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

Women in maritime get new association in West and Central Africa

Diversity and maritime security were in focus at the inaugural event for the Women in Maritime of West and Central Africa (WIMOWCA).

Women in maritime took centre stage at the inauguration of the Women in Maritime of West and Central Africa (WIMOWCA), the newest IMO-supported regional association for women in the maritime sector (WIMA).

"The objective of WIMOWCA is to harness the potential and contribution of women in West and Central Africa to ensure the sustainable development of the maritime industry in Africa," said WIMOWCA Interim President, Sylvia Asana Dauda Owu. More...

Cutting GHG emissions from shipping - 10 years of mandatory rules

2021 marks a decade of action since IMO adopted the first set of mandatory energy efficiency measures for ships.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is marking a decade of action on cutting greenhouse gas emissions from shipping, since the first set of international mandatory measures to improve ships’ energy efficiency was adopted on 15 July 2011, as part of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).

To support the implementation of the measures and encourage innovation, IMO has been implementing a comprehensive capacity building and technical assistance programme, including a range of global projects. These include the GEF-UNP-IMO GloMEEP Project (now concluded), the European Union funded global network of maritime technology cooperation centres (GMN project), the IMO-Norway GreenVoyage2050 project and the IMO-Republic of Korea GHG SMART Project. More...
Programme of Meetings for 2021 (issued 9 July 2021) can be downloaded here

Previous Meetings (REMOTE)

Sub-Committee on Implementation of IMO Instruments (III 7) – 12-16 July

Legal Committee (LEG 108) – 26-30 July

Forthcoming Meetings (REMOTE)

Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC 7) – 6-10 September 2021

9th meeting of the Intersessional Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships 15-22 September 2021

Technical Cooperation Committee (TC 71) – 20-24 September 2021

RECENT SPEECHES BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

Legal Committee, 108th session (LEG 108), 26-30 July 2021 (Opening and Closing remarks)

Seventh session of the Sub-Committee on the Implementation of IMO Instruments, 12 July 2021 (Opening remarks)

Launch of The Association Of Women In Maritime Of West And Central Africa (WIMOWCA), 23 July 2021

Gulf of Guinea Maritime Collaboration Forum (GOG-MCF/SHADE) Plenary, 14 July 2021 (Opening remarks)

IMO NEWS MAGAZINE  Summer 2021

IMO PUBLISHING  Just Published 2021
UNITED NATIONS

Turning crisis into opportunity: World leaders meet at UN to help drive pandemic recovery. UN News. 5 July 2021. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/07/1095232 Leading figures from government, business and civil society are preparing to take part in this year’s High Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF), where they will discuss ways to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and turn the deadly crisis into an opportunity for a major shift towards a more sustainable global economy.


‘Deeply negative impact’ of COVID pandemic, reverses SDG progress. UN News. 15 July 2021. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/07/1095942 Closing a key international development forum on Thursday, the deputy UN chief observed that a year of “immense challenges” has reversed progress on meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).


CASUALTIES


Concerns over the unique risks that the rapidly expanding expedition cruise industry poses to environmentally sensitive areas has been raised by Canada’s Transportation Safety Board (TSB).


Mexican oil giant says no environmental damage from raging Gulf fire. David Alire Garcia and Sharay Angulo. *Reuters*. 6 July 2021. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/business/environment/mexican-oil-giant-says-no-environmental-damage-raging-gulf-fire-2021-07-06/ Just days after video of a massive ocean surface blaze near a Pemex oil platform in the Gulf of Mexico went viral, Mexico’s national oil company has declared that environmental damage was avoided due to quick action by its workers.

*Ever Given* sails again as 100-day Suez Canal saga ends. Adam Corbett. *TradeWind*. 7 July 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/insurance/ever-given-sails-again-as-100-day-suez-canal-saga-ends/2-1-1036586 The container ship *Ever Given* resumed sailing more than 100 days after it caught the attention of the world by grounding and blocking the Suez Canal.
Could Sri Lanka’s ship fire have been avoided? Here’s what we can learn from the shocking environmental disaster. Claudio Bozzi. The Conversation, 7 July 2021. Available from: https://theconversation.com/could-sri-lankas-ship-fire-have-been-avoided-heres-what-we-can-learn-from-the-shocking-environmental-disaster-162770. Hundreds of dead turtles continue to wash ashore in Sri Lanka, almost two months after a newly built container ship caught fire while anchored off Colombo’s port.


PCG moves to contain leak of 3,000 liters of oil after vessel collision at Manila South Harbor. Richa Noriega. Manila Bulletin, 8 July 2021. Available from: https://mb.com.ph/2021/07/08/pcg-moves-to-contain-leak-of-3000-liters-of-oil-after-vessel-collision-at-manila-south-harbor/. The Philippine Coast Guard is now racing against time to contain the possible leak of some 3,000 liters of oil off the Manila South Harbor as a result of the collision between a cargo ship and a foreign utility vessel on Thursday, July 8.


X-Press Feeders makes initial $3.6m payment over Sri Lankan sinking. Splash 247.com. 13 July 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/x-press-feeders-makes-initial-3-6m-payment-over-sri-lankan-sinking/. X-Press Feeders, operators of the burnt containership X-Press Pearl, through the vessel owner’s P&I insurers, have made an initial payment of $3.6m to the Sri Lankan government to help compensate those affected by the consequences of the fire and sinking of the vessel off the west coast of Sri Lanka.

Breakdowns in situational awareness and communications were key factors leading to a striking in Vancouver Harbour. Transportation Safety Board of Canada. 15 July 2021. Available from: https://www.tsb.gc.ca/eng/medias-media/communiques/marine/2021/m19p0057-20210715.html. The Transportation Safety Board of Canada (TSB) today released its investigation report (M19P0057) on the 2019 striking of the anchored bulk carrier Pan Acacia by the bulk carrier Caravos Harmony in Vancouver Harbour, British Columbia. Marine transportation safety investigation report M19P0057: Striking of the anchored vessel Pan Acacia


Final *Wakashio* report held up one year after disaster. Nidaa Bakhsh. *Lloyd’s List*. 26 July 2021. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137672/Final-Wakashio-report-held-up-one-year-after-disaster](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137672/Final-Wakashio-report-held-up-one-year-after-disaster). It is being held up by a lack of access to the voyage data recorder and to official ship documents, while the vessel’s master remains in custody.


Primary concern to remove oil from beached ship: SAPM. *Pakistan Observer*. 27 July 2021. Available from: [https://pakobserver.net/primary-concern-to-remove-oil-from-beached-ship-sapm/](https://pakobserver.net/primary-concern-to-remove-oil-from-beached-ship-sapm/) Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Maritime Affairs Mehmood Maulvion Monday said that broken anchors and engine failure in extreme rough sea conditions were apparently the main causes of beaching of the ship MV *Heng Tong* 77 at Karachi coastline.


Necessary Action Taken to Handle Vessel Incident Beyond Regional Waters: Maritime Security Centre. *Oman News Agency (ONA)*. 30 July 2021. Available from: [https://omannews.gov.om/NewsDescription/ArtMID/392/ArticleID/36440/Necessary-Action-Taken-to-Handle-Vessel-Incident-Beyond-Regional-Waters-Maritime-Security-Centre](https://omannews.gov.om/NewsDescription/ArtMID/392/ArticleID/36440/Necessary-Action-Taken-to-Handle-Vessel-Incident-Beyond-Regional-Waters-Maritime-Security-Centre) An official at the Maritime Security Centre (MSC) has said that, thanks to an existing system of joint maritime action and, acting in coordination with maritime security centres in the region, the MSC was prompt in responding to a mayday signal from *MV MERCER STREET*, a by-products carrier flying the Liberian flag, stating that it met with an incident outside Omani regional waters.


