



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

WHAT'S NEW

IMO Council set to expand under approved amendments

Amendments to IMO Convention will be forwarded for adoption at IMO Assembly in December 2021.

The [IMO Council](#) has approved draft amendments to the [IMO Convention](#) to expand the size of the Council, extend the term of its Members and recognize three additional language texts as authentic versions of the IMO Convention. The approvals were made at the 33rd extraordinary session of the Council, which was held virtually on 8 April 2021. [More...](#)

Exceptional maritime people honoured at virtual IMO awards

International Maritime Organization (IMO) holds first ever virtual awards ceremony.

The International Maritime Organization has recognized the contributions of a long-standing maritime industry chief and has presented its highest bravery accolade to two maritime pilots from Brazil and an off-duty seafarer from the Philippines.

The event, which premiered on 7 April, saw Mr. Peter Hinchliffe, former Secretary-General, International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), receive the prestigious International Maritime Prize for 2019.

The 2020 IMO Awards for Exceptional Bravery at Sea were awarded to Mr. Marcio Santos Teixeira and Mr. Fabio Rodrigues Alves de Abreu (Brazil), for averting a major oil spill event at the Terminal Almirante Barroso in São Sebastião Port; and to Mr. Ralph Ofalla Barajan (Philippines), who saved the lives of all those onboard the sinking passenger vessel *Siargao Princess*. [More...](#)

30 countries join global initiative to tackle marine litter

Countries from across the oceans team up to tackle marine plastic litter under the ambitious GloLitter Partnerships Project.

A major international project that will help reduce marine plastic litter from maritime transport and fishing sectors is up for a successful start, after getting 30 countries on board. Five regions will be represented in this global effort: Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America and the Pacific.

The GloLitter Partnerships Project is implemented by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), with initial funding from the Government of Norway via the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad).

The project aims to help the maritime transport and fishing sectors move towards a low-plastics future. To achieve this goal, this initiative will assist developing countries to apply best practices for prevention, reduction and control of marine plastic litter from those sectors. [More...](#)

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

Previous Meetings (REMOTE)

IMO Council (Extraordinary Session 33) – 8 April

Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR 8) – 19-23 April

Forthcoming Meetings (REMOTE)

Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 103) – 5-14 May

Intersessional Working Group on the Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships (8) – 24-28 May

RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

[International Delegate's Day](#) 25 April

[International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace](#) 24 April

[IMO-Singapore Future of Shipping Conference](#) 23 April

Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR 8)
([Opening](#) remarks) 19 April

['Women in Maritime' webinar - organized by Australia](#) 18 March

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

IMO PUBLISHING [Just Published 2021](#)

UNITED NATIONS

UN chief returns to the Bronx for second coronavirus shot. *UN News*. 26 February 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/02/1085932> 📰 UN Secretary-General António Guterres received his second COVID-19 vaccine shot at the Morris Academy for Collaborative Studies in the Bronx, New York, on Friday.

Secretary-General urges countries to end ‘deadly addiction’ to coal. *UN News*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1086132> 📰 The world still has a “fighting chance” to limit global warming by ending dependence on coal, UN Secretary-General António Guterres told representatives from governments, local authorities and the private sector, meeting online on Tuesday.

‘COVID-19 doesn’t discriminate, but societies do’, say women frontliners. *UN News*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1086692> 📰 Women doctors and scientists on the frontlines of the global battle against COVID-19 have revealed how the pandemic has exposed gender gaps in both access to healthcare and professional development in their fields.

No winners but fewer losers in global economy from COVID than expected. *UN News*. 18 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087712> 📰 The COVID-19 pandemic seriously impacted all economies around the world last year, with trillions of dollars of lost earnings, UN trade and development experts UNCTAD said on Thursday, before highlighting how several countries also showed unexpected resilience, too.

COVID-19’s economic fallout will long outlive the health crisis, report warns. *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*. 18 March 2021. Available from: <https://unctad.org/news/covid-19s-economic-fallout-will-long-outlive-health-crisis-report-warns>; Global markets and spirits are up with the news that two COVID-19 vaccines have shown to be more than 90% effective in late-stage clinical trials. [Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Trade and Development](#) 📰

‘Pernicious evil’ of racism pervasive in ‘all regions and all societies’ – UN chief. *UN News*. 20 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087812> 📰 Much of today’s racism is “deeply entrenched in centuries of colonialism and enslavement”, the UN chief said on Friday ahead of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Recognize ‘true value’ of water, UN urges, marking World Day. *UN News*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087922> 📰 The UN is marking World Water Day on Monday with a global conversation on how people value the lifegiving resource in different parts of the world, according to local needs.

Inequity of COVID-19 vaccines grows ‘more grotesque every day’ – WHO chief. *UN News*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087992> 📰 The growing gap between the number of vaccines being given in rich countries and those administered through COVAX is becoming “more grotesque every day”, the head of the UN health agency said Monday.

Biodiversity at risk, threatens human survival, UN forum hears. *UN News*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1088212> 📰 As the living tissue of the earth, biodiversity is “intimately linked to human health” the head of the UN’s scientific agency told a global forum on Wednesday, noting that “we are part of that living tissue”.

CASUALTIES

Car carrier reportedly suffers explosion in Gulf of Oman. Gary Dixon and Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 26 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/car-carrier-reportedly-suffers-explosion-in-gulf-of-oman/2-1-971096> A car carrier has suffered an explosion in the Gulf of Oman, but all crew are reported to be uninjured.

Photos emerge of damage on car carrier after Gulf attack. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/photos-emerge-of-damage-on-car-carrier-after-gulf-attack/2-1-973276> The Israeli owner of a car carrier damaged in a reported limpet mine attack in the Gulf of Oman has said United Arab Emirates authorities are looking into the case as photos of damage emerged.

Rescuers save all 31 crew members hours before ship sinks off Nova Scotia coast. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/fishing-vessel-rescue-yarmouth-nova-scotia-1.5934485> The Atlantic Destiny sank late Wednesday morning after the dramatic helicopter rescue mission.

Saudi Arabia: Houthi drone targets petrol tank farm at Ras Tanura port. Khitam Al Amir. *Gulf News (UAE)*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://gulfnews.com/world/gulf/saudi/saudi-arabia-houthi-drone-targets-petrol-tank-farm-at-ras-tanura-port-1.1615149329575> The Saudi Ministry of Defence said it destroyed an explosive-laden drone launched by Yemen's Houthis and attacked Ras Tanura Port and Aramco facilities in the Eastern Region.

Ship runs aground off Mauritius with fuel aboard. *France 24*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210308-ship-runs-aground-off-mauritius-with-fuel-aboard> Mauritius deployed its coastguard and armed forces on Monday after a Chinese-flagged trawler containing 130 tonnes of oil ran aground off the Indian Ocean archipelago nation.

Chinese-flagged fishing trawler runs aground off Mauritius with fuel aboard. *South China Morning Post*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.scmp.com/news/world/africa/article/3124635/chinese-flagged-fishing-trawler-runs-aground-mauritius-fuel> Mauritius deployed its coastguard and armed forces on Monday after a Chinese-flagged trawler containing 130 tonnes of oil ran aground off the Indian Ocean archipelago nation.

Another grounding in Mauritius spurs oil-spill response measures. Jamey Bergman. *International Tug & Salvage*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/another-grounding-in-mauritius-spurs-oil-spill-response-measures-64167> Reports from local and international media and ship-tracking websites have pieced together events surrounding the Chinese long-liner *Lu Rong Yuan Yu 588*'s grounding on the reefs of Pointe-aux-Sables, a village to the west of capital Port Louis on Mauritius' northwest coast.

Grounded Chinese fishing vessel removed from reef. *Government of Mauritius*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://govmu.org/EN/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?n=Grounded-Chinese-fishing-vessel-removed-from-reef.aspx> The Chinese-flagged fishing trawler, *Lu Rong Yuan Yu 588*, which ran aground off Mauritius northwest coast at Pointe-aux-Sables on 7 March 2021, was towed to the port of Port Louis, following the completion of the removal of fuel this morning.

Iran-Flagged Container Vessel 'SHAHR E KORD' Suffers Explosion In The Eastern Mediterranean Offshore Haifa. *Dryad Global*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://channel16.dryadglobal.com/iran-flagged-container-vessel-shahr-e-kord-suffers-explosion-in-the-eastern-mediterranean-offshore-haifa> Unconfirmed Iranian media reporting indicates that the Iran-flagged container vessel 'SHAHR E KORD' has suffered an explosion whilst operating in the Eastern Mediterranean offshore Haifa.

Iranian container ship slightly damaged in terror attack in Mediterranean: Shipping firm.

Press TV (Iran). 12 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2021/03/12/647168/Iranian-cargo-ship-targeted-in-terror-attack-in-Mediterranean> 📰 The Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Line (IRIS) Group says one of its cargo

ships has been damaged after it was targeted by a terrorist attack en route to Europe in the Mediterranean Sea earlier this week.

Three seafarers dead and two missing as two cargoships sink in European storms.

Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 12 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/three-seafarers-dead-and-two-missing-as-two-cargoships-sink-in-european-storms/2-1-979244> 📰 Three crew members have died and another

two were missing after two general cargoships sank on Wednesday in storms in the Mediterranean and Black seas.

FSO Nabarima Not Yet Reinspected By T&T Despite Official Recommendation. Cari-Bois

Environmental News Network. 12 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.caribois.org/2021/03/nabarima-not-yet-reinspected-despite-reports-recommendation-ffos-takes-legal-action/> Trinidad and Tobago officials have not yet reinspected the *FSO Nabarima*

despite their own recommendation in October, 2020, that a follow-up inspection be done within one month.

Bulk carriers collide in Greece. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 15 March 2021. Available from:

<https://splash247.com/bulk-carriers-collide-in-greece/> Two dry bulk carriers collided 10 nautical miles west from the Greek island of Kithira in the southern Peloponnese early on Saturday morning.

Iran accuses Israel of attacking Iranian ship in the Mediterranean. *Tehran Times (Iran)*.

15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/459175/Iran-accuses-Israel-of-attacking-Iranian-ship-in-the-Mediterranean> Saeed Khatibzadeh, spokesman for Iran's Foreign

Ministry, said on Monday that Tehran has evidence suggesting that Israel may have been behind an attack on an Iranian container ship in the Mediterranean Sea.

Giant ship blocking Suez canal partially refloated. Martin Farrer and Michael Safi. *The Guardian*.

24 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/mar/24/huge-container-ship-blocks-suez-canal-evergreen> 📰 One of the largest container ships in the world has been

partially refloated after it ran aground in the Suez canal, causing a huge jam of vessels at either end of the vital international trade artery.

Bulker and Russian military tanker collide in Suez Canal. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*.

24 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/bulker-and-russian-military-tanker-collide-in-suez-canal/2-1-986104> Second accident reported in Egyptian waterway

on Tuesday, following Evergreen boxship grounding.

MV EVER GIVEN: Media statement. Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement. 24 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.bs-shipmanagement.com/en/media/1-media-statement> Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement as the technical managers of the containership *EVER GIVEN*

(IMO: 9811000), can confirm that extensive inspections from the American Bureau of Shipping as the vessel's classification society, which included underwater inspections have been concluded.

Suez Canal container ship accident is a worst-case scenario for global trade. Rory Hopcraft,

Kevin Jones and Kimberly Tam. *The Conversation*. 24 March 2021. Available from:

<https://theconversation.com/suez-canal-container-ship-accident-is-a-worst-case-scenario-for-global-trade-157802> High winds have been blamed for the container ship blocking the narrow strait, which

serves as a trade artery that connects the Mediterranean and the Red Sea.

MSC ship suffers severe gash while berthing in Turkey. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/msc-ship-suffers-severe-gash-while-berthing-in-turkey/> 📰 The 19,224 teu *MSC Tina* suffered a nasty allision with a pier in Turkey on Saturday.

Investigation into *Ever Given* casualty begins. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136294> Crew expected to be interviewed by Panama flag registry representatives on Tuesday and hand over vessel's data recorder.

Cargo ship slips mooring and blocks Littlehampton harbour. *BBC News*. 30 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-sussex-56582381> Scenes reminiscent of the Suez Canal have come to a West Sussex river when a 263ft (80m) cargo ship got stuck.

Safety warning about multiple cruise ship anchor failures. *UK Government*. 30 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/maib-reports/safety-warning-about-multiple-cruise-ship-anchor-failures> We have issued a safety bulletin to the cruise industry to highlight the importance of using anchoring equipment within its intended design parameters.
[Multiple cruise ship anchor failures during autumn/winter 2020-21](#) 📰

ENVIRONMENT

Joint Statement by Transport Canada and the U.S. Department of Transportation on the Nexus between Transportation and Climate Change. *Government of Canada*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2PtIFo0> Recognizing the transport sector constitutes one of the largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions for both nations, and in light of the integrated nature of our transportation sectors, we are committed to reinvigorate our bilateral cooperation to fight climate change and limit the environmental impacts from our transportation networks—on land, air and sea.

How Fast Are Oceans Rising? The Answer May Be In Century-Old Shipping Logs. Lauren Sommer. *National Public Radio (US)*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.npr.org/2021/03/01/959600735/how-fast-are-oceans-rising-the-answer-may-be-in-century-old-shipping-logs?t=1614683925689> 📻 Off the coast of England, there's a tiny, wind-swept island with the remains of a lifeboat rescue station from the mid-1800s.

To fight climate change, save the whales, some scientists say. Michelle Carrere. *Mongabay*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.mongabay.com/2021/03/to-fight-climate-change-save-the-whales-some-scientists-say/> In death, whales carry the tons of carbon stored in their massive bodies down to rest on the seafloor, where it can remain for centuries.

How to Finance a Sustainable Ocean Recovery - Seminal New Guidance Published. *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.unepfi.org/news/themes/ecosystems/bluefinanceguide/> New guidance published today provides a market-first, practical toolkit for financial institutions to take immediate action on their lending, investment and underwriting activities which negatively impact ocean health.

Flipflop: Boat made from recycled plastic sails in Kenya. *Ships & Ports*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://shipsandports.com.ng/flipflop-boat-made-from-recycled-plastic-sails-in-kenya/> Flipflop, the world's first boat made from recycled plastic on Thursday started sailing around Lake Victoria in Western Kenya to spread awareness on hazards posed by non-biodegradable material to the environment.

How natural gas is emerging as both villain and saviour in the climate change battle.

Kyle Bakx. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 6 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/bakx-natural-gas-co2-1.5938954> 📰 Jaeson Cardiff often faces the question whether his industry is good for the environment or merely helping to delay the inevitable transition away from fossil fuels.

These 3 World Heritage marine sites store billions of tonnes of CO2. Victoria Masterson. *World Economic Forum*. 10 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/03/unesco-marine-world-heritage-climate/> 50 marine protected World Heritage sites across 37 nations capture and store an estimated 5 billion tonnes of carbon, according to a UNESCO report.

Islands, rocks and tuna: Pacific nations draw new battle lines against rising seas.

Alister Doyle. *Reuters*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3tZ5m1r> Small island states in the Pacific are opening a new front in the fight against rising seas, to secure rights to an ocean area bigger than the moon that is home to billion-dollar fish stocks.

Large CO2 gains obtainable from ocean-going ships. Christina Tækker. *Technical University of Denmark (DTU)*. 12 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.dtu.dk/english/news/2021/03/large-co2-gains-obtainable-from-ocean-going-ships?id=1b5e08df-e0ae-4fb9-b48b-52a739d1a5ca> Environmentally and climate-friendly solutions from Danish ships sailing in foreign waters can contribute to the green transition of Denmark.

Retail giants look to greener cargo ships to meet climate goals. Justine Calma. *The Verge*.

16 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.theverge.com/2021/3/16/22334173/retail-cargo-ships-climate-change-goals-maersk> Pressure from some of their biggest customers is pushing companies like global shipping giant Maersk to pollute less when they transport goods.

The U.N. is calling on governments and big business to help protect the world's oceans.

Tania Bryer. *CNBC (US)*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/03/17/united-nations-calls-on-big-business-to-help-protect-oceans.html> 📰 The “United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development” has been launched in 2021 to help expand scientific knowledge and address the issues impacting the ocean.

Carbon emissions from trawler fishing on a par with aviation, say ocean researchers.

Megan Rowling. *Reuters*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3qlzFW7> Trawling of the ocean floor by fishing fleets releases roughly the same amount of carbon emissions into the water as aviation puts into the atmosphere each year, researchers said on Wednesday, calling for greater protection of the planet's seas.

Natural disasters occurring three times more often than 50 years ago: new FAO report.

UN News. 18 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087702> New and unprecedented forms of natural disasters are most heavily felt in the agricultural industry, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said on Thursday. [The impact of disasters and crises on agriculture and food security](#) 📰

World Meteorological Day celebrates the ocean, our climate and weather. *World Meteorological Organization (WMO)*. 22 March 2021. Available from:

<https://public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release/world-meteorological-day-celebrates-ocean-our-climate-and-weather> 📰 The ocean drives the world's weather and climate and anchors the global economy and food security.

Whale sightings aid quest to protect wildlife in Indian Ocean oasis. Christophe Van Der Perre

and Alessandra Prentice. *Reuters*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/32TEnlq> 📰 Over two weeks at sea, the scientists spotted pilot whales and spinner dolphins, orcas and more.

Gulf Coast birds receive nearly \$35 million investment from BP oil spill settlement. *National Audubon Society*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.audubon.org/news/gulf-coast-birds-receive-nearly-35-million-investment-bp-oil-spill-settlement> Deepwater Horizon Trustees propose new bird projects to restore rookery islands, support stewardship, and remove marine debris.

ASEAN maritime administrations tackle Covid's impact on marine environment. *Manila Times*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/03/24/business/maritime-business/asean-maritime-administrations-tackle-covids-impact-on-marine-environment/854663/> The recent Extraordinary High-Level Regional Meeting on the Marine Environment Protection of the Southeast Asian Seas (MEPSEAS) Project hosted by the Maritime Industry Authority (Marina) tackled the impact of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic in their efforts to protect the marine environment in the ASEAN region.

Why companies' 'net-zero' emissions pledges should trigger a healthy dose of skepticism. Oliver Miltenberger and Matthew D. Potts. *Phys.org*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://phys.org/news/2021-03-companies-net-zero-emissions-pledges-trigger.html> Hundreds of companies, including major emitters like United Airlines, BP and Shell, have pledged to reduce their impact on climate change and reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

African countries assess state of marine litter. Absalom Shigwedha and Arlana Shikongo. *The Namibian*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.namibian.com.na/209102/archive-read/African-countries-assess-state-of-marine-litter> Efforts to address the problem of marine litter and pollution are mounting, as the challenge continues to disturb the marine environment and coastal areas of the world.

Explosion hits Israeli-owned cargo ship in Gulf of Oman, no injuries. Jon Gambrell and Isabel Debre. *Times of Israel*. 26 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/explosion-hits-israeli-owned-cargo-ship-in-gulf-of-oman-no-injuries/> An explosion struck an Israeli-owned cargo ship sailing out of the Middle East on Friday, an unexplained blast renewing concerns about ship security amid escalating tensions between the US and Iran.

Israeli-owned ship docked in Dubai after mysterious blast. Isabel Debre. *Associated Press*. 28 February 2021. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/joe-biden-israel-iran-iran-nuclear-united-arab-emirates-5395e0df33beee5819f35bee8e04e4b6> An Israeli-owned cargo ship that suffered a mysterious explosion in the Gulf of Oman came to Dubai's port for repairs Sunday, days after the blast that revived security concerns in Mideast waterways amid heightened tensions with Iran.

Israel must increase its maritime awareness in light of recent oil spill. Shaul Chorev. *Jerusalem Post*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.jpost.com/opinion/israel-must-increase-its-maritime-awareness-in-light-of-recent-oil-spill-660626> Much of Israel's approximately 200-km. Mediterranean coastline has been contaminated with thick tarballs, and Israelis have been warned to stay away from beaches.

Israel suspects Iran connection to Mediterranean oil spill. Ilan Ben Zion. *Associated Press*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/israel-iran-persian-gulf-tensions-smuggling-environment-d7999a68942e2d4780cf6c9bb638e7c4> Israeli authorities said Wednesday that a Libyan-owned tanker suspected of smuggling oil from Iran to Syria was responsible for spilling tons of crude into the eastern Mediterranean last month, causing one of Israel's worst environmental disasters.

Risk to environment as Cork ghost ship decomposes, MCIB report says. Jennie O'Sullivan. *RTÉ (Ireland)*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rte.ie/news/regional/2021/0303/1200839-cork-ghost-ship-mv-alta/> The ghost ship the *MV Alta* does not pose any danger to other ships in its present location near Ballycotton, but there is a potential risk over time of an environmental impact due to the decomposition of the vessel.

