Bureau of Shipping (ABS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore, and the Ammonia Safety and Training Institute (ASTI) on Monday (25 January) said they will be collaborating on a study of the potential of ammonia bunkering in Singapore, exploring supply, bunkering, and safety challenges with the alternative marine fuel.

Insight Conversation: Sadan Kaptanoglu, BIMCO. Charlotte Bucchioni. *S&P Global Platts*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3qHDTja> The president of BIMCO, the world's largest shipping industry organization, and managing director of Turkey-based Kaptanoglu Shipping, spoke to S&P Global Platts shipping associate editor, Charlotte Bucchioni, about the lessons of 2020 and the challenges facing the industry.

Davos turns its attention to decarbonising shipping. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/davos-turns-its-attention-to-decarbonising-shipping/> 📄 The Mission Possible Partnership (MPP), launched today at the Davos Agenda, is a new coalition formed by the Energy Transitions Commission, Rocky Mountain Institute, We Mean Business coalition, and the World Economic Forum.

Killing the Golden Goose – are liner operators going too far? Malcolm Latarche. *ShipInsight*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/killing-the-golden-goose-are-liner-operators-going-too-far/> When all ships were more or less the same from a technology point of view, the price of fuel was at stratospheric levels and ports were charging all operators the same for port dues and cargo handling, it stands to reason that freight levels were also going to be similar.

Biofouling in Niche Areas: Addressing the Blind Spots. Markus Hoffmann. *Marine Link*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/biofouling-niche-areas-addressing-blind-484860> In a recent study that I-Tech conducted with U.K. independent marine coatings consultants, Safinah Group, we estimated that unacceptable levels of hard fouling, predominantly barnacles, across the global commercial could be responsible for at least 110 million tons of excess carbon emissions, with a significant proportion of the fleet suffering from a severe level of hard fouling.

EU working with several models for including shipping in quota system. Christian Carlsen. *ShippingWatch*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation-article12-718651.ece> The shipping sector will be placed under the EU's Emission Trading System, ETS, but how this will happen remains unknown.

INTERVIEW: Total Rides Out Short -Term Volumes Hit in Shift to Cleaner Marine Fuels.

Jack Jordan. *Ship & Bunker*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/158725-interview-total-rides-out-short-term-volumes-hit-in-shift-to-cleaner-marine-fuels> Global energy producer Total has taken a short-term hit to its bunker sales as HSFO declines and the company positions itself to become a leading supplier of alternative marine fuels.

Decarbonisation and shipping: The UK's position on greenhouse gas emissions from shipping. Rachel Hoyland and Charlotte Wood. *Hill Dickinson LLP*. 27 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.hilldickinson.com/insights/articles/decarbonisation-a-shipping-uk%E2%80%99s-position-greenhouse-gas-emissions-shipping> In January 2019, the UK government published Maritime 2050 – the government's strategic vision for the future of the British maritime sector.

ABB to power South Korea's first domestic zero-emissions ferry. ABB. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://new.abb.com/news/detail/73612/abb-to-power-south-koreas-first-domestic-zero-emissions-ferry> The new ferry represents the first commitment by South Korean authorities to a plan which will see 140 state-owned conventionally powered vessels replaced with those operating on cleaner alternatives by 2030, in line with environmental legislation.

Let's end the debate: putting international shipping into the ETS is clearly legal. Aoife O'Leary and Faig Abbasov. *EurActiv*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/shipping/opinion/lets-end-the-debate-putting-international-shipping-into-the-ets-is-clearly-legal/> After thirty years of regulatory silence on international shipping emissions, the EU has now committed to act by extending its Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) to cover the maritime sector.

Shipping seeks clear rules that embrace decarbonisation transition period. Lucy Hine. *TradeWinds*. 28 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/gas/shipping-seeks-clear-rules-that-embrace-decarbonisation-transition-period/2-1-952545> A new European Union classification system of sustainable economic activities that seeks to drive the trading bloc's climate goals must take account of the transition period needed for shipping as it decarbonises, and define clear rules that work for all.