Attack on Mercer Street Vessel. Antony J. Blinken. US Department of State. 1 August 2021. Available from: [https://www.state.gov/attack-on-mercer-street-vessel/](https://www.state.gov/attack-on-mercer-street-vessel/) We join our partners and allies in our strong condemnation of the attack against the Mercer Street, a commercial ship that was peacefully transiting through the north Arabian Sea in international waters.

US, UK and Israel blame Iran for ship attack; Tehran denies. Jon Gambrell. Associated Press. 1 August 2021. Available from: [https://apnews.com/article/middle-east-business-iran-persian-gulf-tensions-419efc522acbd213a79696c9876a6dc](https://apnews.com/article/middle-east-business-iran-persian-gulf-tensions-419efc522acbd213a79696c9876a6dc) The United States and the United Kingdom joined Israel on Sunday in alleging Iran carried out a fatal drone strike on an oil tanker off the coast of Oman in the Arabian Sea, putting further pressure on Tehran as it denied being involved in the assault.

ENVIRONMENT


Unsustainable Arctic shipping risks accelerating damage to the Arctic environment. Science Daily. 19 July 2021. Available from: https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/07/210719103053.htm The economic and environmental pros and cons of melting Arctic ice creating shorter shipping routes through the polar region are weighed up in ground-breaking research from experts in energy and transport.

We cannot wait for pandemic to end to tackle climate change, says U.S. envoy Kerry. Reuters. 20 July 2021. Available from: https://news.trust.org/item/20210720132659-0vg0e/ The world cannot wait for the COVID-19 pandemic to end before dealing with climate change, U.S. envoy John Kerry said on Tuesday, underlining how "pivotal" this year’s United Nations' climate conference was to press ahead with action.

Emissions will hit record high by 2023 if green recovery fails, says IEA. Fiona Harvey. The Guardian. 20 July 2021. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/jul/20/emissions-record-high-by-2023-if-green-recovery-fails-says-ia Global greenhouse gas emissions are likely to rise to record levels in the next two years, as governments fail to “build back better” from the Covid-19 pandemic.


Deadly coral disease sweeping Caribbean linked to water from ships. Jewel Fraser. The Guardian. 22 July 2021. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/jul/22/deadly-coral-disease-sweeping-caribbean-linked-to-wastewater-from-ships A virulent and fast-moving coral disease that has swept through the Caribbean could be linked to waste or ballast water from ships, according to research.

‘Blue Carbon’ Report and open letter delivered to leaders: Ocean protection is key to climate policy. Environmental Justice Foundation. 23 July 2021. Available from: https://ejfoundation.org/news-media/blue-carbon-report-and-open-letter-delivered-to-leaders-ocean-protection-is-key-to-climate-policy-2 The carbon stored in ocean ecosystems, such as mangroves and seagrasses, can help protect us from runaway global heating, yet is being largely ignored by policymakers, our latest report has revealed. Our Blue Beating Heart: Blue carbon solutions in the fight against the climate crisis

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION


Japan studies options to cut coastal shipping emissions. Argus Media. 1 July 2021. Available from: https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2230034-japan-studies-options-to-cut-coastal-shipping-emissions Japan is examining options to cut carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from coastal shipping, as it considers raising an emissions target for the industry in line with the country’s more ambitious 46pc reduction target for 2030 on 2013 levels.


Study: Oil spill impact on Canadian arctic, the environment and indigenous peoples. EurekAlert! 7 July 2021. Available from: https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2021-07/sfr-sos063021.php The growing rate of ice melt in the Arctic due to rising global temperatures has opened up the Northwest Passage (NWP) to more ship traffic, increasing the potential risk of an oil spill and other environmental disasters.

MSC climbs ranking of Europe’s top climate polluters. Ian Lewis. TradeWinds. 8 July 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/containerships/msc-climbs-ranking-of-europe-s-top-climate-polluters/2-1-1035927 Mediterranean Shipping Co (MSC) has been named as the sixth largest polluter of carbon emissions in the European Union.

The ocean is full of tiny plastic particles – we found a way to track them with satellites. Christopher Ruf. The Conversation. 9 July 2021. Available from: https://theconversation.com/the-ocean-is-full-of-tiny-plastic-particles-we-found-a-way-to-track-them-with-satellites-163709 Plastic is the most common type of debris floating in the world’s oceans.

Ships found to be major contributor to illegal plastic bottle dumping. Kristin Engel. IOL - Independent Online (South Africa). 12 July 2021. Available from: https://www.iol.co.za/capeargus/news/ships-found-to-be-major-contributor-to-illegal-plastic-bottle-dumping-22c51956-7cef-471d-99d1-1111573c0828 Cape Town - Despite the ban on plastic dumping at sea and South Africa’s ocean conservation efforts, a recent study has revealed that a large number of ships dump plastic bottles on South African beaches and showed that some bottles drift across the Indian Ocean from countries in Southeast Asia, especially Indonesia.

PH not a dump – Palace. Keith Calayag. Manila Times. 15 July 2021. Available from: https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/07/15/news/national/ph-not-a-dump-palace/1807041 The Duterte administration has never allowed other countries to make the Philippines a dump, Malacañang said on Wednesday, following reports that Chinese vessels have been dumping human waste in the West Philippine Sea.
Arctic oil spill cleanup costs could reach $9.4B over 5 years, says risk analyst.

Fears of environmental disaster in Red Sea grow as UN-Houthis talks on Safer tanker fail.
Saeed Al-Batati. Arab News (Saudi Arabia). 17 July 2021. Available from: https://www.arabnews.com/node/1895426/middle-east The UN will continue talks with Iran-backed Houthi rebels until they agree to allow its experts to begin a vital assessment of the floating oil tanker Safer, and also urged the rebels to be more cooperative.


Dead turtles and waves of plastic show Sri Lankan ship disaster’s deep ramifications.


HEALTH & SAFETY


More than 50 shipping companies offer Wellness at Sea programme to crews, families and shore staff. Sailors’ Society. 30 June 2021. Available from: https://sailors-society.org/news/more-than-50-shipping-companies-offer-wellness-at-sea-programme-to-crews-families-and-shore-staff More than 50 shipping companies are getting on board Sailors’ Society’s Wellness at Sea Awareness programme: giving their crews, their families and shore staff vital wellness training and support to help them physically and mentally cope with the stresses of the pandemic.

800 Stolt Tankers seafarers to be vaccinated in third quarter. Søren Pico. ShippingWatch. 1 July 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article13101086.ece Chemical tanker Stolt Tankers, a division of Stolt-Nielsen, has launched a program to vaccine its seafarers against coronavirus, according to Stolt-Nielsen’s second quarter interim report, published Thursday.
New Haven nurses called ‘fearless’ in vaccinating tanker crews so they can ‘finally go home’.
When she became a nurse 10 years ago, Sara Keiling never expected that she’d be wearing a pink hard hat and a life jacket and climbing a steep, 30-foot ladder to vaccinate her patients in a global pandemic.