Iran tanker oil spill in Israeli waters 'deliberate'. Richard Meade, Michelle Wiese Bockmann and Nigel Lowry. *Lloyd's List*. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136016/Iran-tanker-oil-spill-in-Israeli-waters-deliberate> Lloyd's List Intelligence data confirms Israel's description of events surrounding the oil spill.

Iran launches major OSRV in Persian Gulf to improve oil spill responses. *Press TV (Iran)*. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2021/03/04/646555/Iran-oil-spill-vessel-launch-Persian-Gulf> Iran's ports authority has launched a major home-made Oil Spill Response Vessel (OSRV) to boost environment protection efforts in the Persian Gulf waters.

Plastic switch could hurt environment: expert. Marc Membrere. *Samoa Observer*. 7 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.samoaoobserver.ws/category/samoa/80366> A decision by a drinks manufacturer to switch from bottles to plastic for one of its major products could have ramifications for Samoa's waste management and the broader environment, an expert has warned.

Nine projects combating marine pollution selected as UNDP Ocean Innovators. *United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*. 9 March 2021. Available from: https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2021/Nine_projects_combating_marine_pollution_UNDP_Ocean_Innovators_2020.html The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) today announced the nine winners of the 2020 Ocean Innovation Challenge (OIC).


Nearly 30 tonnes of oil recovered from leaking wreck off Vancouver Island. Todd Coyne. *CTV News (Canada)*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/nearly-30-tonnes-of-oil-recovered-from-leaking-wreck-off-vancouver-island-1.5342026> 🇨🇦 Emergency responders have recovered nearly 30 tonnes of bunker oil that continues to leak from a historic shipwreck off the west coast of Vancouver Island.


Satellites and forensics unravel identity of Israel oil spill tanker. Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/satellites-and-forensics-unravel-identity-of-israel-oil-spill-tanker/2-1-981152> Israeli environmental protection minister Gila Gamliel was recently able to confidently say that the country had identified an aframax tanker as the source of a 1,000-tonne oil spill that washed up on the country's beaches in early February.

Environment Ministry declares oil spill emergency over. *Times of Israel*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/environment-ministry-declares-oil-spill-emergency-over/> One month after Israel's coastline was devastated by tar from an oil spill at sea, the Environmental Protection Ministry on Wednesday declared the emergency over, though the cleanup operation is still ongoing.


The drastic improvements of oil spill response over 50 years. *The Motorship*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.motorship.com/press-releases/2021/the-drastic-improvements-of-oil-spill-response-over-50-years> DESMI's expert in oil spill response, marine engineer Christian Ingvorsen, gives a big picture view on oil spills and their impact on how governments and the private sector have learned to respond to them over five decades.

Government of Canada takes further action to address marine pollution from the *MV Schiedyk* shipwreck in British Columbia. *Government of Canada*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3gQ394v> When the Government of Canada launched the Oceans Protection Plan, a primary objective was to address wrecked, abandoned and hazardous vessels across Canada.

Assessing PPE Pollution's Impact on the Ocean. Janis Searles Jones. *Ocean Conservancy*. 30 March 2021. Available from: <https://oceanconservancy.org/blog/2021/03/30/assessing-ppe-pollutions-impact-ocean/> Discover how steep the toll of personal protective equipment has been on our ocean. [Pandemic Pollution: The Rising Tide of Plastic PPE](#) 

Oil spill management and salvage in the Indian Ocean. Pierre Daniel, Meteo-France and Renganaden Virasami. *World Meteorological Organization (WMO)*. March 2021. Available from: https://public.wmo.int/en/resources/bulletin/Products_and_services/Oil_spill_Indian_Ocean Accidents happen. And once they happen, time is of the essence when it comes to rescuing victims, salvaging damaged goods and property and the subsequent clean-up. [WMO Bulletin Vol 70 \(1\) - 2021](#) 

HEALTH & SAFETY

Cattle stranded on ship in Spain must be destroyed, say vets. Sophie Kevany and Ashifa Kassam. *The Guardian*. 27 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/feb/27/cattle-stranded-on-ship-in-mediterranean-must-be-destroyed-say-vets>  More than 850 cattle that have spent months adrift in the Mediterranean are no longer fit for transport and should be killed, according to a confidential report by Spanish government veterinarians.

Master dies and seven others test positive on bulker in Norway. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/master-dies-and-seven-others-test-positive-on-bulker-in-norway/2-1-971501> A captain who died on a Canadian bulker in Norway was later found to have Covid-19.

Chilean ports leading vaccination process of port workers in Latam region. *MundoMaritimo*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://mundomaritimo.net/noticias/chilean-ports-leading-vaccination-process-of-port-workers-in-latam-region> The continuity of the supply chain has been proven to be fundamental in times of crisis, and the most important links of that chain are the port workers, crews and seafarers.

Maritime UK launches 'Mental Health in Maritime' Pledge. Chrissie Clarke. *Maritime UK*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritimeuk.org/media-centre/news/news-maritime-uk-launches-mental-health-maritime-pledge/> The new pledge is part of the programme's objective to ensure employee mental health and wellbeing is considered at the highest levels across the sector. [Mental Health in Maritime Pledge](#)

Seafarers 'in dire need' of COVID-19 vaccination, says union. David Burke. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/seafarers-cargo-crews-covid-19-vaccinations-1.5933407> The union that represents cargo ship crews in Canada says its members are in desperate need to be vaccinated for COVID-19.

Covid-19, vaccines, and the environment. Carlos C. Salinas. *Manila Times*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/03/03/business/maritime-business/covid-19-vaccines-and-the-environment/846815/> A crucial part of self-care in the time of COVID is to keep up to speed with information—keeping track of the number of cases, deaths, and recoveries; its variants; and the vaccines that have been developed against the virus.

‘Please sir, do not forget us’: Stranded seafarers plead for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Tony Wright. *Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)*. 5 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/please-sir-do-not-forget-us-stranded-seafarers-plead-for-covid-19-vaccinations-20210305-p57816.html> Filipino seafarer Larry Pineda has a simple but passionate plea: “Please sir, do not forget us.”

Royal Caribbean’s newest ship stuck in port after workers catch COVID-19. *Jerusalem Post*.

8 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.jpost.com/health-science/royal-caribbeans-newest-ship-stuck-in-port-after-workers-catch-covid-19-661182> The ship was getting ready for planned sea trials, but will now have to remain docked with its estimated 500 crew and workers forced to stay on board.

Industry seeks priority vaccination for seamen. Eveline de Klerk. *New Era (Namibia)*.

8 March 2021. Available from: <https://neweralive.na/posts/industry-seeks-priority-vaccination-for-seamen> The fishing industry has called on the government to also prioritise seamen and seafarers in the country’s Covid-19 vaccine rollout.

Testing for COVID-19 onboard. Ingrid H. Johansen and Kristin Urdahl. *Gard*. 11 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/31340701/testing-for-covid-19-onboard-> 11 March 2021 marks the one-year anniversary since the WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic.

Dorian has examined the possibility of vaccinating its own seafarers. Trine Vestergaard.

ShippingWatch. 12 March 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12829423.ece> When the crew change crisis peaked, more than half of Dorian’s seafarers had been at sea longer than their contracts allowed.

Vaccine delays puts seafarer livelihoods at risk, warns Croatian union. *Nautilus International*.

12 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/vaccine-delays-puts-seafarer-livelihoods-at-risk-warns-croatian-union/> Seafarers’ Union of Croatia (SUC), an affiliate of the Nautilus Federation, has warned that Croatian seafarers working overseas could lose their jobs as a result of vaccination delays.

WHO backs AstraZeneca COVID vaccine amid clotting concerns; green lights Johnson & Johnson shots. *UN News*. 12 March 2021. Available from:

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1087222> The UN World Health Organization (WHO) said on Friday that it was aware of blood clot concerns linked to “a specific batch” of AstraZeneca/Oxford COVID-19 vaccine, but maintained that to date, no-one has died from any coronavirus vaccine.

Covid-19 uncovered mental health issues that must not be forgotten. Paul Berrill. *TradeWinds*.

16 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/business-focus/covid-19-uncovered-mental-health-issues-that-must-not-be-forgotten/2-1-978099> Concern about seafarers’ mental health has been significantly boosted by the pressures they have been under during the crew-change crisis, but there is still a long way to go.

Wellness at Sea “reduces seafarer anxiety and sadness”, says report. *Sailors’ Society*.

18 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.sailors-society.org/news/wellness-at-sea-reduces-seafarer-anxiety-and-sadness-says-report> International maritime charity Sailors’ Society’s Wellness at Sea training and support reduces anxiety and sadness among seafarers, a research report has shown.

Probe begins as seafarers injured in lifeboat drill on *Sir David Attenborough*. Gary Dixon.

TradeWinds. 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/probe-begins-as-seafarers-injured-in-lifeboat-drill-on-sir-david-attenborough/2-1-983952> UK accident investigators say boat rolled on to its side during launching in Scotland.

Cruise and shipping industries could take a hit due to lack of Covid vaccines. Lori Ann LaRocco. *CNBC (US)*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/22/global-shipping-could-take-a-hit-due-to-lack-of-vaccine-access-for-seafarers-.html> The International Chamber of Shipping warns shipowners may be forced to cancel voyages if crew remain unvaccinated.

My number one takeaway from implementing a mental health policy. *UK Chamber of Shipping*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/improvingmentalwellbeing/> This publication is a milestone in what should give shipping companies the confidence and drive to implement a mentally healthy workplace both at sea and ashore.
[Practical Guidance for Shipping companies on Improving mental wellbeing](#) 📄

ICS launches COVID-19 vaccine guide to secure seafarer safety. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/ics-launches-covid-19-vaccine-guide/> 📄 ICS has coordinated a number of shipping bodies in launching a practical guide on COVID-19 vaccinations for use throughout the industry.
[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Legal, Liability & Insurance Issues arising from Vaccination of Seafarers](#) 📄
[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Vaccination for Seafarers & Shipping Companies: A Practical Guide](#) 📄

MUA slams 'horrific' living conditions aboard Qatari-owned vessel detained at Port Kembla. Tim Fernandez and Kelly Fuller. *ABC (Australia)*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-03-25/horrific-conditions-aboard-ship-detained-in-port-kembla/13274990> The Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) has criticised the living conditions aboard a Qatari cargo vessel that has been detained at Port Kembla for more than a month.

Saint John port handles its first COVID-infected foreign vessel. Rachel Cave. *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/saint-john-port-covid-foreign-vessel-1.5964490> Six crew members of the *MV Mare Picenum*, a crude oil tanker that anchored at Canaport in Saint John last week, have tested positive for COVID-19.

ICS welcomes call from United Nations agencies to prioritise seafarers for COVID-19 vaccines. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/ics-welcomes-united-nations-agencies-call-to-prioritise-seafarers-for-vaccines/> The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) has welcomed the joint statement signed by the heads of five UN bodies calling for seafarers to be prioritised for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Air crews, seafarers should be prioritised for COVID-19 vaccines - WHO, ICAO, IMO. *Reuters*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3sZnGGi> Seafarers and air crew should be prioritised for vaccination as “essential workers”, the World Health Organization (WHO) said in a joint statement on Friday with the International Civil Aviation Organization and International Maritime Organization.

Time to act on mental health at sea. Amy McLellan. *Marine Professional (IMarEST)*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/the-long-read/item/6003-time-to-act-on-mental-health-at-sea?> We need to understand the scale of the problem of mental health at sea, offer solutions and support – and take action to help struggling seafarers.

COVID-19 Maritime Industry Update 71. *Maritime New Zealand*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/covid/documents/maritime-industry-update-071-26%20March%202021-9.pdf> 📄 Over 90% of border and MIQ frontline staff have received their first vaccination dose and 20% have already received their second dose.

Seafarers, air transport workers must be prioritised for vaccine. *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/seafarers-air-transport-workers-must-be-prioritised-vaccine> Today the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) reiterates our strong request for seafarers and aviation workers to be prioritised by governments in their Covid-19 vaccination programmes.

IMO

MASS development is legally challenging. Rupert Talbot-Garman. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/mass-development-will-be-legally-challenging-63860> The IMO's work towards enabling maritime autonomous surface ships (MASS) brings about considerable legal challenges and issues for the industry.

Capt. Antonio M. Padrón appointed for two more years as IMO Goodwill Maritime Ambassador. *Ship Management International*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://shipmanagementinternational.com/capt-antonio-m-padron-appointed-for-two-more-years-as-imo-goodwill-maritime-ambassador/> By proposal of the Spanish General Directorate of Merchant Marine (DGMM), Capt. Antonio M. Padrón has been appointed for two more years as Goodwill Maritime Ambassador of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

BIMCO decries 'impossible' IMO efficiency rule changes. Declan Bush. *Lloyd's List*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135974/BIMCO-decries-impossible-IMO-efficiency-rule-changes> Proposed regulatory changes will create an "impossible mission" for shipowners and could even increase emissions, BIMCO's deputy secretary-general has warned.

IMO Seen as Best Suited for Developing a Future Carbon Market for Shipping. Barry Parker. *gCaptain*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/imo-seen-as-best-suited-for-developing-a-future-carbon-market-for-shipping/> The IMO is expected to codify a transitional (i.e. 2030) energy efficiency pathway for commercial ships in an upcoming meeting in June of its Maritime Environmental Protection Committee (MEPC 76).

Seafarer vaccination and green incentives remain top of the agenda for Cyprus' meeting with IMO Secretary General. *Cyprus Shipping News*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://cyprusshippingnews.com/2021/03/05/seafarer-vaccination-and-green-incentives-remain-top-of-the-agenda-for-cyprus-meeting-with-imo-secretary-general/> Shipping is a global industry and without the International Maritime Organization (IMO), global approaches and international discussions regarding industry challenges would be far more difficult.

Vietnam proposes IMO prioritise sailors in COVID-19 vaccinations. *VietnamPlus*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/vietnam-proposes-imo-prioritise-sailors-in-covid19-vaccinations/197256.vnp> Vietnam has proposed the IMO consider the issuance of regulations on prioritising COVID-19 vaccinations for sailors regardless their nationalities, thus minimising the risk of pandemic spreading among the group.

Maritime To Conduct IMO Audit. *New Republic Liberia*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.newrepublicliberia.com/maritime-to-conduct-imo-audit/> The Commissioner of the Liberia Maritime Authority, Hon. Lenn Eugene Nangbe, said his entity will soon commence an IMO-International Maritime Organisation audit.

Casualty reporting falling short of targets. Nidaa Bakhsh. *Lloyd's List*. 10 March 2021.

Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136070/Casualty-reporting-falling-short-of-targets> The trend for submitting casualty investigation reports is improving, but there is still much that needs to be done to get to a 100% filing rate required by flag states.

Marshall Islands demands \$100 tax on shipping emissions. Anastassios Adamopoulos.

Lloyd's List. 11 March 2021. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136097> The International Maritime Organization is facing a call to impose a \$100 levy on greenhouse gas emissions from ships, in the first ever concrete proposal for an emissions levy on shipping.

\$100 per tonne emissions levy put forward by the Marshall Islands and Solomon Islands.

Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 12 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/100-per-tonne-emissions-levy-put-forward-by-the-marshall-islands-and-solomon-islands/> Upping the stakes ahead of this year's crunch MEPC meeting at IMO, the Marshall Islands and the Solomon Islands have put forward a proposal to establish a universal, mandatory greenhouse gas (GHG) levy with an entry price of \$100 per tonne/CO₂e with regular upward ratchets following review.

Panama requests mediation from the International Maritime Organization (IMO). *Hellenic*

Shipping News. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/panama-requests-mediation-from-the-international-maritime-organization-imo/> The Republic of Panama, the first registry of ships with more than 8 thousand 500 flagged vessels that exceed 230 million GRT (gross registered tons), representing approximately 16% of the world maritime fleet and with approximately 318 thousand seafarers on board, requested the collaboration of the Secretary General of the IMO, Kitack Lim, to mediate and assist seafarers and shipowners regarding a crisis involving ships in the Far East.

Q&A: GreenVoyage2050 and speeding up IMO protocols. *ShipTechnology*. 19 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/qa-greenvoyage2050-speeding-up-imo-protocols/> GreenVoyage2050 is a partnership project between the Government of Norway and the International Maritime Organisation.

IMO head urges caution as crew crisis numbers cut in half. Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*.

19 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/imo-head-urges-caution-as-crew-crisis-numbers-cut-in-half/2-1-984266> International Maritime Organization secretary general Kitack Lim is urging caution as new figures show the number of crew unable to get home because of the pandemic has been cut in half.

NGOs Urge Shipping Body To Halve Arctic Black Carbon Impacts By Switching Fuels. *Clean*

Arctic Alliance. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.hfofreearctic.org/en/2021/03/22/ngos-urge-shipping-body-to-halve-arctic-black-carbon-impacts-by-switching-fuels/> As this week's virtual meeting of the IMO's Pollution Prevention and Response Sub-Committee (PPR 8, 22-26 March) opens today, non-governmental organisations are calling on the IMO to seize the chance to immediately reduce climate-warming emissions of black carbon from ships currently using heavy fuel oil in the Arctic by some 44%, by switching them to cleaner distillate fuels.

Shipowners seize on IMO 'loophole', but is it a false economy? Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*.

23 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/shipowners-seize-on-imo-loophole-but-is-it-a-false-economy-2-1-984261> Yards and shipowners are in talks over newbuildings that are designed to outdated emissions standards, because the IMO has left a loophole in its regulations, experts say.

Success of IMO 2020 rule sets momentum for shipping's decarbonization goals: IMO division head. Surabhi Sahu, Claudia Carpenter and Dania Saadi. *S&P Global Platts*. 23 March 2021.

Available from: <https://bit.ly/3u1IKx4> Excellent cooperation and preparation by IMO member states, ports and the shipping industry's fuel providers was key to the successful implementation of the IMO 2020 rule, and has provided a future pathway for impending stricter environmental rules and other changes in international shipping, Roel Hoenders, head air pollution and energy efficiency of the Marine Environment Division at IMO, said.

Green lobby frustrated at black carbon delays. Declan Bush. *Lloyd's List*. 23 March 2021.

Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136225/> Environment groups have called on the International Maritime Organization to make ships switch from residual fuels to distillates in the Arctic to reduce black carbon emissions.

UN Shipping Agency Slammed for Fiddling While Arctic Melts. *Clean Arctic Alliance*.

26 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.hfofreearctic.org/en/2021/03/26/un-shipping-agency-slammed-for-fiddling-while-arctic-melts/> As this week's virtual meeting of the IMO's Pollution Prevention and Response Sub-Committee (PPR 8) closes today, non-governmental organisations slammed the IMO proposal to develop weak non-binding "goal-based guidelines" instead of taking immediate and effective action to immediately reduce climate-warming emissions of black carbon from ships using heavy fuel oil in the Arctic.

Market-based measures gain supporters in drive to cut shipping emissions. Adam Corbett.

TradeWinds. 31 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/market-based-measures-gain-supporters-in-drive-to-cut-shipping-emissions/2-1-989319> Industry and governments are increasingly looking to develop financial measures to accelerate decarbonisation in shipping.

Marshall Islands on climate front line as nation clings to existence. Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*.

31 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/marshall-islands-on-climate-front-line-as-nation-clings-to-existence/2-1-988939> Ambassador of the Pacific island state — home to one of the largest ship registers — explains why he wants to tax shipowners and the need for the IMO to get tougher on climate change policy.

LAW & POLICY

Inclusion of International Aviation and Shipping emissions in carbon budgets: open letter.

Transport & Environment (T&E). 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/sites/te/files/publications/IAS%20Letter%20to%20the%20Prime%20Minister.pdf> Your Government will this spring be preparing legislation for the sixth carbon budget — the first to be legislated since the UK committed to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 at the latest.

Could the Sea Cargo Charter change tanker shipping? *Tanker Operator*. 25 February 2021.

Available from: <https://www.tankeroperator.com/news/could-the-sea-cargo-charter-change-tanker-shipping/12166.aspx> A number of tanker and dry bulk charterers, including Trafigura, Equinor, Total, Gunvor, Shell, Occidental, and Dow Chemical, have attached their names to an initiative called the Sea Cargo Charter, which aims to provide a framework "for aligning chartering activities with responsible environmental behaviour to promote international shipping's decarbonisation".

Georgia's Blue Economy Can Be a Vehicle for Accelerating Climate Change Adaptation, Says World Bank. *World Bank*. 25 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/02/25/georgias-blue-economy-can-be-a-vehicle-for-accelerating-climate-change-adaptation-says-world-bank> Greening the Coast and Blueing the Sea for a Resilient Georgia – a virtual event on climate change and marine pollution - was held today with the cooperation of the World Bank, the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and the Government of Georgia.

UK should include international aviation and shipping emissions in its net zero legislation, say NGOs. *Transport & Environment (T&E)*. 25 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.transportenvironment.org/publications/uk-should-include-international-aviation-and-shipping-emissions-its-net-zero> The UK government will soon decide whether or not to accept the recommendation of its independent climate advisors, the Climate Change Committee, to formally include emissions from international aviation and shipping in future carbon budgets.