Ship Owners Are Experimenting With New Fuels As the Clock Towards Decarbonization is Ticking. Nikos Roussanoglou. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/ship-owners-are-experimenting-with-new-fuels-as-the-clock-towards-decarbonization-is-ticking/> The coming decade will prove crucial in determining which fuel and propulsion technologies are the optimum, in carving the best path possible towards shipping's decarbonization.

Bimco sees imbalance in supply chains continuing into 2021. *ShippingWatch*. 29 January 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12723105.ece> Even though freight rates on container freight to Asia and the rest of the world last week went down for the first time in 15 weeks, which could indicate that the peak has been reached, the imbalance in the global logistics and supply chain will continue into 2021, says Peter Sand, chief shipping analyst at association Bimco.

The particular matter of black carbon. *Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA)*. January 2021. Available from: https://www.rina.org.uk/The_particular_matter_of_black_carbon.html Black Carbon (BC) is a component of particulate matter emitted by ships burning fossil fuels that absorbs light and accelerates the melting of ice, making it a serious issue in the Arctic.

RESEARCH

Guilhon M, Montserrat F, et al. **Recognition of ecosystem-based management principles in key documents of the seabed mining regime: implications and further recommendations.** *ICES Journal of Marine Science*. 26 December 2020. Available from: <https://academic.oup.com/icesjms/advance-article/doi/10.1093/icesjms/fsaa229/6050568> New human uses on the marine environment, such as deep-sea mining (DSM), have necessitated the adoption of more holistic approaches such as ecosystem-based management (EBM) to secure sustainable development.

Ytreberg E, Lagerström M, et al. **Environmental risk assessment of using antifouling paints on pleasure crafts in European Union waters.** *Journal of Environmental Management*. 2 January 2021. Available from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0> To ensure sustainable use of antifouling paints, the European Union have developed a new environmental risk assessment tool, which a product must pass prior to its placement on the market.

Psaraftis HN and Zis T. **Impact assessment of a mandatory operational goal-based short-term measure to reduce GHG emissions from ships: the LDC/SIDS case study.** *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics*. 3 January 2021. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10784-020-09523-2> The purpose of this paper is to describe the impact assessment of a mandatory operational goal-based short-term measure to reduce green house gas (GHG) emissions from ships.

Molenaar EJ. **Multilateral Creeping Coastal State Jurisdiction and the BBNJ Negotiations.** *The International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law*. 5 January 2021. Available from: <https://brill.com/view/journals/estu/aop/article-10.1163-15718085-BJA10042/article-10.1163-15718085-BJA10034342.xml> The interrelated notions of adjacency and creeping coastal State jurisdiction have been a key driver in the historical development of the international law of the sea.

Martínez de Osés FX and Uyà Juncadella À. **Global maritime surveillance and oceanic vessel traffic services: towards the e-navigation.** *WMU Journal of Maritime Affairs*. 7 January 2021. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13437-020-0020> Vessel traffic services (VTS) operators can control the movements of ships in local coastal areas, and also have the technological ability to track vessels internationally, since all merchant vessels are currently equipped with global tracking systems.

Haas B, Mackay M, et al. **The future of ocean governance.** *Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries*. 12 January 2021. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11160-020-0963231-x>
Ocean governance is complex and influenced by multiple drivers and actors with different worldviews and goals.

Viridin J, Vegh T, et al. **The Ocean 100: Transnational corporations in the ocean economy.** *Science Advances*. 13 January 2021. Available from: <http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/7/3/eabc8041.abstract> The ocean economy is growing as commercial use of the ocean accelerates, while progress toward achieving international goals for ocean conservation and sustainability is lagging.

Makkonen T and Inkinen T. **Systems of environmental innovation: sectoral and technological perspectives on ballast water treatment systems.** *WMU Journal of Maritime Affairs*. 21 January 2021. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13437-021-00226-2>
The research on innovation in the maritime sector has commonly focused on the implementation of innovation rather than on more complex issues such as the interplay between technological aspects, market conditions, and, particularly, regulatory regimes in shaping the emergence and growth of global systems involved with the development, production, and use of environmental innovation.

Ytreberg E, Åström S, et al. **Valuating environmental impacts from ship emissions – The marine perspective.** *Journal of Environmental Management*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301479721000207> Shipping is an activity responsible for a range of different pressures affecting the marine environment, air quality and human welfare.

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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.