Covid: Cunard Queen Elizabeth cruise crew members test positive for virus. BBC News. 5 July 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hampshire-57725455 Crew members on board the Queen Elizabeth cruise ship have tested positive for coronavirus, operator Cunard has confirmed.


All Crew Members Invited to Get Vaccinated in Civitavecchia. Cruise Industry News. 8 July 2021. Available from: https://www.cruiseindustrynews.com/cruise-news/25420-all-crew-members-invited-to-get-vaccinated-in-civitavecchia.html The Port Authority of Civitavecchia in conjunction with ASL Roma 4, has announced that it is inviting all ships calling in the port of Civitavecchia to register their crew members to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Bulker crew members hospitalised and outbreak hits tanker despite jabs. Gary Dixon. TradeWinds. 8 July 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/bulker-crew-members-hospitalised-and-outbreak-hits-tanker-despite-jabs/2-1-1036245 A Dutch tanker has suffered a coronavirus outbreak among mainly vaccinated crew members, while three seafarers have been taken to hospital from a bulker in Brazil.

This document has been produced by the thirteen P&I Clubs which are members of the International Group of P&I Clubs in order to answer a number of questions that are frequently asked about P&I Club cover relating to the vaccination of seafarers.


**SaferWaves. Supporting Seafarers who have suffered Sexual Violence or Gender Discrimination.** Human Rights at Sea (HRAS). 13 July 2021. Available from: https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/07/13/saferwaves-supporting-seafarers-who-have-suffered-sexual-violence-or-gender-discrimination/ The UK-based NGO, Safer Waves, has recently been established to provide a route to support for seafarers who have suffered incidents of sexual violence or gender discrimination at sea as a new independent service for victims of egregious human rights abuse.


**HMS Queen Elizabeth: Covid outbreak on Navy flagship.** Jonathan Beale and Hazel Shearing. BBC News. 14 July 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-57830617 The BBC has been told there have been around 100 cases on the aircraft carrier, which is part way through a world tour.


**Cheonghae anti-piracy unit off Africa reports 6 COVID-19 cases.** Choi Soo-hyang. *Yonhap News Agency* (South Korea). 15 July 2021. Available from: https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210715000954325?section=national/defense Six service members aboard a South Korean destroyer on anti-piracy missions off the coast of Africa have tested positive for the coronavirus, the defense ministry said Thursday, sparking fears of collective infections among some 300 people living on the same vessel.


**Virus-hit Cheonghae unit to arrive home on aerial tankers.** Choi Soo-hyang. *Yonhap News Agency* (South Korea). 19 July 2021. Available from: https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20210720002400325?section=national/defense All members of South Korea’s virus-hit Cheonghae naval unit were to return home from Africa on Tuesday after cutting short their anti-piracy mission following an unprecedented mass outbreak that infected 247, or 82 percent, of the 301-member unit.


Belgium steps up its seafarer vaccination campaign. Sam Chambers. Splash 247.com. 23 July 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/belgium-steps-up-its-seafarer-vaccination-campaign/ The European nation, already one of the world’s most proactive states to get crews jabbed, will from Monday up its campaign at its major ports, deploying mobile medical vaccination teams to ships at berth to provide the vaccinations directly on board.

Shipping seeks clarity on UK’s seafarer vaccine policy. Declan Bush. Lloyd’s List. 23 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137660/Shipping-seeks-clarity-on-UKs-seafarer-vaccine-policy The UK Chamber of Shipping has asked the government to better publicise the fact it is vaccinating foreign seafarers, saying some health authorities are unaware of the rules.

Belgium now inoculates foreign seafarers via roving vaccination teams on board ships. Royal Belgian Shipowners’ Association. 26 July 2021. Available from: https://kbrv.be/belgium-now-inoculates-foreign-seafarers-via-roving-vaccination-teams-on-board-ships/ Following the successful COVID-19 vaccination of Belgian seafarers that started on 2 June, Belgium is going boldly beyond by moving up with a proposal by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for the North Sea, Mr Vincent van Quickenborne, the Royal Belgian Shipowners’ Association (RBSA) and the Directorate-General of Shipping.


A guide to mental health at sea. Min Jie Lee. Standard Club. 26 July 2021. Available from: https://www.standard-club.com/knowledge-news/news-a-guide-to-mental-health-at-sea-3695/ Seafarer wellbeing has been a focal topic for Standard Club in recent years, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic and we are always heartened when we see other organisations echoing this belief and doing more for seafarers in this aspect.


MHSS reports surge in calls from struggling seafarers. *Hellenic Shipping News.* 28 July 2021. Available from: https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/mhss-reports-surge-in-calls-from-struggling-seafarers/. Calls to Mental Health Support Services (MHSS) from seafarers who are really struggling to cope has soared by 60% in recent months, according to a recent report.

ECSA and ETF welcome WHO decision to prioritise seafarers’ vaccination. *European Community Shipowners’ Associations (ECSA).* 28 July 2021. Available from: https://www.ecsa.eu/news/ecsa-and-etf-welcome-who-decision-prioritise-seafarers-vaccination. On July 16, the World Health Organization (WHO) released its updated guidance for the organisation’s vaccine roadmap in order to provide a framework for overall programme priorities, listing seafarers on cargo ships as a key group that should be prioritised in the case of limited supplies.


IMO

What did we learn about CII and SEEMP+ at MEPC 76? DNV. 5 July 2021. Available from: https://www.dnv.com/expert-story/maritime-impact/What-did-we-learn-about-CII-and-SEEMP-at-MEPC-76.html In this episode of DNV’s new MARITIME IMPACT podcast, host Eirik Nyhus explains what SEEMP+ and CII mean for the maritime sector and how businesses need to take action now to comply.


IMO sub-committee fails to improve clarity of 0.50% sulphur limit enforcement. International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA). 19 July 2021. Available from: https://ibia.net/2021/07/19/imo-sub-committee-fails-to-improve-clarity-of-0-50-sulphur-limit-enforcement/ The seventh session of the IMO’s Sub-Committee on Implementation of IMO Instruments (III 7) has brought no further clarity regarding on what basis authorities can determine that a ship’s fuel is non-compliant with MARPOL Annex VI sulphur limits.

Flag states shoot down move to speed up casualty investigations. Nidaa Bakhsh. Lloyd’s List. 20 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137608/Flag-states-shoot-down-move-to-speed-up-casualty-investigations A proposal by industry heavyweights to have a mandatory time frame included in the casualty investigation code was not supported by IMO member states despite repeated calls to be in line with the aviation industry’s reporting standards.

Moving Forward with Emissions - Is it Tiers, Tears or Fears? MarineLink. 27 July 2021. Available from: https://www.marinelink.com/news/moving-forward-emissions-tiers-tears-489475 As IMO and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency emissions requirements continue throughout the IMO Emission Control Areas, they are also forcing postponement of many new construction decisions as vessel owners and operators continue to tread cautiously along the path forward.
LAW & POLICY


Container vessel detained over oil spill. Maritime Authority of Jamaica. 29 June 2021. Available from: https://maritimejamaica.com/News-Events/container-vessel-detained-over-oil-spill Container ship CSS Wind has been detained pending the payment of costs incurred for the cleanup of an oil spill from one of its containers on Wednesday.


OECD adopts historic agreement on global minimum tax. ShippingWatch. 2 July 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article13103847.ece The OECD has now adopted a historic agreement on a new global minimum tax for multinational companies of at least 15 percent.