China set to remain at centre of supply chains. James Baker. *Lloyd's List*. 1 March 2021.

Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135961/China-set-to-remain-at-centre-of-supply-chains> Since the outbreak of the trade war there have been efforts to move manufacturing to less politically sensitive regions in Asia.

Fiji and UN collaborate to increase impact investments in coral reefs and blue economy.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2021/fiji-and-un-collaborate-to-increase-impact-investments-in-coral-reefs-and-blue-economy.html> Fiji is among the four countries selected to receive financing under the US\$41 million portfolio to accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) announced by the United Nations Joint SDG Fund today.

Maritime Vision 2030 envisages Rs 3 lakh cr investment in port projects, 20 lakh jobs.

Economic Times (India). 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/shipping/-transport/maritime-vision-2030-envisages-rs-3-lakh-cr-investment-in-port-projects-20-lakh-jobs/articleshow/81295056.cms> "Maritime India Vision 2030 would involve an investment of over Rs 3 lakh crore, which would generate more than 20 lakh jobs and unlock annual revenue potential for major ports worth over Rs 20,000 crore," according to the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways' document.

Canada Announces Strong Measures to Help Endangered North Atlantic Right Whales.

Pew Charitable Trusts. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3aLOS5f> Each year, North Atlantic right whales migrate from their birthing grounds off the southern coasts of Georgia and Florida to summer feeding areas in the Gulf of Maine, Bay of Fundy, and Gulf of Saint Lawrence.

Statement of Commissioners Maffei and Bentzel: Urging Governors to Prioritize Maritime Worker Vaccinations. *US Federal Maritime Commission (FMC)*. 3 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.fmc.gov/commissioners-daniel-b-maffei-and-carl-w-bentzel-urge-governors-to-prioritize-maritime-worker-vaccinations/> This week, Commissioners Maffei and Bentzel sent letters to the Governors of major port states urging them to prioritize the vaccination of the maritime workforce to protect the Nation's supply chain.

Maersk Etienne case leads Italian police to investigate NGO. Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*.

3 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12801335.ece> NGO Mediterranean Saving Humans is under investigation by the Italian police for its involvement in the disembarkation of the 27 migrants after 38 days on board *Maersk Etienne*.

Ocean mining – a dangerous proposition for people and planet. Douglas McCauley. *China Dialogue*.

3 March 2021. Available from: <https://chinadialogueocean.net/16387-ocean-mining-dangerous-proposition-people-planet/> For the first time in history we must answer the question, should we mine our ocean floor?

Africa can learn maritime lessons from its small island states. Richard Chelin and Denys Reva. *Institute for Security Studies (ISS)*. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/africa-can-learn-maritime-lessons-from-its-small-island-states> The African Union and African states should recognise the achievements of organisations like the Indian Ocean Commission.

Asia Primed for Rare Blue Bond Sales to Fund Sea Protection. Rebecca Choong Wilkins and Todd Gillespie. *Bloomberg*. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bloombergguint.com/onweb/asia-primed-for-rare-blue-bond-sales-to-fund-ocean-protection> Few places in the world have greater need for a new type of sustainable debt to fund water projects and protect the oceans than Asia, with its more than 100,000 km of coastline.

Shipping company and chief officer convicted for dumping garbage in Great Barrier Reef. *Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)*. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/news-community/news-and-media-releases/shipping-company-and-chief-officer-convicted-dumping-garbage> Following a prosecution by AMSA, on Friday 26 February 2021, the chief officer and company of a Liberian-flagged bulk carrier were fined and convicted in the Brisbane Magistrates Court for dumping the equivalent of a 120-litre household garbage bin full of food waste into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Budget debate: Maritime sector to receive \$20 billion in investments by 2024, new jobs to be created. Fabian Koh. *Straits Times*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/politics/maritime-sector-to-receive-20-billion-in-investments-by-2024-new-jobs-to-be> Singapore's maritime sector can expect \$20 billion in investments from industry players by 2024.


£20,000 fine for Captain of the *AM Ghent* following last month's oil spill. *Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC)*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.gbc.gi/news/20000-fine-captain-am-ghent-following-last-months-oil-spill> 📰 The Captain of the *AM Ghent* has been fined £20,000 after pleading guilty to allowing oil to be discharged into port waters and damaging a breeding site of a protected species.

BIMCO, NGOs invite the industry to help develop global digital ISO standards. *BIMCO*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bimco.org/news/maritime-digitalisation/20210305-global-digital-iso-standards> Over the past years, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has put significant effort into the development of common and harmonized data definitions and data models to ease the exchange of digital information between ship and shore. [Invitation to industry bodies](#) 📄

Pressure Mounts on Governments Worldwide to Stop Subsidizing Overfishing. Isabel Jarrett. *Pew Charitable Trusts*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3ntKBZ3> In countries around the world, local fishers, families, businesses, and nonprofits are calling on World Trade Organization members to end harmful fisheries subsidies.

International Women's Day 2021 – Women: agents of change to build back better. *Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://ufmsecretariat.org/international-womens-day-2021-news/> International Women's Day is an opportunity to reflect and take stock of the progress made on gender equality, but above all, today should serve as a date to acclaim and recognize women's societal role.

Vestager to examine competition in red-hot container market. Louise Wendt Jensen and Astrid Sturlason. *ShippingWatch*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12814956.ece> EU Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager now plans to scrutinize the extreme situation unfolding in the global container market together with the industry.

Tightened Travel Restrictions Underline Current Challenges for Tourism. *World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.unwto.org/news/tightened-travel-restrictions-underline-current-challenges-for-tourism> One in three destinations worldwide are now completely closed to international tourism. [COVID-19 Related Travel Restrictions](#) 

Russian Arctic Council Chairmanship: “Will Welcome More Active Engagement of the Observer States”. Alina Bykova. *High North News (Norway)*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.highnorthnews.com/en/russian-arctic-council-chairmanship-will-welcome-more-active-engagement-observer-states> Russia sets sustainable development and economic growth as priority areas for upcoming Arctic Council chairmanship.

China looks at adding shipping to the world’s largest emissions trading scheme. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/china-looks-at-adding-shipping-to-the-worlds-largest-emissions-trading-scheme/> The world’s largest emissions trading scheme (ETS) kicked off last month, and shipping has been warned today it could be included in it.

Shipowners should plan for, not plot against, inevitable EU carbon trading scheme. Terry Macalister. *TradeWinds*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/shipowners-should-plan-for-not-plot-against-inevitable-eu-carbon-trading-scheme/2-1-977079> The European Commission is pressing ahead with plans to draw up final legislative proposals by the end of June covering a European Union emissions trading system (EU ETS) for shipping.

Fishermen Alarmed By Their Absence In Territorial Water Dispute With Somalia. Amenity Ochieng. *Kenya News Agency (KNA)*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.kenyanews.go.ke/fishermen-alarmed-by-their-absence-in-territorial-water-dispute-with-somalia/> Lamu Fishermen have voiced their concerns over the government’s decision to steer ahead with the Kenya-Somali border dispute case at The Hague currently, indifferent to their non-involvement in the case stating that they are likely to suffer the most if Kenya loses in its bid to retain its territorial waters.

Maritime Risk Briefing: Why subterfuge shipping requires greater industry scrutiny. *Lloyd’s List*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136051/Maritime-Risk-Briefing-Why-subterfuge-shipping-requires-greater-industry-scrutiny> Shipping is being subjected to greater sanctions compliance scrutiny and the industry needs to keep up to date with the latest intelligence, red flags and evasions tactics to effectively mitigate risk.

Shipping groups press EU to advance marine ‘fuels of future’. Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3vkVOhe> Shipping and trade groups are calling on the European Union to advance the development of ammonia and green hydrogen as the best marine fuel options to enable the industry to accelerate decarbonisation.

UK Parliament Refers to WMU Report Regarding Seafarers’ Hours of Work and Rest. *World Maritime University (WMU)*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.wmu.se/news/uk-parliament-refers-to-wmu-report-regarding-seafarers-hours-of-work-and-rest> On 10 February 2021, the UK Parliament tabled Early Day Motion 1481 on Seafarers’ Hours of Work and Rest.

Government support needed for marine hydrogen fuel development. Martyn Wingrove. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/governments-must-support-marine-hydrogen-fuel-development-64176> For shipping to meet its goals for reducing carbon intensity and greenhouse gas emissions, it needs to develop marine fuels without carbon atoms, which is only possible with existing technology through hydrogen.

NIMASA: Leadership In A Stormy Weather. Osagie Edward. *Leadership (Nigeria)*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://leadership.ng/nimasa-leadership-in-a-stormy-weather/> Just as life's roughest storms prove the strength of our anchors, so it is with the Nigerian maritime sector as the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic proved to test the character of its managers.

MEPs demand action over cattle stranded at sea in 'diplomatic limbo'. Natasha Foote. *EurActiv*. 12 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/news/meps-demand-action-over-cattle-stranded-at-sea-in-diplomatic-limbo/> European lawmakers are urging authorities to take action over the thousands of cattle currently stranded at sea in "diplomatic limbo" in order to spare the animals any additional and unnecessary suffering.

Russian operator denies breaking Danish law after 28 seafarers arrested. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 12 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/law/russian-operator-denies-breaking-danish-law-after-28-seafarers-arrested/2-1-979403> Russian operator Morwenna Shipping Co has said no Danish migration laws were broken following the arrest of 28 of its seafarers in a work-permit row.

The United Nations Security Council needs to authorize military action to prevent the spill of the FSO SAFER. Ian Ralby, Rohini Ralby and David Soud. *Atlantic Council*. 14 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/energysource/the-united-nations-security-council-needs-to-authorize-military-action-to-prevent-the-spill-of-the-fso-safer/> The time has come for the United Nations Security Council to pass a resolution authorizing military action to prevent what could be the worst humanitarian and environmental disaster of the century.

Fiji police investigate shipping company over alleged trafficking. Christine Rovoi. *Radio New Zealand* 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/438410/fiji-police-investigate-shipping-company-over-alleged-trafficking> Fiji police are investigating the local shipping company over the allegations.

Pacific's voice vital at COP26: Diplomat. Marc Membrere. *Samoa Observer*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.samoaoobserver.ws/category/samoa/80800> British High Commissioner to Samoa David Ward says it is important for the Pacific voice to be present at this year's United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.

Kenya to Take Somalia Border Row Case to UN Security Council. Alex Ndegwa. *AllAfrica*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202103160127.html> Kenya will today (Monday) inform the International Court of Justice (ICJ) of its withdrawal from the case on boundary dispute with Somalia citing bias, the next action being a protest to the United Nations Security Council.

Kenya boycotts ICJ hearing on Somalia sea boundary row. *Al Jazeera*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/15/kenya-boycotts-world-court-hearing-on-somalia-sea-boundary-row> Kenya has refused to participate in hearings at the World Court about a maritime boundary dispute with Somalia over contested parts of the Indian Ocean, in a dispute that has strained the neighbours' diplomatic relations.

Blue Opportunities In One Caribbean. Julia Rawlins-Bentham. *Government of Barbados*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://gisbarbados.gov.bb/blog/blue-opportunities-in-one-caribbean/> There is "tremendous" opportunity in the blue economy, but Caribbean countries need to come together and work as one to maximise those benefits.

Heiltsuk Nation, federal agencies sign agreement to establish Indigenous marine response team. Matt Simmons. *The Narwhal (Canada)*. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://thenarwhal.ca/heiltsuk-marine-emergency-response-team-established/> The unmistakable rainbow sheen of diesel on the water still haunts the Heiltsuk community.

Kenya-Somalia dispute threatens an embattled Horn of Africa. *Selam Tadesse Demissie. Institute for Security Studies (ISS).* 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/kenya-somalia-dispute-threatens-an-embattled-horn-of-africa> Relations between Kenya and Somalia have been strained for some time over economic and maritime boundary issues.

Kenya v Somalia maritime dispute: the difficult task of drawing a line in the sea. *Daniel Finnan. Radio France Internationale (RFI).* 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/32XwMsp> Hearings started at the International Court of Justice on Monday for a maritime boundary dispute between neighbours Kenya and Somalia.

Court keeps captain captive in Suez Canal hotel. *ITF Seafarers.* 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/court-keeps-captain-captive-suez-canal-hotel> "This may be the last message, I write," the captain of the *MV Kenan Mete* emailed on 11 February after the emergency generator on board failed, plunging his ship into darkness.

P&O Cruises says travellers will need vaccinations. *Tom Espiner. BBC News.* 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-56416855> P&O Cruises has said that anyone wanting to take its cruises around the British Isles this summer will need to be vaccinated.

Coronavirus: Commission proposes a Digital Green Certificate. *European Commission.* 17 March 2021. Available from: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_1181 Today the European Commission is proposing to create a Digital Green Certificate to facilitate safe free movement inside the EU during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Maritime Delimitation in the Indian Ocean (Somalia v. Kenya). *International Court of Justice (ICJ).* 18 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.icj-cij.org/public/files/case-related/161/161-20210318-PRE-01-00-EN.pdf> Oral arguments were presented by the Federal Republic of Somalia on 15 and 16 March 2021. The Republic of Kenya did not participate in the hearings. [Conclusion of the public hearings held from Monday 15 to Thursday 18 March 2021](#) [Latest Developments](#)

Royal Caribbean marks 2021 return to Caribbean with cruises from the Bahamas. *Royal Caribbean Group.* 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.royalcaribbeanpresscenter.com/press-release/1507/royal-caribbean-marks-2021-return-to-caribbean-with-cruises-from-the-bahamas/> This summer, travellers can trade in virtual travel experiences for their long-awaited vacations and cruise in The Bahamas and Mexico with Royal Caribbean International.

Royal Caribbean to return to the Caribbean with vaccinated guests in June. *Reuters.* 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3vraFH2> Some of Royal Caribbean Group's cruises will resume sailing in the Caribbean in June with vaccinated adult guests, ending a year-long hiatus brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Polish captain cleared of all charges in Mexico. *Poland IN.* 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://polandin.com/52877107/polish-captain-cleared-of-all-charges-in-mexico> Captain Andrzej Lasota, imprisoned in Mexico in 2019 on charges of alleged involvement in cocaine smuggling, was acquitted by a court in Ciudad Victoria, in the north-east of Mexico.

The blue economy is an ocean of opportunity to advance gender equality. *Dona Bertarelli. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).* 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://unctad.org/news/blue-economy-ocean-opportunity-advance-gender-equality> Around the world, women are excessively affected by climate change, by market fluctuations, or shocks like the pandemic, which has put millions of jobs at risk.

Why the Hot New Shade for Green Bonds Could Be Blue. Rebecca Choong Wilkins and Todd Gillespie. *Bloomberg*. 23 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bloomberqqint.com/quicktakes/why-the-hot-new-shade-for-green-bonds-could-be-blue-quicktake> Few places in the world have greater need for financing to fund water projects and protect the oceans than the Indo-Pacific region, with its vast coastlines and countless islands, many at risk from rising sea levels due to climate change.

UK may include shipping in new emissions trading platform. Jessica Shankleman. *ShippingWatch*. 23 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12853513.ece> The UK government is considering whether to include the shipping industry in its new carbon market as it seeks ways to eliminate transport pollution by 2050.

Cruise Lines Ready to Sail Again in the United States (USA). *Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA)*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://cruising.org/en-gb/news-and-research/press-room/2021/march/cruise-lines-ready-to-sail-again-in-the-united-states> CLIA, which represents 95% of global ocean-going cruise capacity, today called on the CDC to lift the Framework for Conditional Sailing Order (CSO) and allow for the planning of a phased resumption of cruise operations from U.S. ports by the beginning of July.

Demetriades says Lasota drugs case highlights human rights violations. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insight/demetriades-says-lasota-drugs-case-highlights-human-rights-violations/2-1-986206> Cyprus' top shipping official has spoken of his concerns over the continued criminalisation of captains following the release of a Polish master in Mexico in a long-running drugs case.

Half of blacklisted Aswan fleet in hot water as Australia detains two ships. *ITF Seafarers*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/half-blacklisted-aswan-fleet-hot-water-australia-detains-two-ships> Australian maritime authorities have detained two vessels owned by controversial a Qatari shipping company for serious labour rights breaches just weeks after the crew on another of Aswan Trading and Contracting's ships were driven to hunger strike off the coast of Kuwait.

Agent of stranded seafarers in Fiji gets licence suspended. Christine Rovoi. *Radio New Zealand*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/439101/agent-of-stranded-seafarers-in-fiji-gets-licence-suspended> The Philippines government has suspended the licence of a manning agency who recruited a group of seafarers now stranded in Fiji amid claims of human trafficking against their employer.

Maersk Supply Service fined USD 24,000 in protracted shipwreck case. Søren Pico. *ShippingWatch*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/Offshore/article12860241.ece> Maersk Supply Service receives a fine of DKK 150,000 (USD 23,800) from Danish Police in the case pertaining to two vessels that sank off the coast of France in December 2016, according to a press release issued by the Maersk Group Thursday afternoon.

Italy Agrees to Divert Cruise Ships from Venice to Industrial Port. *Maritime Executive*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/italy-agrees-to-divert-cruise-ships-from-venice-to-industrial-port> The long-running debate about cruise ships sailing through the waterways of Venice, Italy took a turn on March 25 with ministers from Italy agreeing to a temporary ban on large cruise ships docking in the historic city.

Japan: Tokyo to waive fee for ships powered by LNG and hydrogen. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/japan-tokyo-to-waive-fee-for-ships-powered-by-lng-and-hydrogen/> The Tokyo metropolitan government, on 25 March, said it has decided to waive port entry fees for ships powered by liquified natural gas (LNG) and hydrogen, as well as LNG bunkering vessels at Yokohama, Kawasaki and Tokyo.

Who pays for Suez blockage? Ever Given grounding could spark years of litigation. Ruth Michaelson and Michael Safi. *The Guardian*. 30 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2021/mar/30/years-of-litigation-could-lie-ahead-as-insurers-eye-cost-of-ever-given-grounding> Ship likely to be centre of protracted legal battle over what caused it to run aground in the Suez and who is to blame.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY

Soaring use of drones and remote surveys to tackle Covid-19 safety. Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/technology/soaring-use-of-drones-and-remote-surveys-to-tackle-covid-19-safety/2-1-971476> One year ago, Bureau Veritas (BV) conducted its first remote survey using an inspection drone.

Shipping groups tap algorithms to cut carbon emissions. Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3eG9QDo> Leading shipping group Maersk Tankers is investing tens of millions of dollars in digital technology to speed up cuts in carbon emissions across the industry, its chief executive told Reuters.

Cutting fuel costs through data sharing. Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Digitalisation & Communications*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/cutting-fuel-costs-through-data-sharing-64094> Cloud-based resources, software and analytics have revolutionised the management of OSV fleets, enabling their owners to optimise operations during the coronavirus pandemic.

How AI and apps are protecting the livelihoods of small-scale fishermen. Michael Taylor. *World Economic Forum*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/03/ai-tech-solutions-local-fishermen/> Small-scale fishermen account for about 90% of the world's capture fishermen and fish workers.

The Trillion-Dollar Challenge. Paul Benecki. *Maritime Executive*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/magazine/the-trillion-dollar-challenge> The quest for carbon-free shipping will be expensive and challenging.

Wärtsilä highlights potential for new technological advances to enable scrubbers to tackle maritime CO2 emissions. *Wärtsilä Corporation*. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.wartsila.com/media/news/16-03-2021-wartsila-highlights-potential-for-new-technological-advances-to-enable-scrubbers-to-tackle-maritime-co2-emissions-2877540> Wärtsilä Exhaust Treatment highlights the potential for exhaust gas abatement systems to directly tackle maritime carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions in the near future, as technology advances and enables manufacturers to design and upgrade scrubbers to capture carbon at the point of exhaust.

Whales are under significant threat from ship strikes. Could new technology save them? Stephen Murphy. *Sky News*. 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.sky.com/story/whales-are-under-significant-threat-from-ship-strikes-could-new-technology-save-them-12250242> It's hoped the project will lead to an early warning system to help ships avoid hitting whales and to gather sound pollution data.

Wireless charging technology being developed for electric vessels. Martyn Wingrove. *Marine Propulsion & Auxiliary Machinery*. 23 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/electric-vessel-wireless-charging-technology-being-developed-64479> Radio waves could be used to charge manned or autonomous electric vessels in the future.

ClassNK begins joint investigative research with Sompō Japan on risk assessment of autonomous ships. *ClassNK*. 25 March 2021. Available from: https://www.classnk.com/hp/en/hp_news.aspx?id=5951&type=press_release&layout=1 Leading classification society ClassNK has begun joint investigative research with Sompō Japan Insurance Inc. on risk assessment of autonomous ships.

New autonomous vessel delivered to Royal Navy. *Royal Navy*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/news-and-latest-activity/news/2021/march/26/210326-madfox-vessel> The Royal Navy's experimentation innovator NavyX has officially welcomed a new autonomous vessel into its service.

MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING

Wärtsilä and Ocean Technologies Group partner to deliver transformational learning solutions to improve safety and efficiency at sea. *Wärtsilä Corporation*. 24 February 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3gSB1h0> The leading provider of maritime smart Simulation and Training solutions Wärtsilä Voyage, and the leading maritime knowledge and technology solutions provider Ocean Technologies Group (OTG), have agreed to share their expertise and resources via a strategic partnership that will significantly enhance safety and efficiency in the maritime sector.

Kenya: Coast Colleges to Train Students on Key Maritime Skills to Boost Blue Economy. Siago Cece. *AllAfrica*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202103020064.html> Institutions of higher learning in the Coast region are taking advantage of their proximity to the Indian Ocean to structure academic programmes that offer courses on oceanography, fisheries and maritime.

'A sea of opportunities' – why Imola chose a maritime career. *Gard*. 3 March 2021. Available from: https://www.gard.no/web/news/article?p_document_id=31296934 Imola Szanto has chosen a different career path than most women her age: oil tankers, icebreakers, Arctic expeditions, and maritime law.

Governor Okowa: Maritime University Key Factor in Niger Delta Peace, Stability. Philip Kayanet. *Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://nimasa.gov.ng/governor-okowa-maritime-university-key-factor-in-niger-delta-peace-stability/> The coming of the Nigeria Maritime University was instrumental in bringing about peace and reconciliation in the Niger Delta following a period of fierce agitation for economic justice in the region.

Maritime Agency Intensifies Seafarers Training For Shipping Development. David Adekunle. *Voice of Nigeria (VON)*. 7 March 2021. Available from: <https://von.gov.ng/2021/03/07/maritime-agency-intensifies-seafarers-training-for-shipping-development/> The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) is intensifying the training and certification of seafarers to enhance the country's position in an increasingly competitive maritime world.

Covid pandemic transforms maritime training. Martyn Wingrove. *Tanker Shipping & Trade*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/covid-pandemic-transforms-maritime-training-64114> Within a year, maritime training has been transformed through enforced change as the Covid-19 pandemic has meant seafarers are unable to develop their competence and expertise in onshore training academies due to travel restrictions.

Kisumu's Railway Marine School to admit students in May. Maurice Alal. *The Star (Kenya)*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.the-star.co.ke/counties/nyanza/2021-03-09-kisumu-railway-marine-school-to-admit-students-in-may/> The construction of the school was funded by the World Bank through the Kenya Transport Sector Support Programme in partnership with the government.

OpEd: STCW Requirements Should Support Maritime Decarbonization. David Hume. *MarineLink*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/oped-stcw-requirements-support-maritime-485957> The modern merchant mariner is required to be competent in a number of skills and knowledge areas, such as firefighting, CPR, vessel security and even how to work as a team.

Marina taps industry experts to address EMSA issues. *Manila Times*. 13 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/03/13/news/national/marina-taps-industry-experts-to-address-emsa-issues/850560/> Industry stakeholders threw their full support to the initiative of the Maritime Industry Authority (Marina) in addressing the concerns raised by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) on the country's compliance with the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) Convention.

MARINA 'dropping the ball' on PH compliance with EU regulations, says Locsin. Roy Mabasa. *Manila Bulletin*. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/03/16/marina-dropping-the-ball-on-ph-compliance-with-eu-regulations-says-locsin/> The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has been 'dropping the ball' on the issue of closing down incompetent maritime schools in the Philippines for the last 16 years, Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. said on Tuesday.

Europe-bound Filipino seafarers face uncertainty pending review of maritime schools' competency issue. Roy Mabasa. *Manila Bulletin*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/03/17/europe-bound-filipino-seafarers-face-uncertainty-pending-review-of-maritime-schools-competency-issue/> The European Commission is now undertaking a six-month formal process of assessment to determine whether to extend or terminate the recognition of the Philippines' education, training, and certification system for Filipino seafarers sailing under the flags of European Union (EU) member states.

Liberian Registry Will Certify SQA's E-Learning Maritime Library And STCW E-Courses. *Liberian Registry*. 18 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.lisr.com/blog/liberian-registry-will-certify-sqa%E2%80%99s-e-learning-maritime-library-and-stcw-e-courses> We are delighted to announce that the Liberian Registry has signed an agreement with SQA to approve SQA's library of e-learning courses and STCW e-courses for the maritime industry.

EU to assess PH maritime training, STCW compliance. Joyce Ann L. Rocamora. *Philippine News Agency (PNA)*. 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1134252> The European Union (EU) is set to decide whether to extend or terminate its recognition of the Philippines' education, training, and certification system for seafarers.

Digitalisation and the seafarer of the future. Iain Gomersall. *Seatrade Maritime News*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/crewing/digitalisation-and-seafarer-future> We spoke with Nick Chubb MNI, Founder and Director of Antares Insight, about the future challenges, potential opportunities, transformative technologies and what is needed from the seafarer of the future.

How are maritime careers expected to change after Covid-19? Alexander Love. *ShipTechnology*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/how-are-maritime-careers-expected-to-change-after-covid-19/> Covid-19 has brought to light huge inefficiencies in the way that the maritime industry handles and safeguards seafarers.

Seafarer training falling behind as tech accelerates. Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136249> The delay between introducing new technology on board ships and full implementation of training on that equipment will grow.

ISMI holds five-day training course for fisheries inspectors from Gulf of Guinea countries. Eric Nana and Yaw Kwafo. *Modern Ghana*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.modernghana.com/news/1070348/ismi-holds-five-day-training-course-for-fisheries.html> The International Maritime Institute (ISMI) of the Regional Academy of Maritime Sciences and Technology (ARSTM) in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire has this week held a training course for fishery inspectors from Gulf of Guinea countries.

Conquer your fears and apply to Maritime University - VC to women. *GhanaWeb*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/regional/Conquer-your-fears-and-apply-to-Maritime-University-VC-to-women-1218217> The Vice-Chancellor of the Regional Maritime University (RMU), Professor Elvis Nyarko has urged women to apply and participate in the programs offered at the university.

MARITIME SAFETY

Secure Anchorage Area: Navy, Nimsa Intensify Security Efforts. Philip Kyanet. *Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)*. 28 February 2021. Available from: <https://nimasa.gov.ng/secure-anchorage-area-navy-nimasa-intensify-security-efforts/> The Nigerian Navy and Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) are intensifying efforts to protect, interdict, and deter threats around vessels anchored in the Secure Anchorage Area (SAA), off the coast of Lagos.

The International Group of P&I Clubs launches a safety animation to help prevent the loss of life in enclosed spaces on board ships. *Standard Club*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3nBedDZ> Investigations into enclosed space-related casualties show that most are caused by poor training and knowledge of the correct entry procedures, or a disregard for them. [Enclosed Space Entry I Stop, Think, Stay Alive](#) 🚢

Mentally safe shipping – Seaworthiness and Sao Paolo. Christian Ayerst. *Splash 247.com*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/mentally-safe-shipping-seaworthiness-and-sao-paolo/> Society thinks that mental and physical health belong hand-in-hand. Christian Ayerst, CEO of Mental Health Support Solutions, questions whether shipping does too.

Damning report looks into pilot boarding fatalities. *Maritime Journal*. 12 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritimejournal.com/news101/onboard-systems/safety,-survival-and-training/new-research-shows-pilots-risk-everything-in-a-game-of-snakes-and-ladders> A hard-hitting research paper points to multiple failures “in regulation, regulatory enforcement, training and vessel design” that have lead to fatalities during pilot transfers.

Winter trends put Nordic icebreakers and crews at higher risk. Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 23 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136222/> A combination of stronger winds, drift ice, seafarer inexperience, and ageing icebreakers is worrying.

Inmarsat report guides passenger ships towards IMO 2021 cyber risk management compliance. *Inmarsat*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3u4dUUD> New report from Inmarsat Research Programme outlines how to meet cyber security responsibilities expected of cruise ship and ferry owners, managers and captains.

Weather routeing cuts container loss risks. Martyn Wingrove. *Maritime Optimisation & Communications*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rivieramm.com/news-content-hub/news-content-hub/weather-routeing-cuts-container-loss-risks-64566> Shipping companies can lower fuel costs and mitigate the risk of damage to ships and cargo.

“A ticking time bomb”: how FSO Safer became a ‘bargaining tool’ for Houthis. Ephrem Kossaiy. *Arab News (Saudi Arabia)*. 28 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1832991/middle-east> Experts estimate major leak would damage Red Sea ecosystems, upon which some 30 million people depend.

Hamburg politician and pilots call for local safety measures after Suez incident. Af Jens Thomsen. *ShippingWatch*. 30 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/article12869497.ece> Alderman for the pilots on the Elbe in Germany calls for stricter safety requirements in the heavily trafficked port of Hamburg after the dramatic grounding in the Suez Canal.

MARITIME SECURITY

Sea transport is primary route for counterfeiters. *OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/sea-transport-is-primary-route-for-counterfeiters.htm> More than half of the total value of counterfeit goods seized around the world are shipped by sea, according to a new OECD-EUIPO report.
[Misuse of Containerized Maritime Shipping in the Global Trade of Counterfeits](#)

EMASOH: One Year Of Reassurance, De-Escalation And Dialogue. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 26 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/emasoh-one-year-of-reassurance-de-escalation-and-dialogue/> The European-led Maritime Awareness mission in the Strait of Hormuz, EMASOH, has been operative for one year on the 25th of February 2021.

Monthly Maritime Security Update (MMSU) January 2021. *Information Fusion Centre Indian Ocean Region*. 26 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.indiannavy.nic.in/ifc-ior/IFC-IOR%20MMSU%20Jan%2021.pdf> IFC-IOR is premised on mutual collaboration and cooperation and aims to advance maritime safety and security in the Indian Ocean Region.

The United States and the Netherlands Host Conference on Maritime Security. *US Department of State*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-and-the-netherlands-host-conference-on-maritime-security> On March 3, the United States and the Netherlands hosted an experts’ meeting on the comprehensive implementation of maritime aspects of United Nations Security Council resolutions on countries such as the DPRK.

Maritime Digital Transformation Heralds New Cyber Risks. Leonid Vashchenko. *Homeland Security Today*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/transportation/maritime-digital-transformation-heralds-new-cyber-risks/> Maritime digital transformation is in its most rapid and turbulent era. Such a transformation offers substantial advantages and benefits, but with commensurate risks in the cyber domain.

Growing maritime insecurity undermines global security-Prof Nyarko. *News Ghana*.

9 March 2021. Available from: <https://newsghana.com.gh/growing-maritime-insecurity-undermines-global-security-prof-nyarko/> The Vice Chancellor, Regional Maritime University (RMU), Professor Elvis Nyarko, says the growing maritime insecurity undermines the legitimate uses of the sea, impairing the exploitation of coastal resources and undermining global security.

Total of 5 theft, armed robbery incidents in Singapore Strait this year as of end-Feb.

Cheryl Lin. *Channel News Asia*. 10 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/theft-robbery-piracy-singapore-strait-navy-information-fusion-14375796> There have been five theft or armed robbery incidents in the Singapore Strait this year as of end-February, according to the Information Fusion Centre (IFC), which shares maritime security information among countries.

Kidnap risk remains undimmed for shipping. Declan Bush. *Lloyd's List*. 10 March 2021.

Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136077/Kidnap-risk-remains-undimmed-for-shipping> The release of 10 hostages by Nigerian pirates on March 8 caps another brutal summer of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea.

NATO Operation Sea Guardian focused patrols return to Central Mediterranean. *NATO Allied Maritime Command (MARCOM)*. 11 March 2021. Available from:

<https://mc.nato.int/media-centre/news/2021/nato-operation-sea-guardian-focused-patrols-return-to-central-mediterranean> The flagship Hellenic Navy frigate *Salamis* and the Croatian Navy missile boat *Dubrovnik*, supported by aircrafts and submarines from Greece, Italy and Turkey, deployed to the Central Mediterranean as part of NATO's maritime security operation, Operation Sea Guardian (OSG) on 11 March 2021.

Danish minister wants to launch a naval vessel to combat piracy in Gulf of Guinea.

ShippingWatch. 12 March 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12830062.ece> The Danish Government is seriously concerned about the situation in the Gulf of Guinea off the western coast of Africa, where pirates constitute a growing threat to merchant vessels.

Egypt, French naval forces carry out joint exercise to safeguard maritime security in region.

Ahmed Eleiba. *Ahram Online (Egypt)*. 14 March 2021. Available from:

<https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/405982/Egypt/Politics-/Egypt,-French-naval-forces-carry-out-joint-exercis.aspx> The Egyptian and French navies carried out a joint exercise at the field of operations of the northern fleet under the armed forces' plan to upgrade training and exchange expertise with the fraternal armed forces of other countries.

Ghana and US Navies to hold maritime exercise in the Gulf of Guinea. *GhanaWeb*.

16 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Ghana-and-US-Navies-to-hold-maritime-exercise-in-the-Gulf-of-Guinea-1205935> The Ghana Navy has announced that it will, from March 14 to March 27, 2021, host an annual multinational maritime exercise in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) in collaboration with the United States Naval Forces, Africa (NAVAF).

Italian Navy, French Navy To Increase Cooperation In Mediterranean, Gulf Of Guinea And Horn Of Africa. *Naval News*. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3t2QSfs> Italian Navy (Marina Militare) and French Navy (Marine Nationale) side by side to strengthen dialogue, in the framework of the activities of common interest carried out in the Wider Mediterranean.

Danish frigate will make a big difference. *Danish Shipping*. 16 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.danishshipping.dk/en/press/news/danish-frigate-will-make-a-big-difference> Metal Maritime and Danish Shipping are very happy with the decision to send a Danish naval vessel to the Gulf of Guinea to combat piracy.

Steamship offers cyber attack insurance cover. David Osler. *Lloyd's List*. 17 March 2021.

Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136163/Steamship-offers-cyber-attack-insurance-cover> Steamship Mutual has launched a cyber attack insurance product which covers loss of income incurred by vessels as well as providing access to expert assistance and free security awareness training for employees.

Scholars condemn increasing violence at sea as ASEAN discusses marine law. Vu Anh.

VN Express International (Vietnam). 18 March 2021. Available from:

<https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/scholars-condemn-increasing-violence-at-sea-as-asean-discusses-marine-law-4250369.html> Forces using violence in the region's disputed waters have caused an escalation of tensions, heard scholars attending an ASEAN Regional Forum workshop (ARF).

Obangame Express Multinational Exercise Underscores U.S.-Ghanaian Partnership on Maritime Security. *United States Embassy in Ghana*. 19 March 2021. Available from:

<https://gh.usembassy.gov/obangame-express-multinational-exercise-underscores-u-s-ghanaian-partnership-on-maritime-security/> Obangame Express (OE21), the largest multinational maritime exercise in Western Africa, kicked off its tenth year with 32 participating nations at an opening ceremony in Accra, Ghana, March 19, 2021.

The Mozambique Channel is the next security hotspot. David Brewster. *Lowy*

Institute (Australia). 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/mozambique-channel-next-security-hotspot> An Islamist insurgency is spilling danger into a major shipping lane, and countries must decide who they want to fix it.

Minister calls for integrated approach to address maritime security. *GhanaWeb*.

20 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Minister-calls-for-integrated-approach-to-address-maritime-security-1209820> Dominic Nitiwul, the Minister for Defence, has called for a multifaceted approach to addressing maritime security challenges in the sub-region.

MMEA reports Johor eastern waters to be 'hotspot' for vessels to anchor illegally.

Berita Harian. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 22 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/mmea-reports-johor-eastern-waters-to-be-hotspot-for-vessels-to-anchor-illegally/> The Johor state division of Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) on Monday (22 March) said it has discovered waters east of Johor has become a "hotspot" for foreign vessels to anchor illegally and conduct unlawful activities such as illegally releasing oil into the ocean.

MIGRANTS

Eluding Libya's coast guard: Fewer migrants make it to Europe on central Mediterranean.

Sertan Sanderson. *InfoMigrants*. 25 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/30504/eluding-libya-s-coast-guard-fewer-migrants-make-it-to-europe-on-central-mediterranean> In the central Mediterranean, the race against time to reach the EU is turning to a race against Libya's coast guard.

15 migrants feared dead, hundreds rescued off Libya. Benjamin Bathke. *InfoMigrants*.

1 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/30541/15-migrants-feared-dead-hundreds-rescued-off-libya> Between Friday and Sunday, some 550 migrants were rescued in the Central Mediterranean.

NGO Accused of Taking on Maersk Etienne's Rescued Migrants for Pay. *Maritime Executive*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/ngo-accused-of-taking-on-maersk-tanker-s-rescued-migrants-for-pay> Prosecutors in the Sicilian city of Ragusa have accused an NGO rescue vessel operator of receiving money in exchange for taking 27 rescued migrants off of a Maersk product tanker last year.

SOS call to local Indian paper saves 81 Rohingya at sea, but no country says welcome. Rupam Jain. *Reuters*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://tmsnrt.rs/2S9liA6> Denis Giles, the editor of a small Indian newspaper, received a phone call as he sat typing in his one-room office in Port Blair overlooking the languid waters of the Andaman Sea.

Hundreds of migrants allowed to disembark in Sicily, blockade of Sea-Watch 4 lifted. *InfoMigrants*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/30608/hundreds-of-migrants-allowed-to-disembark-in-sicily-blockade-of-sea-watch-4-lifted> A migrant rescue ship has been allowed to disembark 363 people rescued from the Mediterranean in Sicily. Italy also "provisionally" lifted a blockade of the vessel *Sea-Watch 4*.

At Least 20 Dead After Smugglers Force Migrants into the Sea Off Djibouti. *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.iom.int/news/least-20-dead-after-smugglers-force-migrants-sea-djibouti> At least 20 people have drowned after smugglers threw dozens of migrants overboard early Wednesday morning during their journey from Djibouti to Yemen, the third such incident on the Gulf of Aden in six months.

'A distress call for human rights': European migration policies put migrants' lives at risk. Sertan Sanderson. *InfoMigrants*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/30728/a-distress-call-for-human-rights-european-migration-policies-put-migrants-lives-at-risk> The Council of Europe (CoE) has published a new report about developments in Europe's response to the migration situation on the continent.

European countries must urgently change migration policies which are endangering refugees and migrants crossing the Mediterranean. *Council of Europe*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/european-countries-must-urgently-change-migration-policies-which-are-endangering-refugees-and-migrants-crossing-the-mediterranean> European countries are failing to protect refugees and migrants trying to reach Europe via the Mediterranean.

Resolving the issue of sea-stranded Rohingyas. Farhaan Ahmed. *Daily Star (Bangladesh)*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/news/resolving-the-issue-sea-stranded-rohingyas-2059485> According to reports, around February 11, 2021, a fishing boat with around 90 Rohingya refugees onboard set out from Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh purportedly with the aim of reaching the shores of Malaysia.


France rescues 72 migrants in Channel on way to UK. *Deutsche Welle (Germany)*. 21 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.dw.com/en/france-rescues-72-migrants-in-channel-on-way-to-uk/a-56946153> 🇫🇷 The coast guard was alerted that several boats were in trouble as they attempted to cross the English Channel to Britain.

Fate of 81 Rohingya adrift at sea for weeks hangs in limbo, rights group says. Subrata Nagchoudhury. *Reuters*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2R8mhZL> India, Bangladesh and Myanmar are failing to provide information about a large group of Rohingya people whose boat has been adrift in the Andaman Sea for weeks, a rights organization said on Thursday, despite appeals from humanitarian agencies to bring them to land.

Spanish rescue ship saves 38 migrants, at least two lives lost. Sertan Sanderson. *InfoMigrants*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/31167/spanish-rescue-ship-saves-38-migrants-at-least-two-lives-lost> The Open Arms private rescue operation has saved the lives of 38 migrants in distress in the central Mediterranean. Nearer to Spain, at least two migrants drowned at the weekend.

NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

Work will now begin on the Stad Ship Tunnel. *Norwegian Coastal Administration*. 22 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.kystverket.no/en/News/work-will-now-begin-on-the-stad-ship-tunnel/> The Norwegian Coastal Administration has received the assignment letter from the Ministry of Transport and Communications, which gives a green light to start preparations for the construction of the Stad Ship Tunnel.

Vessel Traffic in Canada's Pacific Region. *Clear Seas*. 25 February 2021. Available from: https://clearseas.org/en/research_project/vessel-traffic-in-canadas-pacific-region/ Clear Seas contracted Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC, to conduct a study to provide a clear, comprehensive picture of the commercial vessels operating in Canada's Pacific region, their typical routes and behaviours, and the quantity and type of oil they carry. [Report](#) 

NOAA begins transition exclusively to electronic navigation charts. *US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)*. 26 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/noaa-begins-transition-exclusively-to-electronic-navigation-charts> NOAA will begin to implement its sunset plan for paper nautical charts this month, starting with the current paper chart 18665 of Lake Tahoe.