Researchers Call for Earlier Publication of Container Line Sustainability Reports. Ship & Bunker. 2 July 2021. Available from: https://shipandbunker.com/news/world/467731-researchers-call-for-earlier-publication-of-container-line-sustainability-reports Maritime environmental researchers are calling for earlier publication of sustainability reports from container lines to allow their environmental performance to be tracked as promptly as their financial position.

Suez Canal Authority, Ever Given owner to sign a settlement on Wednesday: Canal Authority. Ahram Online (Egypt). 4 July 2021. Available from: https://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/416555/Egypt/Politics/-Suez-Canal-Authority--Ever-Given-owner-to-sign-a-a.aspx Egypt’s Suez Canal Authority (SCA) announced on Sunday that it will sign a settlement agreement on Wednesday with the owner of the Ever Given ship, which ran aground and blocked Egypt’s Suez Canal in March.

Global Maritime Forum expands management and creates new CEO role. ShippingWatch. 5 July 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article13108645.ece Johannah Christensen, already involved in the organization, has been appointed to the new role, according to an announcement Monday.
Oil tanker earlier arrested for illegal anchoring, caught repeating same offense. *Manifold Times (Singapore)*. 5 July 2021. Available from: https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/oil-tanker-earlier-arrested-for-illegal-anchoring-caught-repeating-same-offense/ A Saint Kitts and Nevis registered tanker ship was arrested by the Maritime Malaysia Enforcement Agency (MMEA) of Johor State at 10.5 nautical miles north of Tanjung Penawar around 2.00 pm on Saturday (3 July) due to illegal anchoring.

Majority of EU shipping emissions could be included in carbon market. Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd’s List*. 5 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137427/Majority-of-EU-shipping-emissions-could-be-included-in-carbon-market Containerships would see more than 65% of their emissions included in the EU Emissions Trading System under upcoming proposals from the European Commission, while less than 60% of bulker emissions would be covered, a Lloyd’s List analysis has discovered.


**Governing Arctic High Seas Biodiversity.** Margherita Valentina Romani. *Arctic Institute.* 13 July 2021. Available from: https://www.theartcicinstitute.org/governing-arctic-high-seas-biodiversity/?on-reloaded=1 The effects of anthropogenic climate change are significantly affecting the Arctic Ocean’s robust ecosystems and biological diversity. In particular, Arctic Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction cover approximately 2.8 million square kilometres beyond coastal states’ established maritime boundaries.


EU green deal forces investors to see climate as a more immediate threat. *Straits Times*. 15 July 2021. Available from: https://www.straitstimes.com/world/eu-green-deal-forces-investors-to-see-climate-as-a-more-immediate-threat. One of the biggest achievements of the European Union’s climate strategy could be forcing investors to view global warming less as a distant menace and more as an imminent threat.


WTO members edged closer today (15 July) to an agreement which would set new rules for the global fisheries industry and limit government subsidies contributing to unsustainable fishing and the depletion of global fish stocks.


Barbados has made a call for differential treatment with regard to fishing subsidies, as it reaffirms its commitment to playing its part in sustainable fishing practices.


We know that the maritime and tourism sectors have been hit hard by the global COVID-19 pandemic.


A European Union climate masterplan to raise the cost of pollution and eliminate emissions is a step towards a single carbon price that many investors striving to make companies more sustainable say can help to engineer deeper change.


So far shipping has been able to skirt around the edge of the disruption that ESG could be about to bring upon the main stakeholders.


SEA-LNG welcomes the increased ambition of the EU to accelerate European shipping’s decarbonisation in its “Fit for 55” package published on 14th July 2021.


Cruise ships — those floating, white-frosted pleasure palaces — are back in Elliott Bay, ready to sail up the Inside Passage.


Pandemic restrictions on Florida-based cruise ships will remain in place for now after a federal appeals court temporarily blocked a previous ruling that sided with a Florida lawsuit challenging the regulations.


The European Union is imposing stricter requirements on ship valuations, putting more pressure on brokers to be transparent and independent.

Climate plan positions EU as the lead of climate regulation in shipping. Jens Thomsen. ShippingWatch. 20 July 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article13143532.ece In an unusual move, Europe has taken on the role as prime mover in the climate regulation of the global shipping industry, so far the domain of the IMO.


New US Presidential Executive Order targets liner operators and alliances. Gard. 22 July 2021. Available from: https://www.gard.no/web/updates/content/32067106/new-us-presidential-executive-order-targets-liner-operators-and-alliances Our guest authors from US Law Firm, Holland and Knight, explain the background and potential reach of President Biden’s executive order that calls for improved detention and demurrage practices for container traffic, along with the Federal Maritime Commission increased scrutiny of liner alliances with respect to enforcement of antitrust laws and shipping regulations.
FMC ‘asleep at the wheel’ over foreign flag ocean carriers. Eric Watkins. Lloyd’s List. 22 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137637/FMC-asleep-at-the-wheel-over-foreign-flag-ocean-carriers The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has pressed the Federal Maritime Commission on the progress made since President Joe Biden’s executive order on competition, which included very specific concerns about ocean shipping.


COP26 climate summit president says progress made, but not enough. Matt McGrath. BBC News. 26 July 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-57975025 The first in-person meeting of climate ministers in 18 months has seen some tentative progress, says the UK minister who will lead the Glasgow COP26 meeting.


UK and France sign new security treaty to protect passengers on Channel ferries. UK Government. 26 July 2021. Available from: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-france-sign-new-security-treaty-to-protect-passengers-on-channel-ferries UK emergency responders will have more power to deal with terrorist incidents in the Channel thanks to a new treaty which the Foreign Secretary signed in Paris today.

Legislation consequent to convention obligation. Brenda V. Pimentel. Manila Times. 28 July 2021. Available from: https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/07/28/business/maritime/legislation-consequent-to-convention-obligation/1808686 One of the difficulties confronting countries that have ratified international conventions pertains to putting up the necessary legislation to carry out the obligations as a Member State.

UK travel update: government waives quarantine for arrivals fully vaccinated from Europe and USA while also confirming international cruise restart. UK Government. 29 July 2021. Available from: https://bit.ly/3jNEsa5 The latest steps towards reopening international travel make it easier for people vaccinated in Europe or the USA to travel to England.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY

ABB technology enables world’s largest civilian hospital ship to access even the most challenging harbors. ABB. 29 June 2021. Available from: https://new.abb.com/news/detail/79911/abb-technology-enables-worlds-largest-civilian-hospital-ship-to-access-even-the-most-challenging-harbors ABB’s Azipod® propulsion will help Global Mercy™ enter less accessible harbors off the African coast, while reducing vibrations and noise – crucial to the comfort of up to 200 patients and medical personnel on board.

Hybrid audit and inspection will be 'new normal'. Gary Howard. Seatrade Maritime News. 30 June 2021. Available from: https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/regulation/hybrid-audit-and-inspection-will-be-new-normal The future of maritime audits and inspections will include a hybrid blend of remote digital verification and on-site verifications, according to classification society DNV.


Turning to technology to tackle container ship fires. Lloyd’s Register. 23 July 2021. Available from: https://www.lloydsregister.com/en/latest/turning-to-technology-to-tackle-containership-fires/ Safetytech Accelerator webinar assesses the complexities of container ship fires and how the maritime industry is innovating to address this challenge.


**MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING**


Ghana to acquire training ship from Korea government - GMA. GhanaWeb. 30 June 2021. Available from: https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Ghana-to-acquire-training-ship-from-Korea-government-GMA-1298443 Ghana has signed an agreement with the Republic of Korea for the latter, to provide a training ship for the purposes of providing Ghanaian seafarers and cadets with the hands-on skills necessary to ply a trade at sea.

Young People Encouraged To Choose Seafaring As Career. Jamaica Information Service. 30 June 2021. Available from: https://jis.gov.jm/features/young-people-encouraged-to-choose-seafaring-as-career/ Young people are being encouraged to enter the profession of seafaring, as the world pays keener attention to the essential service provided by seamen and seafaring women during the COVID-19 pandemic.


MARITIME SAFETY

Sea of Distractions. CHIRP Maritime. 12 July 2021. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JjCDNVIIXE&i=3s. Using personal mobile devices such as mobile phones and mp4 players whilst on duty can lead to serious safety issues.


Is safety being sacrificed for the liner industry’s billion-dollar profits? Adam Corbett. TradeWinds. 13 July 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/is-safety-being-sacrificed-for-the-liner-industry-s-billion-dollar-profits/-2-1-1038519 The Suez Canal Authority (SCA) threw a fanfare farewell party for the Ever Given in Ismailia on the banks of the Suez Canal last week and invited the world’s media to witness the infamous ship’s departure.


MARITIME SECURITY


India to maintain warships in Gulf zone to aid merchant ships. Rajat Pandit. Times of India. 5 July 2021. Available from: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-to-maintain-warships-in-gulf-zone-to-aid-merchant-ships/articleshow/84129146.cms India will continue to maintain a naval presence in the troubled Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman, which is aimed at protecting and reassuring Indian-flagged merchant vessels and oil tankers transiting through the region.


Gard’s Loss Prevention webinar, featuring guest speakers from security consultancy AMBREY, focused on trends in piracy and war risks with key recommendations for minimizing security threats to crew and property.


With their enhanced capacity to survey the gulf as they wish and strike with impunity pirates have made international maritime trade in our part of the world more costly.


Japan and Britain have held an anti-piracy military drill in the Gulf of Aden off Somalia in East Africa, Defense Minister Nobuo Kishi said Tuesday.


The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency has responsibility for the promotion and development of indigenous commercial shipping in international coastal shipping trade; promotion of maritime security and safety, as well as maritime labour, and prevention of marine pollution.


Operation Sankalp was started in June 2019 after there were explosions on board two oil tanker ships in the Gulf of Oman amid increased tensions between Iran and the U.S.


ReCAAP said that two vessels were boarded by perpetrators armed with knives within 30 minutes of each other on 17 July in the eastbound lane of Traffic Separation Scheme of the Singapore Strait off Tanjung Pegram, Bintan Island, Indonesia.


President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky, while on a working visit to Georgia to participate in the Batumi International Conference, said that security in the Black Sea region should become a priority of the world community, and the Crimean Platform could be an important tool for this.


The relative success that has been recorded in the last five months in the fight against insecurity in the Nigerian maritime environment is proof of what could be achieved when a collaborative approach is adopted in tackling a common problem.


**Time for UNSC to take holistic approach to maritime security issue: India.** *Business Standard (India)*. 27 July 2021. Available from: [https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/time-for-unsc-to-take-holistic-approach-to-maritime-security-issue-india-121072700186_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/time-for-unsc-to-take-holistic-approach-to-maritime-security-issue-india-121072700186_1.html) It is time for the UN Security Council to take a holistic approach to the issue of maritime security that safeguards common prosperity and other security interests, India has underlined as it gears up to assume the Presidency of the powerful UN body for the month of August.


MIGRANTS

Seven migrants drown as boat capsizes off Italy's Lampedusa Island. Benjamin Bathke. InfoMigrants. 30 June 2021. Available from: https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/33291/seven-migrants-drown-as-boat-capsizes-off-italy-s-lampedusa-island The Italian news agency ANSA has reported that seven people, including a pregnant woman, died in a shipwreck about nine kilometers off the coast of Lampedusa.


At least 43 migrants feared drowned in shipwreck off Tunisia. Al Jazeera. 3 July 2021. Available from: https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/7/3/at-least-43-migrants-drown-as-boat-capsizes-off-tunisas-coast. At least 43 migrants and refugees are feared to have drowned while 84 were rescued after a shipwreck off Tunisia’s coast, the Tunisian Red Crescent said on Saturday.


Libyan gunshot attack on migrant boat – Italy seeks investigation. InfoMigrants. 8 July 2021. Available from: https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/33490/libyan-gunshot-attack-on-migrant-boat-italy-seeks-investigation Italian prosecutors said they are seeking government permission to investigate footage purportedly showing the Libyan coast guard firing shots at a migrant boat in the Mediterranean Sea.

UK Crown Prosecution Service takes Compassionate Stance for Migrants and Refugees crossing English Channel. Human Rights at Sea (HRAS). 11 July 2021. Available from: https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/07/11/uk-crown-prosecution-service-takes-compassionate-stance-for-migrants-and-refugees-crossing-english-channel In respect of the ongoing English Channel migrant crossing situation, the UK Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) issued a statement on Thursday 8 July 2021 confirming that asylum seekers entering the UK illegally would no longer be prosecuted unless they have been involved in other criminal activity.


people died attempting to reach Europe by sea in the first six months of 2021 according to a new briefing released today by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Migrant deaths on maritime routes to Europe: Jan-Jun 2021


Channel crossings migrants: ‘We need a safe place’. *BBC News.* 20 July 2021. Available from: [https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-57899177](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-57899177) The BBC understands that over 400 migrants tried to cross the Channel in small boats on Monday, a record for a single day.


NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS

IFAN uses World Marine Aids to Navigation Day to highlight the importance of safe navigation. Hellenic Shipping News. 2 July 2021. Available from: https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/ifan-uses-world-marine-aids-to-navigation-day-to-highlight-the-importance-of-safe-navigation/ On World Marine Aids to Navigation Day (Thursday 1st July), the Board of the International Foundation for Aids to Navigation (IFAN) is reminding the world’s ship owners that Aids to Navigation (AtoN) are imperative to keeping the Middle East Gulf region safe for vessels and crew but that they must be paid for.


Ever Given container ship leaves Suez Canal 106 days after getting stuck. Nadeen Ebrahim. Reuters. 7 July 2021. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/world/ever-given-container-ship-set-leave-suez-canal-2021-07-07/ The Ever Given, one of the world’s largest container ships, resumed its journey and left the Suez Canal on Wednesday, 106 days after becoming wedged across a southern section of the waterway for nearly a week and disrupting global trade.


Ever Given was human error but it won’t happen again, says Suez Canal chair. Richard Meade. Lloyd’s List. 8 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137484/Ever-Given-was-human-error-but-it-wont-happen-again-says-Suez-Canal-chair In an exclusive interview with Lloyd’s List, Suez Canal Authority chairman Osama Rabie describes the circumstances that led to Ever Given becoming jammed across the canal in high winds on March 23, halting traffic in both directions and disrupting global trade.
The Ever Given container ship that had blocked the Suez Canal in March has finally left Egyptian waters following inspections at Port Said.

Shipping industry seeks to combat dark oil transfers at sea. Hellenic Shipping News. 14 July 2021. Available from: https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/shipping-industry-seeks-to-combat-dark-oil-transfers-at-sea/ Top oil shipping companies say they have tightened operational guidelines and deployed technology to prevent accidental breaches of sanctions, as the countries hit by ever tougher restrictions fight back with elaborate strategies to dodge them.