Russia launches satellite to monitor climate in Arctic. *Reuters*. 28 February 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2S1y9UK>  Russia launched its space satellite Arktika-M on Sunday on a mission to monitor the climate and environment in the Arctic amid a push by the Kremlin to expand the country's activities in the region.

From scrapping to sanctions-busting. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1135954/From-scrapping-to-sanctions-busting> When Saudi Arabia's national tanker company sold two vintage crude carriers for scrap more than two years ago, the shipowner never imagined the vessels would instead continue trading Iranian crude.

India launches real-time vessel tracking and seafarers' help system. *Hindu BusinessLine*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/logistics/india-launches-real-time-vessel-tracking-and-seafarers-help-system/article33970821.ece> India launched a real-time vessel tracking system that can help seafarers and fishermen in the times of need.

China pledges to build 'Polar Silk Road' over 2021-2025. *Reuters*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3eDd1Mj> China will construct a "Polar Silk Road" and actively participate in the development of Arctic and Antarctic regions, it said in its new 2021-2025 "five-year plan" published on Friday.

Singapore is the First Country to Ratify the Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/4d5d99e3-6c69-46ca-afc7-01272f2ec8ee> Ratifying the Convention will support the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities to become an intergovernmental organisation.

How Europe's dark fishing fleets threaten West Africa. *Engineering & Technology (E&T).*

10 March 2021. Available from: <https://eandt.theiet.org/content/articles/2021/03/europe-s-dark-fishing-fleets-in-west-africa-s-waters/> Cargo ships from around the world are moving untracked in African waters, where the rise of a new fishing activity affects everything from local biodiversity to piracy.

Pentagon 2020 Freedom of Navigation Report. *US Naval Institute News.* 10 March 2021.

Available from: <https://news.usni.org/2021/03/10/pentagon-2020-freedom-of-navigation-report> For more than 40 years, the U.S. Freedom of Navigation (FON) Program has continuously reaffirmed the United States' policy of exercising and asserting its navigation and overflight rights and freedoms around the world.

The Panama Ship Registry announces market consultation for the Provision and Operation of the LRIT System. *Hellenic Shipping News.* 11 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/the-panama-ship-registry-announces-market-consultation-for-the-provision-and-operation-of-the-lrit-system/> The Panama Maritime Authority, through its General Directorate of Merchant Marine, announces that it seeks to know the companies or corporations, joint ventures or associations that have potential interest in applying to the Market Consultation for the Provision and Operation of the Long Range Identification Tracking System for Ships of the Republic of Panama Ship Registry and Related Services.


Continuous loss propulsion reports from ships in high traffic areas of China. *Safety 4 Sea.*

18 March 2021. Available from: <https://safety4sea.com/continuous-loss-propulsion-reports-from-ships-in-high-traffic-areas-of-china/> Following a similar warning in April 2020, the Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Administrator now informed it continues to receive loss of propulsion reports from ships while in high density traffic or in narrow waters in China.


Geopolitical Implications of New Arctic Shipping Lanes. Gabriella Gricius. *Arctic Institute.*

18 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.thearcticinstitute.org/geopolitical-implications-arctic-shipping-lanes/> The advent of climate change has brought about a number of different changes in the Arctic, including increased accessibility to Arctic ports as well as the opening of new Arctic shipping lanes.


Friend of the Sea launches new Whale-Safe Certification and releases Whale Ship Strikes

Dossier. *Friend of the Sea.* 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://friendofthesea.org/new-whale-safe-certification/> Friend of the Sea, a program of the World Sustainability Organization, has launched a new Whale-Safe certification and released a Whale Ship Strikes Dossier. [Whale Ship Strikes Dossier](#) 

Egypt's Suez Canal blocked by huge container ship. *BBC News.* 24 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-56505413>  A giant container ship the length of four football pitches has become wedged across Egypt's Suez Canal, blocking one of the world's busiest trade routes.

Suez Canal blocked: What the mishap in one of the busiest shipping lanes means for the

world. Paul Kelso. *Sky News.* 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.sky.com/story/why-the-cost-of-suez-canal-mishap-is-being-calculated-around-the-world-12255715>  Millions of gallons of oil and millions of tonnes of goods are being held up by a mammoth vessel blocking the key shipping route.

Suez Canal: Egypt's race to unblock the passage. *Middle East Eye.* 24 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/egypt-suez-canal-blocked-race-open> Canal authority tells MEE it expects traffic to resume as normal soon as global prices of oil and shipping rise.

Suez Canal congestion could lead to higher freight rates but more security risks. Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3vthPuG> More than 100 vessels are being affected by the congestion at Suez Canal following the grounding of a giant boxship, and analysts expect the disruption to boost freight rates and create security risks.

Explainer: Why is the Suez Canal so important? *Reuters*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/32UPdOz> 📺 A traffic jam on the Suez Canal, like the one caused by the massive Ever Given container ship, is rather a big problem.

Stuck Suez Canal container ship disrupts global commodities trade: sources. Sameer Mohindru, Vickey Du, Carina Li and Isaac Eio. *S&P Global Platts*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3nv0sGJ> The overnight running aground of a mega container ship that has blocked maritime traffic on both sides of the Suez Canal is delaying ship movement and will disturb trade flows in the near term, several market sources told S&P Global Platts March 24.

Suez Canal suspends traffic as tug boats work to free ship: Live. *Al Jazeera*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2021/3/25/suez-canal-still-blocked-causing-massive-shipping-jam-live> Container ship continues to choke traffic in both directions along the Suez Canal, creating one of the worst shipping jams seen in years.

Suez Canal Blockage Is Rare Accident Along Key Maritime Route. Robert Tuttle and David Stringer. *Bloomberg*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bloombergquint.com/business/suez-blockage-is-a-signal-of-what-s-ahead-as-ships-get-bigger> The grounding of a 200,000-ton container ship that's brought the Suez Canal to a halt for days is a dramatic, though rare, example of a serious incident on the key trade artery.

New Study Calculates Risk of Vessels Becoming Stuck in Arctic Sea Ice. Malte Humpert. *High North News (Norway)*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.highnorthnews.com/en/new-study-calculates-risk-vessels-becoming-stuck-arctic-sea-ice> A new study sheds light on some of the risks associated with Arctic shipping finding that vessels with lower ice-classes are up to 20 times more likely to become stuck in sea ice along Russia's Northern Sea Route than vessels with higher levels of protection.

NAPA, MOL, and ClassNK agree to joint further development for a comprehensive navigational risk monitoring system. *ClassNK*. 25 March 2021. Available from: https://www.classnk.com/hp/en/hp_news.aspx?id=5952&type=press_release&layout=1 The grounding risk monitoring system, based on the NAPA Fleet Intelligence platform, has proven successful in its proof-of-concept stage and will provide new capabilities for mitigating and monitoring navigational risks.

Africa-bound: Ships set for costly detour amid Suez blockage. Alex Longley, Christian Wienberg and Sheela Tobben. *Al Jazeera*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2021/3/26/bb-africa-bound-ships-set-for-costly-detour-amid-suez-blockage> Ships are beginning costly and time-consuming detours around Africa with the Suez Canal still blocked by a massive container vessel, as concerns mount that a complex rescue mission could take weeks.

Container ships reroute south of Africa to circumvent Suez Canal. Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12862042.ece> South Korea's HMM confirms to ShippingWatch that the container line has redirected a ship south of Africa to circumvent the Suez Canal, where a grounded container ship continues to block all passage.

How the Suez Canal works. Maersk. 27 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVkgTE013Dk&t=10s> 📺 The Suez Canal has a daily capacity of approximately 50 – 85 vessels, with vessels entering from both sides.

Successful Refloating of *EVER GIVEN*. Suez Canal Authority (SCA). 29 March 2021. Available from: https://www.suezcanal.gov.eg/English/MediaCenter/News/Pages/nav_29-03-2021.aspx Admiral Osama Rabie, Chairman and Managing Director of the Suez Canal Authority has announced today, Monday 29th March, 2021, that the Panamanian container ship has been successfully refloated.

Suez Canal: *Ever Given* container ship shifted from shoreline. BBC News. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-56559904> 📺 The stern of a huge container ship that has been wedged across the Suez Canal for almost a week has been freed from the shoreline, officials say.

Traffic in Suez Canal resumes after stranded ship refloated. Yusri Mohamed, Nadine Awadalla and Aidan Lewis. Reuters. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3xpr5lf> Shipping was on the move again late on Monday in Egypt's Suez Canal after tugs refloated a giant container ship which had been blocking the channel for almost a week, causing a huge build-up of vessels around the waterway.

***Ever Given* partially refloated raising hopes of Suez Canal reopening.** Lloyd's List. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136281> The containership blocking Suez Canal transits appears to have finally been pulled clear of the bank side and is now in mid channel, according to AIS data from Lloyd's List Intelligence.

The Blocked Suez Canal Isn't the Only Waterway the World Should Be Worried About. James Stavridis. Time. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://time.com/5950791/suez-canal-ship-blockage-trade/> 📺 I've sailed through the Suez Canal many times—as a junior officer, a captain of a destroyer, a commodore in command of a group of destroyers, and as a strike group commander on the nuclear aircraft carrier *Enterprise*.

Philippine fighters fly over Chinese flotilla in South China Sea. CNN. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://edition.cnn.com/2021/03/28/asia/philippines-fighter-jets-south-china-sea-intl-hnk/index.html> 📺 The Philippine military is sending light fighter aircraft to fly over hundreds of Chinese vessels in disputed waters in the South China Sea, its defense minister said, as he repeated his demand the flotilla be withdrawn immediately.

PIRACY

Nigerian militants threaten oil infrastructure as piracy risk rises. Gary Dixon. TradeWinds. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/news/nigerian-militants-threaten-oil-infrastructure-as-piracy-risk-rises/2-1-970073> 📺 A new Nigerian militant group has issued a threat against domestic oil and gas infrastructure at the same time as owners have been warned of an increased piracy risk in the Gulf of Guinea.

Crew of Chinese boat freed from kidnappers: Nigerian army. Guardian (Nigeria). 7 March 2021. Available from: <https://guardian.ng/news/crew-of-chinese-boat-freed-from-kidnappers-nigerian-army/> The Nigerian army freed 14 crew members of a Chinese fishing boat from their pirate kidnappers on Saturday after a month in captivity, following a ransom payment, the military said.

Ransom Payment in the Gulf of Guinea. John Campbell. *Council on Foreign Relations*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.cfr.org/blog/ransom-payment-gulf-guinea> According to the Nigerian army, a ransom of \$300,000 was paid to pirates in the Gulf of Guinea to secure the release of the crew of a Chinese fishing boat.

Crew kidnapped off chemical tanker in Gulf of Guinea. Matt Coyne. *TradeWinds*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/crew-kidnapped-off-chemical-tanker-in-gulf-of-guinea/2-1-979170> Fifteen crew members have been kidnapped from a De Poli chemical tanker after a pirate attack on Thursday.

UPDATE - Kidnapping - 213nm South Cotonou. *Dryad Global*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://channel16.dryadglobal.com/boarding-213nm-south-cotonou> Reporting indicates that Maltese flagged *MT DAVIDE B* (IMO9721750) has been boarded by 9 armed individuals 213nm South Cotonou, 15 crew reported kidnapped.

Why pirates attack: Geospatial evidence. Raj M. Desai and George E. Shambaugh. *Brookings Institution*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2021/03/15/why-pirates-attack-geospatial-evidence/> In early 1991 a few miles off the coast of Somalia—just as Mohamed Siad Barre’s dictatorship was collapsing—the merchant vessel *Naviluck* was attacked by three boatloads of men who killed some of the ship’s crew members, set it on fire, and sank it.

Gulf of Guinea gaining notoriety as world’s piracy hotspot – KAIPTC Commandant. Iddi Yire. *Ghana News Agency*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.gna.org.gh/1.20217132> The Gulf of Guinea has since the late 2000s gained notoriety as the world’s leading hotspot for piracy, Major General Francis Ofori, Commandant, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), has said.

De Poli makes contact with 15 kidnapped tanker crew members. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/de-poli-makes-contact-with-15-kidnapped-tanker-crew-members/2-1-981861> De Poli Shipmanagement says 15 seafarers seized from a tanker in the Gulf of Guinea are “doing well under the difficult circumstances”.

Singapore Reaffirms Role of ReCAAP and its Efforts to Combat Piracy and Sea Robberies in Asia. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 18 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/media-centre/news-releases/detail/849ddf6e-416d-4747-b41a-a31a0a7fc9a6> Singapore, as one of the 20 Contracting Parties to the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery (ReCAAP), and host to the ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC), is pleased to have participated in the 15th Anniversary Symposium of ReCAAP held today.

Danish frigate has the mandate to arrest pirates and seize weapons in Gulf of Guinea. Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*. 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12846072.ece> The Danish frigate, which is to be deployed in the Gulf of Guinea to fight piracy, will have the mandate needed to arrest pirates and seize weapons, the Ministry of Defense informs ShippingWatch.

Indian sailors are being caught in a piracy boom off West Africa. One captain held hostage shares his story. Saudamini Jain. *CNN*. 20 March 2021. Available from: <https://edition.cnn.com/2021/03/20/asia/piracy-indian-sailors-gulf-of-guinea-intl-hnk-dst/index.html> That morning, Capt. Ripusudan Prasad phoned his wife, Anita, as he did every day from the oil tanker he commanded, the *MT Duke*.

Swim together or sink alone: African states unite to confront pirate threat. Shola Lawal. *Christian Science Monitor*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Africa/2021/0329/Swim-together-or-sink-alone-African-states-unite-to-confront-pirate-threat> The dense mangroves of Nigeria's Niger Delta region are known for their rich flora and fauna, as well as vast crude oil reserves.

PORT STATE CONTROL

Tokyo MoU Interim Guidance Relating to Covid-19 Circumstances. *Tokyo MoU*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/32V5HGj> Taking into account the significant impacts to the shipping industry due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the continuing effects of the crisis, Tokyo MOU adopted the interim guidance relating to COVID-19 circumstances, in accordance with the decision of the Port State Control Committee at 31st meeting (virtual) for protecting PSCOs and preventing spread of the COVID-19 and for facilitating port State Authorities to apply pragmatic flexibility as required in a harmonized manner under the difficult situation. [Guidance](#)

Singapore is carrying out 500 to 600 crew changes per day. Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ports/singapore-is-carrying-out-500-to-600-crew-changes-per-day/2-1-973205> Singapore has facilitated more than 100,000 crew changes since last March, and is currently conducting between 500 and 600 per day.

Charterers attacked as no crew-change clauses compound seafarer crisis. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd's List*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136005/Charterers-attacked-as-no-crew-change-clauses-compound-seafarer-crisis> Charterers of vessels have found increasingly sophisticated ways to avoid crew changes and compound misery for hundreds of thousands of seafarers stuck at sea by the pandemic.

NZ seafarers working overseas plead for priority MIQ spots. Katie Todd. *Radio New Zealand*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/437869/nz-seafarers-working-overseas-plead-for-priority-miq-spots> Seafarers stranded outside the country are seeking unrestricted access to managed isolation.

Quarantine rule change considered to help Kiwi seafarers get home. Benedict Collins. *TVNZ (New Zealand)*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/quarantine-rule-change-considered-help-kiwi-seafarers-get-home> The Government will consider changing the rules to make it easier for Kiwi seafarers working around the world to access managed isolation spots and return home.

Calls for Gladstone quarantine solution amid fears seafarers will be left high and dry. Jasmine Hines. *ABC (Australia)*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-03-10/gladstone-quarantine-facility-for-seafarers-fears-mount/13227176> Time is running out for a quarantine facility to be set up on central Queensland coast ahead of the arrival of a ship full of seafarers who must come ashore.

Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during February 2021. *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-flagged-ships-detained-in-the-uk-during-february-2021> The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) announced today that six foreign flagged ships remained under detention in UK ports during February 2021 after failing port state control (PSC) inspection.

Ship forced to wait 269 days finally unloads Australian coal in China. Aaron Clark and Kevin Varley. *ShippingWatch*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Bulk/article12820831.ece> The permission was given out of concern for the stranded seafarers and does not indicate an easing of China's ban on Australian coal.


Seafarers receive Covid travel fines despite exemptions. *Nautilus International*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/seafarers-receive-covid-travel-fines-despite-exemptions/> Nautilus International has been approached by two members who have received Fixed Penalty Notices when flying home to the UK for failing to present a negative Covid test to officials on arrival, despite being exempt from this requirement.

New UK travel declaration form: Seafarers exempt but offshore workers are not. *Nautilus International*. 12 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/new-uk-travel-declaration-form/> Seafarers, masters, and inspectors and surveyors of ships are exempt from new rules requiring travellers from England to fill in a Travel Declaration Form to declare their reason for travel.

Crew change not as bad in Covid-19's second wave, but problems persist. Paul Berrill and Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/business-focus/crew-change-not-as-bad-in-covid-19s-second-wave-but-problems-persist/2-1-977864> Crew change lessons have been learned at a cost, but opinions are divided on how hard the hit has been from subsequent lockdowns caused by new strains of the Covid-19 virus.

Ship managers faced their toughest test in crew-change crisis. Paul Berrill. *TradeWinds*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/business-focus/ship-managers-faced-their-toughest-test-in-crew-change-crisis/2-1-977610> The crew-change crisis was the biggest challenge for ship managers in the last year, requiring hard work, ingenuity, organisation and understanding in large measures.

Shore staff frustrated by failures when crew changes collapsed. Paul Berrill. *TradeWinds*. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/business-focus/shore-staff-frustrated-by-failures-when-crew-changes-collapsed/2-1-978155> Seafarers were not the only ones to suffer during the crew-change crisis — onshore crewing staff also worked long hours with constant stress, frustration and pressure.

MSIB: COVID-19 Crew Change Issues. *US Coast Guard Maritime Commons*. 18 March 2021. Available from: <https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2021/03/18/msib-covid-19-crew-change-issues/> The Coast Guard Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance has issued MSIB 04-21 "COVID-19 Crew Change Issues" to provide guidance for U.S. mariners who may be experiencing crew change issues abroad and for foreign mariners who may be experiencing crew change issues while in the U.S. [Marine Safety Information Bulletin](#) 

Private jabs an option as ship managers face 'logistical nightmare'. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/private-jabs-an-option-as-ship-managers-face-logistical-nightmare/2-1-983383> Sourcing seafarer vaccinations privately is an option for beleaguered ship managers that fear big problems ahead with "nationalism" in terms of the global Covid-19 response.

Increased travel restrictions risk a flare-up of the crew change crisis. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/increased-travel-restrictions-risk-a-flare-up-of-the-crew-change-crisis/> A number of shipping bodies are concerned that the numbers of seafarers being impacted by the crew change crisis are on the rise due to travel restrictions imposed by governments in response to new variants.

‘The loophole is ridiculous’: Mix-up leaves north seafarers missing vital family time stranded in quarantine hotel in Edinburgh. John Ross and Rita Campbell. *Energy Voice*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.energyvoice.com/coronavirus/308749/north-seafarers-stranded-quarantine-hotel-edinburgh/> Seafarers told they were heading home to spend quality time with family have instead been left stranded “like prisoners” in a quarantine hotel after arriving in Scotland hours before exemption rules were updated.

Department of Transport Confirms Limited Exemptions from Hotel Quarantine for Maritime Crews. *Afloat (Ireland)*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3xxHiow> The Department of Transport has confirmed limited exemptions for maritime crews from mandatory hotel quarantine for those entering the State from high-risk countries, which comes into effect from tomorrow, Friday 26 March. [Covid-19 Travel Restrictions Marine Notice No.16 of 2021](#) 📄

Govt allows foreign seafarers to enter for ‘crew change’. Catherine S. Valente. *Manila Times*. 31 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/03/31/news/national/govt-allows-foreign-seafarers-to-enter-for-crew-change/857662/> The government has allowed foreign seafarers to enter the country to board ships, Malacañang said on Tuesday.

Are foreign seafarers allowed to enter PH? Immigration chief answers. Jun Ramirez. *Manila Bulletin*. 31 March 2021. Available from: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/03/31/are-foreign-seafarers-allowed-to-enter-ph-immigration-chief-answers/> Bureau of Immigration Commissioner Jaime Morente clarified that foreign seafarers with valid 90 visas are allowed to enter the country.