Oceana Finds Most Vessels Exceeding Speed Limits in Areas Designed to Protect Endangered North Atlantic Right Whales Along U.S. Atlantic Coast. Oceana. 21 July 2021. Available from: https://usa.oceana.org/press-releases/oceana-finds-most-vessels-exceeding-speed-limits-areas-designed-protect-endangered Oceana analyzed vessel speeds from 2017 to 2020 in speed zones established by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) along the U.S. Atlantic coast, and found non-compliance was as high as almost 90% in mandatory speed zones, and non-cooperation was as high as almost 85% in voluntary areas. Speeding Toward Extinction: Vessel Strikes Threaten North Atlantic Right Whales


What happens to British ships when satellites don’t work? Richard Morris. BBC News. 28 July 2021. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-57440787 It’s a question that troubles the former First Sea Lord, Lord West of Spithead, who has spent months trying to find out if the UK has a back-up plan.


**PIRACY**

**Bulk carriers targeted by pirates along Singapore Strait.** Inderpreet Walia. *Lloyd’s List*. 1 July 2021. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137399/Bulk-carriers-targeted-by-pirates-along-Singapore-Strait](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137399/Bulk-carriers-targeted-by-pirates-along-Singapore-Strait) The attacks targeted two capesize bulkers *New Leonidas* (IMO: 9260641) and *Cape Lily* (IMO: 9612430), panamaxes *Sakizaya Champion* (IMO: 9680360) and *J Mare* (IMO: 9802231) and supramax *Busan Star* (IMO: 9592628), according to the Regional Co-operation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery.

**Nine jailed in first Togo pirate trial.** Africanews. 6 July 2021. Available from: [https://www.africanews.com/2021/07/06/nine-jailed-in-first-togo-pirate-trial/](https://www.africanews.com/2021/07/06/nine-jailed-in-first-togo-pirate-trial/) Nine pirates who attempted to hijack a ship in Togolese waters in May 2019 have been sentenced to prison terms ranging from 12 to 20 years during a trial at a Lome court.


PORT STATE CONTROL


Italy: Port authorities detain MSF’s search and rescue ship. Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF). 4 July 2021. Available from: https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/what-we-do/news-stories/news/italy-port-authorities-detain-msfs-search-and-rescue-ship A ship chartered by the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has been detained by Italian port authorities on administrative grounds, delaying its return to lifesaving search and rescue activities in the central Mediterranean, the organization said today, calling for its swift release.


Overdue Chinese crew are refused sign-off at Chinese port. Cichen Shen. Lloyd’s List. 5 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137567/ Ship’s master tells Lloyd’s List that the six crew members on 2020-built dry bulker Sakizaya Treasure have worked on board for 14 months and are now ‘extremely anxious’ to see their families.
McGowan says he’ll turn away ships as suspected COVID-infected carrier docks at Fremantle.

China issues crew change bans against nine ship managers in Covid-19 crackdown.


PORTS & HARBOURS

Ocean Conservancy Joins Organizations and Port Authorities Calling on Congress to Make Major Investments in Decarbonizing Shipping and Ports. Ocean Conservancy. 1 July 2021. Available from: https://oceanconservancy.org/news/organizations-port-authorities-call-congress-make-major-investments-decarbonizing-shipping-ports-part-infrastructure-deal/ Ocean Conservancy and Pacific Environment are part of 15 port authorities, industry groups and environmental organizations that signed a letter calling on Congress to include at least $20 billion in any infrastructure deal to support the decarbonization of the shipping industry.

Schedules still in turmoil as Covid issues drive port congestion, but there is light.


Fire erupts on ship at Dubai port after explosion that rocks city. Al Jazeera. 7 July 2021. Available from: https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/7/7/fire-erupts-on-ship-dubai-port-explosion-rocks-city A container ship anchored at one of the world’s largest ports in Dubai caught fire late on Wednesday, local authorities said, after an explosion shook the commercial hub of the United Arab Emirates.
Port of Vancouver operations disrupted by wildfire threat. Eric Watkins. Lloyd’s List. 8 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.inforoma.com/LL1137480/Port-of-Vancouver-operations-disrupted-by-wildfire-threat The British Columbia Wildfire Service said a hot, dry summer is predicted for much of the province, and that the heightened wildfire situation is expected to persist far into July.


Singapore leads international shipping centre rankings for eighth year. Nidaa Bakhsh. Lloyd’s List. 11 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.inforoma.com/LL1137496/ The Xinhua Baltic Shipping Centre Development Index, which ranks shipping centres of the world, has seen little change in the top 10 in its latest report.

Shipping sector renews calls for bunkering meters in Europe’s key port hub.


Italy to ban mammoth cruise ships from Venice as of Aug. 1. Frances D’emilio. Associated Press. 13 July 2021. Available from: https://apnews.com/article/europe-business-lifestyle-health-travel-1bd76f84ed38a9f7c0edff5433279950 Declaring Venice’s waterways a “national monument,” Italy is banning mammoth cruise liners from sailing into the lagoon city, which risked being declared an imperiled world heritage site by the United Nations later this month.

UNESCO: Italy’s ban on cruise ships in Venice is ‘good news’. Frances D’emilio. Associated Press. 14 July 2021. Available from: https://apnews.com/article/europe-business-health-government-and-politics-coronavirus-pandemic-9dd995a6a0d6d249e1e0e49b143f5408 The United Nations culture agency, which was considering declaring Venice an imperiled world heritage site, on Wednesday hailed Italy’s ban on big cruise ships in the heart of the lagoon city.

China Challenges Singapore as Asia’s Top Bunker Supplier. gCaptain. 20 July 2021. Available from: https://gcaptain.com/china-challenges-singapore-as-asias-top-bunker-supplier/ Singapore is facing the greatest competition yet to its status as the dominant marine fuel supplier in Asia, with China luring more ships to its shores following a rapid expansion of its port and refining facilities.


S. Africa’s Transnet says will soon lift force majeure after cyberattack. Tanisha Heiberg and Zandi Shabalala. Reuters. 27 July 2021. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/article/ousivMolt/idUSKBN2EX0PV South African state logistics firm Transnet said it would soon lift a force majeure for its container terminals that it declared following a cyberattack that disrupted operations.


Florida to Provide Ports with $250 Million in COVID-19 Relief Funds. Mike Schuler. gCaptain. 29 July 2021. Available from: https://gcaptain.com/florida-to-provide-ports-with-250-million-in-covid-19-relief-funds/ Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Kevin Thibault have announced plans to allocate $250 million in COVID-related financial relief to Florida’s ports.


REGULATIONS


BV warns owners to respond to IMO carbon regulations. Adam Corbett. TradeWinds. 2 July 2021. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/bv-warns-owners-to-respond-to-imo-carbon-regulations/2-1-1032577 Recently agreed decarbonisation measures from the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) have been widely criticised for not going far enough.

Decarbonisation regulations come to a head. Anastassios Adamopoulos. Lloyd’s List. 2 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137310/ After a long wait, shipping will finally learn how the European Commission believes it should be integrated into the EU’s Emissions Trading System.

New IMO submission calls for clarity on enforcement of 0.50% sulphur limit. International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA). 8 July 2021. Available from: https://ibia.net/2021/07/08/new-imo-submission-calls-for-clarity-on-enforcement-of-0-50-sulphur-limit/ The industry has coped remarkably well with the implementation of IMO 2020, but variable approaches to enforcement of the 0.50% sulphur limit continues to cause a lot of problems and uncertainty for the shipping and fuel oil supply industries.


**SALVAGE**


**SEAFARERS**


Moscow Maersk Crew Interviews. *Maersk.* 29 June 2021. Available from: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e1qf6OX_quE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e1qf6OX_quE). While many are now enjoying the summer season, we cannot forget the frontline workers who are continually challenged by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Forgotten at Sea | 101 East. *Al Jazeera.* 1 July 2021. Available from: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKiCW4vYBE4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKiCW4vYBE4). When the world went into lockdown, international trade continued to thrive as people turned to buying online; but for the workers keeping the shipping industry alive, it marked the beginning of a nightmare.


How to solve COVID’s crew change crisis and protect global supply chains. Jeremy Nixon. *World Economic Forum.* 1 July 2021. Available from: [https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/07/crew-change-crisis-protect-global-supply-chains/](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/07/crew-change-crisis-protect-global-supply-chains/). Around 80% of global trade is transported by ships, and the maritime supply chain is supported by more than 1 million seafarers who are key in delivering the services needed to run our societies.


After 15 months of Covid, Seafarers are still prevented from going home. Jeremy Nixon. Global Maritime Forum. 4 July 2021. Available from: https://www.globalmaritimeforum.org/news/after-15-months-of-covid-seafarers-are-still-prevented-from-going-home 80 percent of global trade is transported by ships, and the maritime supply chain is supported by more than 1 million seafarers, who are key in delivering the services needed to run our societies.


Abandoned: The seafarers stuck at sea for two years. Jenni Henderson and Amos Roberts. Al Jazeera. 6 July 2021. Available from: https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2021/7/6/abandoned-the-seafarers-stuck-onboard-for-two-years As many as 200,000 seafarers have been left stranded at sea during the pandemic as shipping companies turn a blind eye.

Seafarers to be remembered on Sea Sunday. Nautilus International. 6 July 2021. Available from: https://www.nautilusint.org/en/news-insight/news/seafarers-to-be-remembered-on-sea-sunday/ Merchant Navy crew are being commemorated in a special Sailor’s Society video message created for Sea Sunday, which is marked by churches around the world every year.

Free at last — but Egypt must change how it treats abandoned seafarers like Captain Kara. International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF). 6 July 2021. Available from: https://www.itfglobal.org/en/news/free-last-egypt-must-change-how-it-treats-abandoned-seafarers-captain-kara Captain Vehbi Kara was allowed to return home to Turkey last week having been trapped in the port of Adabiya, Suez for more than a year as the latest seafarer affected by Egypt’s peculiar legal guardianship system.


Merseyside mission CEO: Seafarers’ personal struggles show importance of Sea Sunday support. Liverpool Seafarers Centre. 7 July 2021. Available from: http://liverpoolseafarerscentre.org/2021/07/07/merseyside-mission-ceo-seafarers-personal-struggles-show-importance-of-sea-sunday-support/ On 11th July churches around the world celebrate Sea Sunday, an annual day where congregations recognise the role seafarers play in our daily lives and raise funds for the missions supporting them.


One Million Seafarers Helped By Charity’s Ground-Breaking Welfare App. Sailors’ Society. Hellenic Shipping News. 9 July 2021. Available from: https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/one-million-seafarers-helped-by-charitys-ground-breaking-welfare-app/ One million seafarers, on board more than half the world’s shipping fleet, have now benefitted from the ShipVisitor welfare app, which helps to provide continuity of care as ships and their crew move from port-to-port.


Vatican Blasts Governments, Operators for Inaction on Seafarer Rights. Maritime Executive. 9 July 2021. Available from: https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/vatican-blasts-governments-operators-for-inaction-on-seafarer-rights In a message ahead of the Sea Sunday on July 11, The Vatican has accused governments, shipping companies, crew agencies and international organizations of perpetuating or burying their heads on the sand as seafarers suffer due to COVID-19 pandemic-related disruption and their safety is put at risk by pirates.

Seafarers draw on vital support from port chaplains, research finds. Phys.org. 9 July 2021. Available from: https://phys.org/news/2021-07-seafarers-vital-port-chaplains.html Seafarers of different faiths and no faith rely on support from port chaplains in coping with what is often dangerous work in challenging institutionalized workplace settings, research from Cardiff University has found.


Seafarers on abandoned VLGC in Iran caught up in sanctions web. *TradeWinds.* 16 July 2021. Available from: [https://www.tradewindsnews.com/gas/seafarers-on-abandoned-vlgc-in-iran-caught-up-in-sanctions-web/2-1-1037769](https://www.tradewindsnews.com/gas/seafarers-on-abandoned-vlgc-in-iran-caught-up-in-sanctions-web/2-1-1037769) The fate of seafarers aboard a VLGC that was abandoned at one of Iran’s sanctions-hit petroleum hubs in April remains unknown.

Syrian Master Urgently Requests Support to End Eight Month Abandonment. *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS).* 16 July 2021. Available from: [https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/07/16/syrian-master-urgently-requests-support-to-end-eight-month-abandonment/](https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/07/16/syrian-master-urgently-requests-support-to-end-eight-month-abandonment/) The Master of the *MV Ali Bey* (IMO 9070515) has provided a voluntary video testimony to Human Rights at Sea outlining the privations that he and the remaining three Syrian crew members continue to suffer since their vessel was arrested and abandoned by its owner in Constanza Port, Romania, in November 2020 with earned wages owed prior to that date stated as totalling USD $175,000.


**Concern for seafarers during pandemic sparks new initiatives in Japanese Law School.** *Human Rights at Sea (HRAS).* 22 July 2021. Available from: [https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/07/22/concern-for-seafarers-during-pandemic-sparks-new-initiatives-in-japanese-law-school/](https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2021/07/22/concern-for-seafarers-during-pandemic-sparks-new-initiatives-in-japanese-law-school/) Professor Mariko Kawano’s interest in international law has always included the rights of individuals, but the plight of seafarers during the COVID-19 pandemic has led her to increase her engagement and build more opportunities for her students to be involved in understanding human rights at sea.

**13 stranded Filipino seafarers in China return to PH.** *CNN Philippines.* 22 July 2021. Available from: [https://www.cnn.ph/news/2021/7/22/Filipino-seafarers-back-home.html](https://www.cnn.ph/news/2021/7/22/Filipino-seafarers-back-home.html) Thirteen Filipino seafarers who have been stuck on a ship in China’s waters for 18 months were flown back to the Philippines on Thursday, the Department of Foreign Affairs said.


New BIMCO/ICS seafarer workforce report warns of serious potential officer shortage. Sam Chambers. Splash 247.com. 28 July 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/new-bimco-ics-seafarer-workforce-report-warns-of-serious-potential-officer-shortage/ Launched today, the new Seafarer Workforce Report from BIMCO and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) warns that the industry must significantly increase training and recruitment levels if it is to avoid a serious shortage in the total supply of officers by 2026.

Report shows seafarers under stress as COVID problems still to peak. ShipInsight. 28 July 2021. Available from: https://shipinsight.com/articles/report-shows-seafarers-under-stress-as-covid-problems-still-to-peak/ Calls to Mental Health Support Services (MHSS) from seafarers who are really struggling to cope has soared by 60% in recent months, according to a recent report.