PORTS & HARBOURS

New research: Unlocking a triple-win for UK ports and shipping. *British Ports Association*. 27 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.britishports.org.uk/news/shore-power-tyndall> New research highlights that Government support for “shore-power” is essential to unlock a triple-win of cleaner air, lower climate pollution, and smart 21st century electricity grids in UK ports. [Barriers and solutions for UK shore-power](#) 📄

India to invest \$82 billion in port projects by 2035: PM Narendra Modi. *Economic Times (India)*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/shipping/-transport/pm-modi-says-usd-82-billion-being-invested-in-ports/articleshow/81289528.cms> “Ours is a government that is investing in waterways in a way that was never seen before. Domestic waterways are found to be cost effective and environment friendly ways of transporting freight,” he said.

Chancellor surprises with news of eight winning freeport bids for England. Alexander Whiteman. *The Loadstar*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://theloadstar.com/chancellor-surprises-with-news-of-eight-winning-freeport-bids-for-england/> UK chancellor Rishi Sunak caught industry off guard today, revealing eight winning bids for UK freeport status as he announced the Budget.

Liverpool praised for ‘one of best ports in the world’ by *MV Strategic Tenacity* crew. *Liverpool Seafarers Centre*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <http://liverpoolseafarerscentre.org/2021/03/03/liverpool-praised-for-one-of-best-ports-in-the-world-by-mv-strategic-tenacity-crew/> Liverpool Seafarers Centre and the port of Liverpool have been hailed among the best in the world by a ship’s captain docking in the city.

Efficiency At Port Enhanced Under New PCS Project. Julia Rawlins-Bentham. *Government of Barbados*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://gisbarbados.gov.bb/blog/efficiency-at-port-enhanced-under-new-pcs-project/> Government will soon be taking legislation to Parliament that will see the enhancement of operations at the Port of Bridgetown, and ensure that it meets its international obligations.

Belgium ranks 5th worldwide on ports of entry for counterfeit containers. *Brussels Times*. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3vip7kK> A recent study that looked at counterfeiting in shipping containers ranked Belgium as one of the top ten ports of entry for fake goods in the European Union.

Egypt renovating Arish Port in North Sinai to reach international standards. *Suez Canal Economic Zone*. 7 March 2021. Available from: <https://sczone.eg/egypt-renovating-arish-port-in-north-sinai-to-reach-international-standards/> The Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZone) announced that it is developing the Arish Port in North Sinai to match up with international ports in the Eastern Mediterranean region allowing it to receive ships carrying up to 20,000 to 30,000 tons, after deepening the draft for 12 meters in order to meet the demands for customers of Sinai Peninsula products.

California port pileup leaves old records in the dust. Greg Miller. *Freight Waves*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.freightwaves.com/news/california-port-pileup-leaves-old-records-in-the-dust> Labor unrest at West Coast ports in 2015 was a landmark event for U.S. importers.

The woman who didn't give up the ship. Kashif Hussain. *Express Tribune (Pakistan)*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2288086/the-woman-who-didnt-give-up-the-ship> Saira Khan, the head of commercial at Hutchison Ports Pakistan, has come a long way from when she was fascinated by the idea of enormous freight vessels covering distances across vast oceans.

Gdansk: One of Europe's Fastest Growing Ports. *Maritime Logistics Professional*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritimeprofessional.com/news/gdansk-europe-fastest-growing-ports-365833> The Port of Gdansk has overtaken Russia's Port of Primorsk to become the third-busiest port for cargo shipments in the Baltic Sea.

Major ports, including Singapore, to prepare for alternative marine fuels future, says IMO. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/interview-major-ports-including-singapore-to-prepare-for-alternative-marine-fuels-future-says-imo/> It will be a matter of time before bunker suppliers at Singapore start embarking on concrete plans to supply non-hydrocarbon based fuels in order to support shipping's alternative renewable fuels future, says the Head, Air Pollution and Energy Efficiency at the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

Turkey's largest port Mersin to gain 0.8M TEU capacity in expansion. *Daily Sabah (Turkey)*. 13 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/economy/turkeys-largest-port-mersin-to-gain-08m-teu-capacity-in-expansion> The capacity of a port in Turkey's southern Mersin province will be expanded from 2.8 million to 3.6 million twenty-foot equivalent unit (TEU), according to the country's Transport and Infrastructure Ministry.

Opening the silos: data-sharing is key in port call collaboration. *Splash 247.com*. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/opening-the-silos-data-sharing-is-key-in-port-call-collaboration/> Change of industry mindset needed for ship voyage optimisation to curb costly port congestion and cut emissions, industry forum is told.

Q&A: Awakening smart port tech at the Port of Rotterdam. Ilaria Grasso Macola.

ShipTechnology. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/ga-awakening-smart-port-tech-port-rotterdam/> To help the Port of Rotterdam become 'the smartest in the world', Finnish start-up Awake.AI has been working on different projects, including creating a digital twin for the port.

Another step closer to hydrogen backbone in port of Rotterdam. *Port of Rotterdam*.

17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.portofrotterdam.com/en/news-and-press-releases/another-step-closer-to-hydrogen-backbone-in-port-of-rotterdam> The Port of Rotterdam Authority and Gasunie are working together on the development of a new hydrogen pipeline that will form the backbone of the future hydrogen infrastructure in Europe's largest port.


How shipping ports can become more sustainable. Tony Robert Walker and Michelle Adams.

The Conversation. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/how-shipping-ports-can-become-more-sustainable-156483> Each year, Canadian port facilities handle about 340 million tonnes of goods, worth about \$400 billion.

Jeddah Port steps in to help vessels stuck in Suez jam as container ship freed.

Arab News (Saudi Arabia). 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1833826/business-economy> The authority will allow ships to dock and unload their containers at the Jeddah Islamic Port.

Europe's Ports call for more onshore power where it makes sense. *European Sea Ports*

Organisation (ESPO). 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.espo.be/news/europes-ports-call-for-more-onshore-power-where-it> Onshore Power Supply is part of the solution to greening the shipping sector. [Towards an intelligent legislative framework for Onshore Power Supply \(OPS\)](#) 

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces Funding Availability for Port Infrastructure Development Program. *US Maritime Administration (MARAD)*. 29 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.maritime.dot.gov/newsroom/press-releases/us-department-transportation-announces-funding-availability-port-0> The U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) encouraging states and port authorities to apply for \$230 million in discretionary grant funding for port and intermodal infrastructure-related projects through the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP).

Aqaba port readies to receive stranded vessels as Suez Canal traffic resumes. Batool Ghaith.

Jordan Times. 30 March 2021. Available from: <http://www.jordantimes.com/news/local/aqaba-port-readies-receive-stranded-vessels-suez-canal-traffic-resumes> The 400m container ship, the *Ever Given*, was refloated and the Suez Canal reopened on Monday, global news agency, AFP, reported.

REGULATIONS

Frustration with rising, non-transparent prices as IMO 2020 takes hold could haunt the container-shipping sector, says Alixpartners Study. *AlixPartners*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.alixpartners.com/media-center/press-releases/rising-prices-imo-2020-haunt-the-container-shipping-sector/> As a new era dawns for the maritime industry this year, driven by IMO 2020, the International Maritime Organization's 0.5% sulfur cap on fuel content effective last month, players in the global container-shipping sector find themselves in a position where their hard-won gains in competitiveness in recent years could be scuttled by pressures from other sectors in the industry for more-transparent - and lower - pricing. [Container Shipping Outlook 2021](#)

Marina to shipping industry: Comply with IMO sulfur cap. *Genevi Factao. Manila Times*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/03/03/business/maritime-business/marina-to-shipping-industry-comply-with-imo-sulfur-cap/846820/> The Maritime Industry Authority (Marina) has directed the shipping industry to start retro-fitting and to use low-sulfur fuel oil (LSFO) in compliance with the sulfur cap imposed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to prevent marine pollution.

Bangladesh to crack down on wide non-compliance with VGM regulations. *The Loadstar*. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://theloadstar.com/bangladesh-to-crack-down-on-wide-non-compliance-with-vgm-regulations/> Bangladesh's maritime administrator has moved to strictly enforce Verified Gross Mass (VGM) requirements for containers amid increasing incidents in Chittagong port and beyond.

Substandard flag states targeted as regulatory arbitrage rises. *Michelle Wiese Bockmann. Lloyd's List*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136076/Substandard-flag-states-targeted-as-regulatory-arbitrage-rises> Poorly managed or fraudulent flag registries representing developing countries with little maritime technical expertise face renewed scrutiny amid a rise in regulatory arbitrage by shipowners seeking to circumvent compliance with international legal, safety and pollution conventions.

Is legislation blocking autonomous shipping? *Ilaria Grasso Macola. ShipTechnology*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ship-technology.com/features/is-legislation-blocking-autonomous-shipping-review-marlab/> After almost two years of work, the MARLab project recently released its final report on the regulatory barriers that are currently hindering trials of autonomous ships in British waters.

IMO 2020: Marine fuel trends, quality, and issues. *Iain Gomersall. Seatrade Maritime News*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/bunkering/imo-2020-marine-fuel-trends-quality-and-issues> Since January 2020, the global cap on sulphur content in marine fuels was introduced through the IMO 2020 regulations.

Implementation of the international code for ships operating in polar waters (Polar Code). *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/implementation-of-the-international-code-for-ships-operating-in-polar-waters-polar-code> The international code for ships operating in polar waters (Polar Code) was agreed in the MO and is mandatory under both SOLAS (Chapter XIV) and MARPOL.

Full complement of BMA documentation now available electronically. *Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA)*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bahamasmaritime.com/bma-news/full-complement-of-bma-documentation-now-available-electronically/> The Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) is delighted to announce that all of its certification is now available electronically.

Klaveness CEO accuses IMO's new CO2 rules of punishing efficient carriers. Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 23 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article12852842.ece> Efficient carriers will be punished if the IMO insists on measuring a ship's carbon intensity based on a the ship's maximum, potential cargo load and not the actual load transported, CEO of Norwegian Klaveness Combination Carriers tells ShippingWatch.

Listen: Will shipping energy efficiency regulations cause more headaches for owners? George Griffiths and Charlotte Buccioni. *S&P Global Platts*. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3sZ08Bp> The International Maritime Organization has approved amendments to its MARPOL Annex VI regulations, introducing an Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) that is expected to come into force in 2023.

SALVAGE

Car parts wash up along Georgia's coast as *Golden Ray* salvage drags on. Steve Patrick. *News4Jax (US)*. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.news4jax.com/tech/2021/03/16/car-parts-wash-up-along-georgias-coast-as-golden-ray-salvage-drags-on/> As salvage crews continue cutting apart and hauling away the capsized *Golden Ray*, a shipwreck the size of a 70-story office building with 4,200 cars within its cargo decks, parts of the ship and cars that fell into the St. Simons Sound are showing up along the Georgia coast.

Smit Salvage assists with *Ever Given* refloating effort in Suez Canal. Jonathan Boonzaier. *TradeWinds*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/smit-salvage-assists-with-ever-given-refloating-effort-in-suez-canal/2-1-986953> Vital shipping waterway remains closed as backlog of transit vessels continues to grow.

Salvors pin hopes on high tide to refloat *Ever Given*. Adam Corbett, Gary Dixon and Irene Ang. *TradeWinds*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/salvors-pin-hopes-on-high-tide-to-refloat-ever-given/2-1-987937> A team of eight experts from Smit Salvage, along with heavy dredging equipment, are on their way to the Suez Canal to make the next refloating attempt on the grounded Evergreen boxship.

SEAFARERS

Seafarer supply is expected to tighten heralding higher manning costs. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 27 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/seafarer-supply-is-expected-to-tighten-heralding-higher-manning-costs/> The attractiveness of a career at sea has been an industry concern for a number of years.

IMEC boss argues Philippines is pricing itself out of maritime labour market. Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/32YePde> A key shipping employer's leader has warned that the Philippines is pricing itself out of the seafarer labour market because of excessive injury claims filed by lawyers on behalf of mariners in the country.

New guidance as the UK leads the way in seafarer welfare. *UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://maritimecoastguard.blogspot.com/2021/03/New-guidance-for-UK-seafarers.html> The UK continues to lead the way in seafarer welfare during the pandemic, with new, detailed information issued to ship owners and managers to understand the long-term wellbeing impacts of COVID-19 on their crew.

Seafarers' wi-fi connects international sailors with loved ones in Australian-first trial.

Jasmine Hines and Erin Semmler. *ABC (Australia)*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-03-04/seafarers-connect-with-family-in-far-offshore-wifi-initiative/13211640> It is something many people take for granted, but for thousands of seafarers stuck on ships for up to 14 months at a time, internet connectivity is the only way to see their loved ones.

Covid-19 confirmed as cause of death of CSL bulker master. Adam Corbett. *TradeWinds*.

4 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/covid-19-confirmed-as-cause-of-death-of-csl-bulker-master/2-1-974183> CSL Europe has confirmed that the master of a self-unloading bulker died of a Covid-19-related cardiac arrest as the ship sailed near Bergen, Norway.

Wakashio Captain Seeks Bail in Mauritius' Top Court. Vel Moonien. *gCaptain*. 4 March 2021.

Available from: <https://gcaptain.com/wakashio-captain-seeks-bail-in-mauritius-top-court> The captain of the ill-fated ore carrier Wakashio is turning to Mauritius' Supreme Court for bail as he awaits trial over his role in the July 2020 shipwreck.

Maersk Supply Service to deploy women in pairs: No one should be alone in a macho environment. Astrid Sturlason. *ShippingWatch*. 5 March 2021. Available from:

<https://shippingwatch.com/Offshore/article12811467.ece> Maersk Supply Service wants an even greater focus on its female seafarers to ensure the well-being of the few women that do go to sea, says Kevin Bro Beier, head of crew management at Maersk Supply Service.

Bridging the Gap: First Officer Forssberg Talks Navigating the Maritime Industry as a Woman.

Royal Caribbean Group. 5 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.royalcaribbean.com/blog/bridging-the-gap-first-officer-lovisa-forssberg-talks-navigating-the-maritime-industry-as-a-woman/> Swedish 1st Officer Lovisa Forssberg didn't always know she wanted to work on cruise ships.

The loneliness of the long-distance seafarer trapped by a pandemic. Tony Wright. *Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)*. 6 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.smh.com.au/national/the-loneliness-of-the-long-distance-seafarer-trapped-by-a-pandemic-20210303-p577ke.html> Indian, Filipino, the occasional European ... my mother fussed over them and my father tried to engage them in conversation about places far away.

SCI's All-Women Crew of MT Swarna Krishna Makes History. *Government of India*.

7 March 2021. Available from: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1702956> The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd., as a part of its ongoing Diamond Jubilee celebrations and also to commemorate the International Women's Day on 8th March, 2021 achieved another feat when Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways, virtually flagged off the "All Women Officers' Sailing" on *MT Swarna Krishna* – SCI's product carrier from JNPT Liquid Berth Jetty on 6th March 2021.

Liverpool Seafarers Centre urges vital funding for seafarer support following suicide increase. *Liverpool Seafarers Centre*. 8 March 2021. Available from:

<http://liverpoolseafarerscentre.org/2021/03/08/liverpool-seafarers-centre-urges-vital-funding-for-seafarer-support-following-suicide-increase/> Ecumenical charity Liverpool Seafarers Centre says reports of increased suicides among seafarers show it is more vital than ever to invest in shoreside support.

586 Filipino Seafarers Flown Home from Aruba. *Government of the Philippines*. 8 March 2021.

Available from: <https://dfa.gov.ph/dfa-news/dfa-releasesupdate/28707-586-filipino-seafarers-flown-home-from-aruba> The Department of Foreign Affairs welcomed 586 Filipino seafarers who arrived from Aruba on 06 March 2021 at the NAIA Terminal 1.

The Kiribati sailors stranded 8,000 miles from home. *BBC News*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-56308351> 📰 Some of the 130 men stuck in Germany haven't seen their families for nearly two years due to Covid border closures.

Seafarers to get more support, counselling, access to internet. Sally Murphy. *Radio New Zealand*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/437939/seafarers-to-get-more-support-counselling-access-to-internet> A charity providing support services to visiting seafarers will be able to increase resources following a funding boost from the government.

Govt fulfilling commitment to improve seafarer welfare. Hon Michael Wood. *Government of New Zealand*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/govt-fulfilling-commitment-improve-seafarer-welfare> The Government is fulfilling its pre-election commitment to allow more support to seafarers visiting New Zealand, Transport Minister Michael Wood announced today.

Cruise industry delays sailings, may send some seafarers back. Newton Sequeira. *Times of India*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/cruise-industry-delays-sailings-may-send-some-seafarers-back/articleshow/81419405.cms> Over 800 Indian seafarers who had undergone rigorous Covid-19 tests and had boarded Norwegian Cruise Line's Norwegian Escape in anticipation of the cruise industry resuming operations, face the prospect of being sent home with the international cruise market delaying resumption till mid-2021.

Keep quiet and carry on: Seafarers speak out on work hours. Richard Clayton. *Lloyd's List*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136088/Keep-quiet-and-carry-on-Seafarers-speak-out-on-work-hours> Seafarers claim they are working 14 or 16 hours a day for several days at a time.

Challenges of women seafarers in a male-dominated maritime industry. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/challenges-of-women-seafarers-in-a-male-dominated-maritime-industry/> The word "seafarer" has replaced the word "seaman" in the male-dominated maritime industry, often considered as politically-correct word due to the increasing presence of women in the profession in recent decades.

Fiji Investigates Allegations of Abusive Treatment of Seafarers. *Maritime Executive*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/fiji-investigates-allegations-of-abusive-treatment-of-seafarers> Fijian authorities have launched an investigation into a ferry company's allegedly abusive treatment of dozens of Filipino seafarers, according to ITF.

Against all odds: the agencies charged with getting seafarers home. *Nautilus International*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/telegraph/against-all-odds/> Travel management companies have helped seafarers stranded in the crew change crisis get to work and home to their families.

Trust joins major maritime partners to document life at sea during the pandemic. *Seafarers' Trust*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.seafarerstrust.org/news-and-press-releases/news/trust-joins-major-maritime-partners-document-life-sea-during-pandemic> The ITF Seafarers' Trust is joining forces with the UK National Maritime Museum and Mission to Seafarers to document life at sea during the covid pandemic.

Seafarers UK becomes The Seafarers' Charity and launches a new strategy. *Charity Today News*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.charitytoday.co.uk/seafarers-uk-becomes-the-seafarers-charity-and-launches-a-new-strategy/> 📰 On the release of its new strategy, Seafarers UK announced that its working name will now be 'The Seafarers' Charity' and will reference its heritage by using 'King George's Fund for Sailors' within its brand.

UK Chamber of Shipping lobbying efforts succeed as seafarers gain exemption from having to quarantine. *UK Chamber of Shipping*. 16 March 2021. Available from:

<https://ukchamberofshipping.com/latest/uk-chamber-shipping-lobbying-efforts-succeed-seafarers-gain-exemption-having-quarantine/> As part of the UK Chamber of Shipping's ongoing work with the UK government, the Department for Transport yesterday (15 March) announced that all seafarers, irrespective of nationality, will be exempted from Red List (Acute List in Scotland) country restrictions, most notably mandatory hotel quarantine, with effect from 0400 on Friday 19 March 2021.

Ostensjo reveals one crew's pandemic odyssey during three-month return home from Asia.

Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 17 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.tradewindsnews.com/offshore/ostensjo-reveals-one-crews-pandemic-odyssey-during-three-month-return-home-from-asia/2-1-981623> When master Inge Hansen Brekke joined Ostensjo Rederi's floatel *Edda Fides* in February 2020, little did he suspect he was about to become embroiled in the biggest global health crisis for a century.

"Modern day slaves" stranded in Mumbai released with Sailors' Society's help. *Sailors' Society*.

17 March 2021. Available from: <https://sailors-society.org/news/modern-day-slaves-released-with-sailors-societys-help> A crew of four Indian seafarers who spent two years stranded "like modern day slaves" on a ship in Mumbai in horrific conditions have finally gone home, thanks to help from Sailors' Society.

15 kidnapped crew members in Gulf of Guinea are "doing well". Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*.

17 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/article12840734.ece> The 15 crew members who were kidnapped on March 11 from chemical tanker "*Davide B*" in the Gulf of Guinea are "together and doing well despite the difficult circumstances", reports spokesperson for De Poli Shipmanagement, the fleet manager of the tanker, in an email to ShippingWatch.

POEA vows aid for abandoned Pinoy seafarers in Fiji. Ferdinand Patinio. *Philippine News Agency (PNA)*.

18 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1134105> The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) is coordinating with the families of 10 Filipino seafarers who were reportedly abandoned by the shipping company that hired them in Fiji.

Simplifying the life of seafarers. *Wärtsilä Corporation*. 18 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.wartsila.com/insights/article/simplifying-the-life-of-seafarers> Another innovation, another new system, another new screen to stare at!

Concerns of rise in seafarers impacted by crew change crisis due to new COVID-variants.

International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3t1aUan> Shipping is concerned that the numbers of seafarers being impacted by the crew change crisis are on the rise due to travel restrictions imposed by governments in response to new variants.

Seafarer repatriation hopes to get shot in the arm from vaccination hubs. Adam Corbett.

TradeWinds. 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/ship-management/seafarer-repatriation-hopes-to-get-shot-in-the-arm-from-vaccination-hubs/2-1-982851> The first tentative steps towards establishing Covid-19 vaccination hubs for seafarers has got off the ground.

'I have had to swim to shore every few days to get food and water' – Meet the seafarer trapped on board the *MV Aman* for four years (and counting). *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*.

19 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/i-have-had-swim-shore-every-few-days-get-food-and-water-meet-seafarer-trapped-board-mv-aman> When the general cargo ship the *MV Aman* (IMO 9215517) was detained at the Suez anchorage in Egypt in July 2017, chief officer Mohammad Aisha had only been on board for two months.

COVID-19, one year on: Seafarers are still in peril. *Marine Professional*. 19 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/on-the-radar/item/5994-covid-19-one-year-on-seafarers-are-still-in-peril> A year and more into the pandemic, there is little respite for the hundreds of thousands of seafarers trapped on their vessels.

Gladstone quarantine hotel allows seafarers to skip standard quarantine. Jasmine Hines.

ABC (Australia). 21 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-03-22/regional-quarantine-hotel-added-in-queensland/100019056> A new regional quarantine hotel in central Queensland is housing its first shipload of international seafarers.

Fight Between Commodities Giants and Shippers Leaves Seafarers Stuck. Jack Wittels, K Oanh Ha and Aaron Clark. *Bloomberg*. 22 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.bloombergquint.com/business/fight-between-commodities-giants-and-shippers-leaves-seafarers-stuck> A standoff between commodities giants and shipping companies is prolonging the labor crisis at sea, with an estimated 200,000 seafarers still stuck on their vessels beyond the expiration of their contracts and past the requirements of globally accepted safety standards.

Shipping companies in 'impossible position' as proof of seafarer vaccinations poses legal minefield. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 22 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/shipping-companies-in-impossible-position-on-seafarer-vaccine-proof/> The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) has warned that lack of access to vaccinations for seafarers is placing shipping in a 'legal minefield', while leaving global supply chains vulnerable.

Focus on seafarer human rights and safety – RightShip CEO Steen Lund. Marcus Hand.

Seatrade Maritime News. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/ship-operations/focus-seafarer-human-rights-and-safety-rightship-ceo-steen-lund/> The move by RightShip to include human rights and seafarer welfare as part of a comprehensive expansion of its vetting criteria drew a strong positive reaction from the industry on social media.

Shocked, afraid and 'blessed': Cruise line workers remained on board for months to keep ships operational. Ahiza García-Hodges. *NBC News (US)*. 22 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/business/travel/shocked-afraid-blessed-cruise-line-workers-remained-board-months-keep-n1261365> As vaccination efforts ramp up in many parts of the world, the cruise industry is making preparations to resume voyages.

Marwa Elselehdar: Egypt's first female sea captain is riding waves of success.

Mohammed Al-Shamaa. *Arab News (Saudi Arabia)*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1828851/offbeat> Marwa Elselehdar has become the first woman to work as a sea captain in Egypt.

Catholic Organizations Uncover Invisible Humanitarian Crisis. *Mare Report*. 22 March 2021.

Available from: <http://marereport.namma.org/index.php/2021/03/22/catholic-organizations-uncover-invisible-humanitarian-crisis/> Catholic organizations are mobilizing to address an invisible humanitarian crisis affecting men and women who work at sea, while calling on U.S.-based giant retailer Walmart to do more for the wellbeing of seafarers.

'Sod globalisation, protect the citizens'. Carl Martin Faannessen. *Splash 247.com*.

23 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/sod-globalisation-protect-the-citizens/> Here's a paraphrase for our times: "The gratitude of every home throughout the world goes out to the seafarers who, undaunted by odds, unwearied in their constant challenge and struggles, are turning the tide of the Pandemic by their prowess and by their devotion."

Maersk praised over pandemic, but unions urge follow-through on labour standards.

ITF Seafarers. 23 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/news/maersk-praised-over-pandemic-unions-urge-follow-through-labour-standards> Workers have just handed the world's the largest container shipping company a report card for the last year – and there's room for improvement.

Abandoned at sea for three years. BBC World Service. 23 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p09bkvk4> 🎧 Sailor Vikash Mishra lived on a leaky cargo ship after its owners ran out of money.

Why we're not stretching the men we have as much as we could. Heidi Heseltine.

Splash 247.com. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/why-were-not-stretching-the-men-we-have-as-much-as-we-could/> A total of 285 people tuned in live to watch the Diversity Study Group's recent interview with Gill Whitty-Collins (ex-senior vice president of Procter & Gamble, member of numerous boards, gender equality expert and now a published author) and the video of this event has already been viewed online over 160 times.

Episode 159: What will a Digital Health Pass mean for Seafarers? Anthony Day, Blockchain Partner, Global Business Services, IBM Ireland Ltd. Lena Göthberg. *Shipping Podcast*.

26 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingpodcast.com/159-anthony-day-blockchain-partner-global-business-services-ibm-ireland-ltd/> 🎧 Seafarers have not been able to travel between the ships that constitute their workplace and their country of residence due to travel restrictions.

Robert Maersk Uggla hails seafarers in a world 'three meals from barbarism'. Gary Dixon.

TradeWinds. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/robert-maersk-uggla-hails-seafarers-in-a-world-three-meals-from-barbarism/2-1-988547> AP Moller Holding chief executive Robert Maersk Uggla has praised his group's success in keeping trade flowing during the pandemic as profit jumped in 2020.

Concerns Ever Given seafarers likely to face legal action. Shirish Nadkarni. *Seatrade*

Maritime News. 30 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/casualty/concerns-ever-given-seafarers-likely-face-legal-action> Both the Indian government and Indian seafarers' organisations are concerned about the legal issues that the crew may face, including the possibility of criminal negligence charges.

Seafarers experiencing bullying are not alone. *International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN)*. 31 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.seafarerswelfare.org/stories/seafarers-experiencing-bullying-are-not-alone> A young Russian seafarer contacted SeafarerHelp after seeing a poster for the helpline in his ship's day room – he was being bullied by his captain and was feeling very scared.

SEARCH & RESCUE

Arctic SAR is improving! Colonel Pierre Leblanc. *Vanguard (Canada)*. 4 March 2021.

Available from: <https://vanguardcanada.com/arctic-sar-is-improving/> Residents of the Canadian Arctic are painfully aware of climate change and more specifically global warming.

#WOMENINSAR REPORT. *International Maritime Rescue Federation*. 8 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.international-maritime-rescue.org/news/womeninsar-report>; <https://bit.ly/3eHG9SN> As part of our #WomenInSAR Initiative, in October 2020 we launched our #WomenInSAR survey. [Executive Summary](#) 📄 [Full Report](#) 📄

SHIP RECYCLING

File on 4: Shipping's Dirty Secret. *BBC Radio*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000sqt> File on 4 lifts the lid on the dangerous and polluting world of shipbreaking and investigates why ships once owned by UK companies end their lives on beaches in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

UK cruise ships scrapped in India's 'ship graveyard'. Kate West and Margot Gibbs. *BBC News*. 2 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-56196069> Two UK cruise ships have been scrapped on an Indian beach despite assurances they would continue to be operated.

Texas home to America's first EU-compliant shipbreaking facility. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/texas-home-to-americas-first-eu-compliant-shipbreaking-facility/> America has a yard capable of scrapping ships to European Union standards.

Drills at HKC Compliant recycling facilities. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 12 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/drills-at-hkc-compliant-recycling-facilities/> In Drills at HKC compliant recycling facilities – Part 1, we discussed the drills, including fire and explosion on the plot & ship, confined space rescue, and evacuation from ship and Plot. In addition to those drills, few more drills are conducted at recycling facilities.

SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR

Sustainable and efficient: New generation hybrid ships. *Marine Professional (IMarEST)*. 25 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.imarest.org/themarineprofessional/the-long-read/item/5973-sustainable-and-efficient-new-generation-hybrid-ships> Underpinned by state-of-the-art engineering, hybrid ships are helping to cut emissions and drive fuel efficiency on mid-size ships.

Seven out of 10 bulk carriers not ready for EEXI. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/seven-out-of-10-bulk-carriers-not-ready-for-eexi/> Seven out of 10 bulk carriers are 'non-eco' with the Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index (EEXI) likely coming into existence in just two years' time, something that will require urgent modifications to the existing fleet or significant scrapping.

Cacao sails cross-Atlantic on carbon neutral boat. Francesca Lynagh. *Reuters*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/2S62Qbr> A French company has gone back to the basics of maritime transport with the use of a sailboat to ship cargo to and from France and the Americas in a bid to make the movement of goods by sea between the two sides of the Atlantic carbon-neutral.

The world's first high-temperature ammonia-powered fuel cell for shipping. *ChemEurope*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.chemeuropa.com/en/news/1170093/the-worlds-first-high-temperature-ammonia-powered-fuel-cell-for-shipping.html> Shipping company Eidesvik's vessel, the Viking Energy, will be the first ship in the world to be equipped with an ammonia-based fuel cell.

Korea Shipbuilding to work on safety design regulation for hydrogen-fueled ships. Nam Kwang-sik. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210304008100320> The Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering Co. (KSOE) said Thursday it has inked a deal with the Korean Register of Shipping (KR), a South Korean ship quality assurance and risk management company, to jointly come up with safety design regulation for hydrogen-fuelled ships.

South Korean yards see strong start to 2021 with more to come, say analysts. *TradeWinds*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/shipyards/south-korean-yards-see-strong-start-to-2021-with-more-to-come-say-analysts/2-1-976489> Newbuilding orders have been tracking 15% of annual targets, JP Morgan shipbuilding analyst Sang Myeong Kim said in a recent note to investors.

LR Approval in Principle for Exmar ammonia fuelled gas carrier. *Lloyd's Register*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.lr.org/en/latest-news/lr-approval-in-principle-for-exmar-ammonia-fuelled-gas-carrier> Belgium-based shipping company continues to drive shipping towards zero-carbon with ammonia fuelled vessel.

New age of sail looks to slash massive maritime carbon emissions. Andrew Willner. *Mongabay*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.mongabay.com/2021/03/new-age-of-sail-looks-to-slash-massive-maritime-carbon-emissions/> 🌳. If ocean shipping were a country, it would be the sixth-largest carbon emitter, releasing more CO₂ annually than Germany.

S. Korean shipbuilders stand out amid eco-friendly gas-fuelled vessel demands. Bae Hyunjung. *Korea Herald (South Korea)*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20210317000916> After years of sluggish market trends, South Korea's shipbuilding industry is now warming up on the back of increased demand for eco-friendly gas-fuelled vessels in the post-coronavirus era, data showed Wednesday.

NGO questions Maersk's carbon-neutral vessel. Louise Wendt Jensen. *ShippingWatch*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12839198.ece> The fact that A.P. Møller-Maersk plans to launch what the carrier calls the world's first carbon-neutral container vessels as soon as 2023 rather than 2030 as first planned, does not impress NGO Transport & Environment.

Doosan Fuel Cell, KSOE to jointly develop SOFCs for ships. Nam Kwang-sik. *Yonhap News Agency (South Korea)*. 18 March 2021. Available from: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210318007600320> South Korean fuel cell maker Doosan Fuel Cell Co. said Thursday that it will team up with Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering Co. to develop solid oxide fuel cells,, energy conversion devices that generate electricity, to be used for ships.

Number of installed scrubbers has doubled since last year's global sulphur cap introduction. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/number-of-installed-scrubbers-has-doubled-since-last-years-global-sulphur-cap-introduction/> The price gap between low and high sulphur fuel oil has failed to hit the highs scrubber advocates would have wanted to justify their investments in the 15 months since the start of the global sulphur cap and yet the number of exhaust gas containment systems installed since the key legislation came into place has nearly doubled.

Ship design has to start thinking outside the box to tackle carbon. Janne Uotila. *TradeWinds*. 19 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/shipyards/ship-design-has-to-start-thinking-outside-the-box-to-tackle-carbon/2-1-979535> Clever customisation while linking design to a vessel's real-life operational profile is the only way to meet the future demands of greener shipping.

Are Carbon Capture Ships The Future? *Hellenic Shipping News*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/are-carbon-capture-ships-the-future/> The shipping industry, together with engine manufacturers and oil companies are actively pursuing new technologies to reach the environmental goals set forth by global regulators.

£20 million fund to propel green shipbuilding launched. *UK Government.* 22 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/20-million-fund-to-propel-green-shipbuilding-launched> Government invests £20 million to develop innovative zero emission vessels and clean port infrastructure.

Höegh Autoliners completes its first carbon neutral voyage. *Höegh Autoliners.* 22 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.hoeghautoliners.com/news-and-media/news-and-press-releases/hoegh-autoliners-completes-its-first-carbon-neutral-voyage> On 19 March, Höegh Autoliners accelerated its decarbonisation efforts successfully completing its first carbon neutral voyage from Europe to South Africa.

Container shipping's orderbook-to-fleet ratio rockets up to 15%. Sam Chambers.

Splash 247.com. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/container-shippings-orderbook-to-fleet-ratio-rates-up-to-15/> Container shipping's orderbook-to-fleet ratio, which was in single percentage figures as recently as six months ago, is set to surpass 15% as shipping lines pile on the tonnage with Alphasiner suggesting IMO's 2050 decarbonisation deadline and ship lifespans are beginning to play into the minds of owners.

SHIPPING

ABS Publishes Guidance on Methanol as Marine Fuel. *American Bureau of Shipping.*

25 February 2021. Available from: <https://news.cision.com/american-bureau-of-shipping/r-abs-publishes-guidance-on-methanol-as-marine-fuel,c3295986> The latest in an ongoing series of ABS sustainability focused whitepapers examining different fuel options for the marine industry, Methanol as Marine Fuel provides information for shipowners considering methanol as an option in both the near-term and long-term. [Methanol as Marine Fuel](#)

EU Transport Committee recommendation to restrict EGCS would only delay shipping's move towards carbon neutrality. *Clean Shipping Alliance 2020.* 25 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.cleanshippingalliance2020.org/latest-news/european-parliament-vote> The Clean Shipping Alliance regrets the vote that took place today in the Transport Committee of the European Parliament that encourages EU Member States to restrict open-loop Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) was taken without any scientific basis.

Could alternative marine fuels decarbonise shipping? Iain Mowat. *Wood Mackenzie.*

26 February 2021. Available from: <https://www.woodmac.com/news/opinion/could-alternative-marine-fuels-decarbonise-shipping/> Global maritime trade is set to fully recover from the impact of Covid-19 in 2021, grow by 30% by 2030, and a further 45% by 2050.

U.S. Retailers See Millions in Sales Delays Amid Shipping Logjam. Kim Bhasin, Jordyn Holman and Gufeng Ren. *Bloomberg.* 26 February 2021. Available from:

<https://www.bloomberqqint.com/business/u-s-retailers-see-millions-in-sales-delays-amid-shipping-logjam> Overwhelmed U.S. ports, elevated freight costs and accidents that sent goods plunging to the bottom of the ocean are causing headaches for U.S. retailers already reeling from the pandemic.

Royal Caribbean says "Shalom, Israel" with Odyssey of The Seas Debut. *Royal Caribbean Group.* 1 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.royalcaribbeanpresscenter.com/press-release/1498/royal-caribbean-says-shalom-israel-with-odyssey-of-the-seas-debut/> Israeli holidaymakers will set a new course for adventure this summer when Royal Caribbean International begins sailing from Israel for the first time in May.

Royal Caribbean to launch cruise from Israel for 'fully vaccinated' only. *Times of Israel.*

2 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/royal-caribbean-to-launch-cruise-from-israel-for-fully-vaccinated/> Royal Caribbean will offer cruises from Israel for fully vaccinated people from May, the company said Monday, in the latest effort by Israel to reopen its economy to those who have had the coronavirus shot.

Choices and challenges: the EEXI and the tanker sector. *Splash 247.com.* 2 March 2021.

Available from: <https://splash247.com/choices-and-challenges-the-eexi-and-the-tanker-sector/> The IMO's Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index or EEXI is not yet in force, but its impact is already being felt across the industry.

Shipping industry needs to talk market-based measures *BIMCO.* 2 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.bimco.org/news/priority-news/20210302-shipping-industry-needs-to-talk-market-based-measures> BIMCO would like to encourage states and the industry to start a dialogue on how to create a global ruleset for market-based measures (MBM) to support the use of low carbon fuels and to create a level playing field for the industry.

MSC Plans to Expand Italy Cruises with Second Ship. *Maritime Executive.* 2 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/msc-plans-to-expand-italy-cruises-with-second-ship> Efforts are continuing seeking to restore more cruise operations before the traditionally busy summer travel season.

Maersk appoints executive to work on future fuels. Daniel Logan. *ShippingWatch.* 3 March 2021.

Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12801402.ece> Container major Maersk has appointed a new head of future fuels.

Future of shipping fuel is green hydrogen and ammonia, industry groups tell EU. Eoin Bannon.

Transport & Environment. 3 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.transportenvironment.org/press/future-shipping-fuel-green-hydrogen-and-ammonia-industry-groups-tell-eu> The EU should promote the use of green hydrogen and ammonia by ships as part of its upcoming maritime fuel law, major shipping industry players and environmentalists have told the European Commission.

Grindrod Shipping: Customers still not ready for CO2 tax. Daniel Logan. *ShippingWatch.*

4 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article12803060.ece> The shipowners' customers are not yet prepared to pay to reduce pollution from shipping, says Martyn Wade, CEO of South African shipowner Grindrod Shipping Holdings.

BIMCO: The impossible mission of improving operational efficiency year after year.

Lars Robert Pedersen. *Manifold Times (Singapore).* 4 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/bimco-the-impossible-mission-of-improving-operational-efficiency-year-after-year/> The IMO recently approved regulatory changes that will require ships to improve their CO2 emissions per transport work annually.

Shipping's 'big three' account for almost 80% of CO2 emissions. Anastassios Adamopoulos.

Lloyd's List. 5 March 2021. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136035/Shippings-big-three-account-for-almost-80-of-CO2-emissions> The global shipping fleet emitted 614m tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2019, according to the first emissions-collection database compiled by the International Maritime Organization.

'I've Never Seen Anything Like This': Chaos Strikes Global Shipping. Peter S. Goodman,

Alexandra Stevenson, Niraj Chokshi and Michael Corkery. *New York Times.* 6 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/06/business/global-shipping.html> Off the coast of Los Angeles, more than two dozen container ships filled with exercise bikes, electronics and other highly sought imports have been idling for as long as two weeks.

How can shipping prevent its diversity drive going into reverse? Max Tingyao Lin. *TradeWinds*. 7 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/people/how-can-shipping-prevent-its-diversity-drive-going-into-reverse-2-1-974087> Semiramis Paliou made headlines last month when she became Diana Shipping's new chief executive, but despite such high-profile exceptions, surveys show that the industry faces a dearth of women in leadership roles, and their numbers could actually be falling.

Brand women as leaders today. Gina Panayiotou. *Splash 247.com*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/brand-women-as-leaders-today/> In 2015, the United Nations came together and agreed for the first time on a set of 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) to sustain and save the planet; or rather agreed on a set of common global challenges.

ECSA-ETF: EU shipping needs to attract and retain more women. *European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA)*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ecsa.eu/index.php/news/ecsa-etf-eu-shipping-needs-attract-and-retain-more-women> The European social partners for Maritime Transport, the European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA) and the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF), continue to advocate the enhanced participation of women in European shipping.

Alfa Laval starts testing new fuels to support the transition towards more sustainable shipping. *Alfa Laval*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.alfalaval.com/media/news/investors/2021/alfa-laval-starts-testing-new-fuels-to-support-the-transition-towards-more-sustainable-shipping/> Alfa Laval – a world leader in heat transfer, centrifugal separation and fluid handling – will soon start testing two new types of marine fuels; biofuels (made from waste) and methanol, in its Test & Training Centre in Denmark.

The world's first 'carbon-neutral' cargo ship is already low on gas. Maria Gallucci. *Grist*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://grist.org/energy/green-methanol-maersk-shipping-fuel/> When shipping giant Maersk announced last month it would operate a "carbon-neutral" vessel by 2023, the Danish company committed to using a fuel that's made from renewable sources, is free of soot-forming pollutants - and is currently in scarce supply.

Gazprom delivers carbon-neutral Yamal LNG cargo. *Argus Media*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2193771-gazprom-delivers-carbonneutral-yamal-lng-cargo> Russia's state-owned Gazprom delivered a carbon-neutral LNG cargo - sourced from the Novatek-led 16.5mn t/yr Yamal LNG project - to Shell at the UK's 4mn t/yr Dragon terminal.

DSV and DHL see container bottlenecks spread to Singapore. Daniel Logan and Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch*. 8 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/article12814728.ece> Logistics majors DHL and DSV confirm that bottlenecks in the container market have now spread from the US to Asia.

Five percent zero emission fuels by 2030 needed for Paris-aligned shipping decarbonization. Peder Osterkamp, Tristan Smith and Kasper Søgaard. *Global Maritime Forum*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.globalmaritimeforum.org/news/five-percent-zero-emission-fuels-by-2030-needed-for-paris-aligned-shipping-decarbonization> The ambition of the Getting to Zero Coalition is to have commercially viable zero emission vessels operating along deep sea trade routes by 2030.

Major banks to align shipping loans with climate targets: "This is a marathon, not a sprint". Søren Pico and Trine Vestergaard. *ShippingWatch*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/suppliers/article12816781.ece> Shipping loans at Danske Bank and Nordea do not yet comply with the IMO's climate targets, shows report.

Shipping is a drug. Just say no. Charlie Du Cane. *Splash 247.com*. 9 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/shipping-is-a-drug-just-say-no/> One of the advantages of working for a small company is that one gets to do everything from make the tea to take the decisions that matter, or at least be involved in them, and everything in between.

Maritime industry leaders to explore ammonia as marine fuel in Singapore. *Maersk*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.maersk.com/news/articles/2021/03/10/maritime-industry-leaders-to-explore-ammonia-as-marine-fuel-in-singapore> A.P. Moller - Maersk A/S, Fleet Management Limited, Keppel Offshore & Marine, Maersk Mc-Kinney Moller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping, Sumitomo Corporation and Yara International ASA are pleased to announce that the parties have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to jointly conduct a feasibility study with the aim to be one of the pioneers in establishing a comprehensive and competitive supply chain for the provision of green ammonia¹ ship-to-ship bunkering at the Port of Singapore, the largest bunkering port in the world.

WSC appoints new environmental officers. Malcolm Latarche. *ShipInsight*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://shipinsight.com/articles/wsc-appoints-new-environmental-officers/> Liner shipping body The World Shipping Council (WSC) has welcomed to its team John Bradshaw, in a global role as Technical Director for Environment and Safety, and Dr James Corbett as Environmental Director, Europe.

Shipping industry proposes ‘moonshot’ fossil fuel levy. Fiona Harvey. *The Guardian*. 10 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/mar/10/shipping-industry-proposes-moonshot-fossil-fuel-levy> Shipping industry representatives, backed by several countries, have submitted a proposal to the UN to charge a climate-related levy on fossil fuels used by international shipping for the first time.

Shipping will be ‘uninvestable’ without carbon price soon, says Trafigura. Julian Bray. *TradeWinds*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/shipping-will-be-uninvestable-without-carbon-price-soon-says-trafigura/2-1-977331> One of the world’s biggest charterers has said shipping risks becoming a business that investors will not touch unless regulators act swiftly to impose a global price on carbon emissions.

Coronavirus hits cruise industry in Greece: Comparative analysis 2019-2020. Xanthi Tzourouni. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/coronavirus-hits-cruise-industry-in-greece-comparative-analysis-2019-2020/> Cruise industry was expected to reach 32 million passengers in 2020 globally, comparatively with 30 million passengers on the previous year.

Hafnia aims to reach IMO target two years ahead of schedule. Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12826311.ece> Tanker shipping company Hafnia aims to reach IMO’s target of a 40 percent reduction in carbon intensity by 2028, which would be two years ahead of IMO’s deadline.

Bimco proposes alternative carbon-efficiency rating to help older ships. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/bimco-proposes-alternative-carbon-efficiency-rating-to-help-older-ships/2-1-978523> Bimco is devising its own efficiency methodology to help owners of older ships deal with the International Maritime Organization’s carbon-reduction framework.

Norway is the world’s fourth largest shipping nation measured by value. *Norwegian Shipowners’ Association*. 11 March 2021. Available from: <https://rederi.no/en/aktuelt/2021/norway-is-the-worlds-fourth-largest-shipping-nation-measured-by-value/> Norway still holds fourth place, as in the previous year.

Not all countries should be in the flagging business. *Lloyd's List*. 12 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136116/Not-all-countries-should-be-in-the-flagging-business> The right of sovereign states to set up a shipping register goes back over a century to the Treaty of Versailles.

Decarbonisation in the bunker market. Jonty Richardson. *Argus Media*. 12 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/blog/2021/march/12/decarbonisation-in-the-bunker-market> With the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) 2020 sulphur regulation changes now in the rear-view mirror, IMO 2030 represents the next major milestone in the bunker market.

Denmark joins list of governments promoting \$5billion 'moon-shot' proposal to catalyse the decarbonising of international shipping. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/denmark-joins-governments-promoting-5billion-proposal-to-catalyse-decarbonising-shipping/> Denmark has joined a growing list of major shipping nations backing a 'moon-shot' programme aimed at driving the complete decarbonisation of maritime transport.

ABS Launches Smart Emissions Reporting Tool. *American Bureau of Shipping*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.cision.com/american-bureau-of-shipping/r/abs-launches-smart-emissions-reporting-tool.c3305798> ABS has added another smart digital tool to its industry-leading environmental compliance support for shipowners and operators.

60% of my directors are women — NIMASA DG, Jamoh. *Vanguard (Nigeria)*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2021/03/60-of-my-directors-are-women-%E2%80%95-nimasa-dg-jamoh/> The Director-General of Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency NIMASA, Dr Bashir Jamoh made this remark while playing host to Female Directors and Assistant Directors of the agency at a dinner party to commemorate International Women's Day and as part of events to mark his first year in office.

Emissions levy proposal is a major turning point for shipping. Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List*. 15 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136115> The struggle to reduce shipping's greenhouse gas emissions has taken an irreversible turn.

Marshall and Solomons urge carbon tax for shipping industry. *Radio New Zealand*. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/438514/marshall-and-solomons-urge-carbon-tax-for-shipping-industry> The Marshall Islands and Solomon Islands are calling for higher levies on Greenhouse Gas emissions by the shipping industry.

Top Japanese lenders join shipping industry scheme to cut carbon. Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3t3lqX8> Leading Japanese lenders have joined an initiative that links the provision of shipping finance to cuts in carbon dioxide emissions as the sector accelerates efforts to go green.


Women in maritime industry call for interventions to increased female participation. *GhanaWeb*. 16 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Women-in-maritime-industry-call-for-interventions-to-increased-female-participation-1206196> Government and players in the Port and Maritime Industry have been urged to institute deliberate interventions and policies that will allow for a broader and increased participation of women in the industry.

Shortage of new shipping containers adds to global trade turmoil. *ShippingWatch*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12839049.ece> Container makers are scrambling to meet a surge in demand for the metal boxes that transport close to 90 percent of the world's goods around the globe.

Rebranding shipping: We owe it to our very own VIPs. Gina Panayiotou. *Splash 247.com*.

17 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/re-branding-shipping-we-owe-it-to-our-very-own-vips/> When I first joined the shipping industry and I would proudly say I worked in shipping, outsiders would either assume that I was doing something that had to do with boats, or that amount Amazon charges on an order.

New Mapping of Zero Emission Pilots and Demonstration Projects shows an increasing focus on hydrogen based fuels. *Global Maritime Forum*. 17 March 2021. Available from:

<https://www.globalmaritimeforum.org/news/new-mapping-of-zero-emission-pilots-and-demonstration-projects-shows-an-increasing-focus-on-hydrogen-based-fuels> The uptake of pilot and demonstration projects is a vital step in pushing forward the transition to zero emission fuels for the maritime industry. [New Mapping of Zero Emission Pilots and Demonstration Projects \(2nd ed., March 2021\)](#) 

‘Moonshot’ without bigger tax on shipping’s carbon won’t fly far enough. Eric Martin.

TradeWinds. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/moonshot-without-bigger-tax-on-shippings-carbon-wont-fly-far-enough/2-1-980002> Of all the words that have been used in the debate over shipping’s greenhouse gas (GHG) cuts, “moonshot” was the most striking.


Shipping sector outlook: Container prices spike while tanker rates plunge. *ING Bank N.V.*

17 March 2021. Available from: <https://think.ing.com/articles/shipping-outlook-while-container-prices-spike-tanker-rates-reach-the-bottom/> The shipping industry will benefit from world trade recovery in 2021, with average seaborne trade volumes expected to end up higher than their pre-pandemic levels.

How the shipping industry can halve climate-warming black carbon in the Arctic. Sian Prior.

Climate Home News. 18 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2021/03/18/shipping-industry-can-halve-climate-warming-black-carbon-arctic/> Climate change is having a more rapid impact in the Arctic than anywhere else right now – the recent cold weather that blanketed North America and Europe, and caused chaos in places like Texas, has been linked to the consequences of a warming Arctic.

The Lloyd’s List Podcast: Why sustainable shipping is about more than just carbon reduction. *Lloyd’s List*. 19 March 2021. Available from:

<https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136192/The-Lloyds-List-Podcast-Why-sustainable-shipping-is-about-more-than-just-carbon-reduction>  Sustainability is about more than carbon reduction, but we are currently evaluating the shift to new fuels on the basis of price, availability and technical feasibility.

MOL to Move into Ocean Shipping of Liquefied CO2 Ocean Transport Business through Investment in Norway’s Larvik Shipping AS. *Mitsui O.S.K. Lines (MOL)*. 19 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.mol.co.jp/en/pr/2021/21020.html> Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Ltd. (MOL; President & CEO: Junichiro Ikeda) today announced that it has decided to invest in Norway-based Larvik Shipping AS, a ship management company for liquefied CO2 carriers, marking MOL’s first foray into the liquefied CO2 ocean transport business.

Norden has instructed captains to fabricate fake logbooks. Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch*.

22 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Tanker/article12849256.ece>; For years, tanker company Norden has instructed captains to write fake logbooks and paint over ship names in order to keep trips to Israel a secret. [Even the disposal of waste bags was detailed in instructions to conceal Norden’s transports to Israel](#)

From pipeline to pipe dream: why there's no such thing as shipping carbon-neutral LNG.

Wijnand Stoefs. *Splash 247.com*. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://splash247.com/from-pipeline-to-pipe-dream-why-theres-no-such-thing-as-shipping-carbon-neutral-lng/> So-called carbon-neutral liquefied natural gas (LNG) is the new kid on the block when it comes to fake climate credentials.

The UK now 'a micro-climate in Europe' when it comes to shipping. Alex Whiteman.

The Loadstar. 22 March 2021. Available from: <https://theloadstar.com/the-uk-now-a-micro-climate-in-europe-when-it-comes-to-shipping/> UK trade is beginning to feel increasingly isolated from global markets, but confusion rages over the source of the difficulties as Brexit, Covid-19 and empty-box shortages take a bite.

FUJCON 2021: Shipowners face 'really challenging' future fuel choices, says IBIA Director.

Manifold Times (Singapore). 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/fujcon-2021-shipowners-face-really-challenging-future-fuel-choices-says-ibia-director/> Shipowners are currently facing a predicament over the choices of the correct future marine fuel to help them meet IMO 2030/2050 targets, says the Director of the International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA).

Stranded Suez ship's owner, insurers face millions in claims. Carolyn Cohn and Jonathan Saul.

Reuters. 24 March 2021. Available from: <https://reut.rs/3vrrbag> The owner and insurers of one of the world's largest container ships stuck in the Suez Canal face claims totalling millions of dollars even if the ship is refloated quickly, industry sources said on Wednesday.

Trafigura backs new global emissions levy proposal. Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd's List*.

24 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136233> Trafigura's head of fuel decarbonisation believes that the International Maritime Organization needs to make the new proposal for a \$100 levy on ships a priority when delegates meet in June.

Shipping losses mount from cargo vessel stuck in Suez Canal. Jon Gambrell and Samy Magdy.

Associated Press. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://apnews.com/article/cargo-ship-stuck-suez-canal-egypt-d8b6696716ab45794cba583ecf0e4001> Dredgers, tugboats and even a backhoe failed to free a giant cargo ship wedged in Egypt's Suez Canal on Thursday.

Suez Canal blockage demonstrates just how much global supply chains rely on shipping, says International Chamber of Shipping. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*.

25 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/suez-canal-ever-given-statement/> The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) has released a statement on the ongoing blockage of the Suez Canal by the ship *Ever Given*, noting that the incident lays bare the fragility of global supply chains.

No clear winner among many bunker fuel options for decarbonization: experts. Surabhi Sahu

and Claudia Carpenter. *S&P Global Platts*. 25 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3nu8KPt> Shipping's decarbonization goals need immediate action but choosing a winner from among the various alternative fuels is difficult as they come with their own set of advantages and limitations, with no one-size-fits all approach holding good anymore as impending environmental regulations loom, industry experts said at a virtual event held March 23 and March 24.

Suez blockage is holding up \$9.6bn of goods a day. Justin Harper. *BBC News*. 26 March 2021.

Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-56533250> The stranded *Ever Given* mega-container ship in the Suez Canal is holding up an estimated \$9.6bn (£7bn) of goods each day, according to shipping data.

Global shipping: The world's most opaque industry. Ben Chu. *The Independent*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/suez-cargo-shipping-industry-opaque-b1823025.html> 📰 The blockage in the Suez Canal has shone a spotlight on a major international industry where there is often a drought of accountability and transparency, says Ben Chu.

At least 20 livestock ships caught in Suez canal logjam. Sophie Kevany and Michael Safi. *The Guardian*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/mar/26/at-least-20-livestock-ships-caught-in-suez-canal-logjam> 📰 At least 20 of the boats delayed due to a stricken container ship in the Suez canal are carrying livestock, according to marine tracking data, raising concerns about the welfare of the animals if the logjam becomes protracted.

Suez Canal blockage: what it takes to unwedge a megaship. Stephen Turnock. *The Conversation*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/suez-canal-blockage-what-it-takes-to-unwedge-a-megaship-158006> 📰 One of the world's largest container ships, named *Ever Given*, has been wedged across the Suez Canal since it was blown off course by high winds in the early hours of March 23, blocking one of the busiest maritime trade corridors in the world.

Horses for courses – or what fuel for which ship? Mark Williams. *ship.energy*. 26 March 2021. Available from: <https://ship.energy/2021/03/26/horses-for-courses-or-what-fuel-for-which-ship/> In the last of this short series looking at shipping's future fuel options, Mark Williams takes stock of how the 'contenders' are shaping up.

Cork maritime lawyer: I warned Suez was a crisis waiting to happen. Ryan O'Rourke. *Irish Examiner*. 27 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/arid-40252919.html> A world-renowned international maritime lawyer, from Cork, has said he warned governments that a crisis on the Suez Canal was only a matter of time, due to a lack of necessary equipment.

Mega ship blocking Suez Canal is finally freed but what damage to 'just in time' supply chains? Noelle McElhatton. *Institute of Export and International Trade*. 28 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.export.org.uk/news/558437/Mega-ship-blocking-Suez-Canal-is-finally-freed-but-what-damage-to-just-in-time-supply-chains.htm> After almost seven days blocking one of the world's busiest trade shipping lanes, the *Ever Given* container ship has been dislodged from the shores of the Suez Canal.

Maersk estimates Suez clean-up will take at least six days. Daniel Logan. *ShippingWatch*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article12866824.ece> It will take at least six days to clean up the situation in the Suez Canal, where container ship *Ever Given* has blocked passage for almost a week after the ship ran aground, says Maersk in a comment to ShippingWatch.

Ever Given vessel blocking Suez Canal partially re-floated: SCA chairman. Ahmed Morsy. *Ahram Online (Egypt)*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/408009/Egypt/Politics-/BREAKING-Ever-Given-vessel-blocking-Suez-Canal-is-.aspx> The delinquent Panamanian container ship *EVER GIVEN* has started to float successfully after the mega vessel responded to the latest tugging manoeuvres, Admiral Osama Rabie, the chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, announced on Monday morning.

Queues in Suez may have repercussions on container market for up to three months. Dag Holmstad. *ShippingWatch*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://shippingwatch.com/article12867830.ece> Once the queues of more than 360 ships in the Suez Canal are dissolved, the container market will be hit by repercussions for 2-3 months, estimates a shipping analyst, who predicts a tug of war between carriers and shippers on rate surcharges due to increased costs.

ICS statement on the refloating of the *Ever Given*. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/ics-statement-ever-given-refloating/> Statement from Guy Platten, Secretary General of the International Chamber of Shipping, on the refloating of the *Ever Given*.

ITF welcomes *Ever Given* resolution. *International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/itf-welcomes-ever-given-resolution> The world's foremost transport worker body is welcoming the end to the crisis affecting the *MV Ever Given* (IMO: 9811000), the cargo vessel that has been blocking the Suez Canal.

Stranded Suez ship confounds world uneasy about the long haul. Timothy Walker. *Institute for Security Studies (ISS)*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/stranded-suez-ship-confounds-world-uneasy-about-the-long-haul> The Suez Canal is one of the world's major shipping routes, or at least it was until the *Ever Given* ran aground on 23 March.

Top three take-away lessons from the Suez Canal blockage. Dirk Siebels. *The Conversation*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://theconversation.com/top-three-take-away-lessons-from-the-suez-canal-blockage-158034> For a week the world was gripped by the extraordinary sight of a massive container ship that had run aground in the Suez Canal in Egypt.

Suez Canal cargo ship is afloat - but it's not plain sailing for global economy. Daniel Johnson. *UN News*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://news.un.org/en/audio/2021/03/1088532> The gigantic cargo ship that ran aground and blocked the Suez Canal last week is afloat once again after a Herculean salvage operation, but the damage to global trade will take months to fix.

The Suez Canal blockage – potential implications for marine insurance claims. *Allianz Global Corporate & Specialty*. 29 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.agcs.allianz.com/news-and-insights/expert-risk-articles/suez-canal-marine-insurance-claims.html> The grounding of an ultra large container ship in the Suez Canal brought traffic on the central shipping route between Europe and Asia to a standstill for almost a week before it was freed.

The *Ever Given* showed the importance of tug and towage workers, but their industry continues to cut dangerous corners. Jacques Kerkhof and Ivan De La Guardia. *International Transport Forum*. 31 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/ever-given-showed-importance-tug-and-towage-workers-their-industry-continues-cut-dangerous> The six-day blockage of the Suez Canal and its welcomed refloating has shed new light on the critical job done by tug and towage workers.

Black carbon offers shipping a chance to clean up the Arctic and its reputation. Declan Bush. *Lloyd's List*. 31 March 2021. Available from: <https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1136239> Black carbon pollution in the Arctic makes up a growing share of shipping's contribution to climate change.

RESEARCH

Vanhatalo J, Huuhtanen J, et al. **Probability of a ship becoming beset in ice along the Northern Sea Route – A Bayesian analysis of real-life data.** *Cold Regions Science and Technology*. 22 January 2021. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0165232X21000197> Ships operating in ice-infested Arctic waters are exposed to a range of ship-ice interaction related hazards.

Hasanspahić N, Vujičić S, et al. **The Role of the Human Factor in Marine Accidents.** *Journal of Marine Science and Engineering*. 1 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.mdpi.com/2077-1312/9/3/261/htm> A common interest of all shipping industry stakeholders is safe and accident-free shipping.

Repka S, Erkkilä-Välimäki A, et al. **Assessing the costs and environmental benefits of IMO regulations of ship-originated SO_x and NO_x emissions in the Baltic Sea.** *Ambio*. 3 March 2021. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13280-021-01500-6> To assess the value of the environmental benefits of the Sulphur Emission regulation (SECA) that came into force in 2015, changes in depositions of SO_x and NO_x from ship exhaust gas emissions were modelled and monetized for the Baltic Sea region for the years 2014 and 2016.

Wada Y, Yamamura T, et al. **Evaluation of GHG Emission Measures Based on Shipping and Shipbuilding Market Forecasting.** *Sustainability*. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/13/5/2760> Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the global shipping sector have been increasing due to global economic growth.

Tyack PL, Miksis-Olds J, et al. **Measuring Ambient Ocean Sound During the COVID-19 Pandemic.** *Eos Earth and Space Science News*. 4 March 2021. Available from: <https://eos.org/science-updates/measuring-ambient-ocean-sound-during-the-covid-19-pandemic> An expanded nonmilitary hydrophone network provides new opportunities to understand the variability and trends of ocean sound and the effects of sound on marine organisms.

Sala E, Mayorga J, et al. **Protecting the global ocean for biodiversity, food and climate.** *Nature*. 17 March 2021. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-03371-z> The ocean contains unique biodiversity, provides valuable food resources and is a major sink for anthropogenic carbon.

Honniball AN. **Engaging Asian States on Combating IUU Fishing: The Curious Case of the State of Nationality in EU Regulation and Practice.** *Transnational Environmental Law*. 30 March 2021. Available from: <https://bit.ly/3eFkXMT> Global common concerns – including combating illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing – necessitate effective global action to avoid displacing illegal practices to under-regulated jurisdictions.

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maritimeknowledgecentre@imo.org

About the cover

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