Mauritius comes under pressure to release Wakashio crew held for a year without charge. Sam Chambers. Splash 247.com. 28 July 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/mauritius-comes-under-pressure-to-release-wakashio-crew-held-for-a-year-without-charge/ The International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) is among a host of organisations calling for the immediate release and repatriation of the Wakashio crew who have been held by Mauritian authorities now for over a year.


Wellbeing study finds ‘despair and anger’ among seafarers. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. Lloyd’s List. 29 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydsslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137725/ The reports found that ongoing issues relating to crew travel, uncertainty regarding leave, and an almost complete and universal ban on shore leave are taking a ‘negative toll’ on seafarers.
SEARCH & RESCUE


Ocean Viking: 572 survivors need to disembark in a Place of Safety without further delay. SOS Mediterranee. 6 July 2021. Available from: https://sosmediterranee.com/press/press-release-ocean-viking-572-survivors-need-to-disembark-in-a-place-of-safety-without-further-delay/ Following six rescue operations in the Maltese and Libyan search and rescue regions since last Thursday (July 1st), the Ocean Viking is caring for 572 survivors, including 183 minors, who urgently need to disembark in a Place of Safety.


Mediterranean Sea rescue: Red Cross to support Ocean Viking, ResQ to take over Alan Kurdi. InfoMigrants. 20 July 2021. Available from: https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/33732/mediterranean sea rescue red cross to support ocean viking resq to take over alan kurdi The Red Cross has said its teams would join the crew of the Ocean Viking rescue ship from next month; it also launched an emergency appeal for funds.


Turkey carries out search, rescue for 45 migrants in Mediterranean. Daily Sabah (Turkey). 23 July 2021. Available from: https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/turkey-carries-out-search-rescue-for-45-migrants-in-mediterranean/news The defense ministry on Friday stated that a boat carrying 45 irregular migrants has sunk in the Mediterranean off the coast of southern Antalya province and that search and rescue operations are being conducted.

SHIP RECYCLING

DCSA Launches Adopter Programme. Digital Container Shipping Association (DCSA). 29 June 2021. Available from: https://dcsa.org/resource/dcsa-launches-adopter-programme/ DCSA, a neutral, non-profit group established to further digitalisation of container shipping technology standards, in conjunction with its nine member carriers, today launched the DCSA Adopter Programme, which enables solution and service providers to validate adoption of DCSA standards based on the DCSA Self-certification Checklist (SCC).

India plans to double Alang shipbreaking capacity. Ajoy K Das. Recycling International. 30 June 2021. Available from: https://recyclinginternational.com/ferrous-metals/india-plans-to-double-alang-shipbreaking-capacity/36295/ The Indian authorities have introduced a set of measures, including a National Authority for Recycling of Ships (NARS) to expand the Alang shipbreaking yard, ensure compliance with regulations, and ramp up the generation of domestic ferrous scrap.


Decarbonisation and shipping: ship recycling - a changing landscape. Hill Dickinson LLP. 22 July 2021. Available from: https://www.hilldickinson.com/insights/articles/decarbonisation-and-shipping-ship-recycling-changing-landscape As the drive to decarbonise shipping gains increasing momentum, and as incentives and pressure on shipowners to operate more efficient and greener ships mounts, a related spike in early retirement of ships difficult to decarbonise and which are losing favour in the market, may result.

SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR


Euronav to build ammonia-fitted tankers in JDP with Hyundai Heavy, LR and DNV. ShipInsight. 7 July 2021. Available from: https://shipinsight.com/articles/euronav-to-build-ammonia-fitted-tankers-in-jdp-with-hyundai-heavy-lr-and-dnv/ Belgium-based tanker operator Euronav has announced a Joint Development Program (JDP) with Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI) and classification societies Lloyd’s Register and DNV, to help accelerate the development of dual fuel ammonia-fitted VLCC and Suezmax vessels.


**SHIPPING**


**A shipping container shortage is snarling global trade.** Nicolás Rivero. *Quartz*. 30 June 2021. Available from: [https://qz.com/2027205/a-shipping-container-shortage-is-snarling-global-trade/](https://qz.com/2027205/a-shipping-container-shortage-is-snarling-global-trade/)  Shipping containers are the lifeblood of world trade: Virtually every product and part that circulates through the global economy travels across the seas, railroads, and highways ensconced in their corrugated metal embrace.


**Shipping exempted from new global taxation plans aimed at multinationals.** Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 2 July 2021. Available from: [https://splash247.com/shipping-exempted-from-new-global-taxation-plans aimed-at-multinationals/](https://splash247.com/shipping-exempted-from-new-global-taxation-plans-aimed-at-multinationals/)  A total of 130 countries, representing more than 90% of global GDP, have backed cross-border taxation plans for multinationals, ensuring they will have to pay a global minimum corporate income tax of at least 15%.


Less than one in two ships comply with the annual efficiency ratio created by the Poseidon Principles. Sam Chambers. *Splash 247.com*. 5 July 2021. Available from: https://splash247.com/less-than-one-in-two-ships-comply-with-the-annual-efficiency-ratio-created-by-the-poseidon-principles/ UK consultants Maritime Strategies International (MSI) has added annual efficiency ratio (AER) calculations used in the Poseidon Principles to its Horizon platform showing that as of last year less than one in two ships was in compliance with the matrices developed by the green ship financing initiative.


Shipping lines responsible for massive CO2 emissions in 2020 according to EU. Jens Thomsen. *ShippingWatch*. 6 July 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article13111436.ece Emissions from shipping are so severe that the sector should be integrated into the EU’s carbon quota system, urges environmental organization Transport & Environment.

IMO has a new plan to reduce shipping’s carbon emissions; will it be enough? Cristina Brooks and Kevin Adler. *IHS Markit*. 6 July 2021. Available from: https://ihsmarkit.com/research-analysis/imo-has-a-new-plan-to-reduce-shippings-carbon-emissions-will-i.html Global shipping accounts for about 3% of the world’s annual carbon emissions, and pressure is intensifying on the industry to reduce that pollution to contribute to the international goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The UGS awaits the announcement of the European Commission’s ‘Fit for 55’ Climate Package and will contribute constructively to its objectives. *Union of Greek Shipowners*. 6 July 2021. Available from: https://www.ugs.gr/en/press-releases/2021/press-release-20210706/ The Union of Greek Shipowners (UGS) has been closely following developments at the European Union and the unfolding of its environmental agenda and, in particular, the European Commission’s initiatives linked to the European Green Deal climate action, which will be announced on the 14th of July 2021.


A proposal to make cargo ships pay for pollution is making waves. Maria Gallucci. *Grist*. 7 July 2021. Available from: https://grist.org/climate-energy/a-proposal-to-make-cargo-ships-pay-for-pollution-is-making-waves/ Thousands of cargo ships cross the oceans every single day, carrying everything from cars and clothing to plastic pellets and garden gnomes while their giant engines pump greenhouse gases into the air.
Report points to ammonia as best alternative fuel choice for shipping. Daniel Logan. *ShippingWatch.* 7 July 2021. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article13115222.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article13115222.ece) A new report by DNB and asset manager KLP points to ammonia as the best fuel solution for shipping as far as meeting the global climate targets.


The complex world of tanker transportation. *Cyprus Shipping News.* 9 July 2021. Available from: [https://cyprusshippingnews.com/2021/07/09/the-complex-world-of-tanker-transportation/](https://cyprusshippingnews.com/2021/07/09/the-complex-world-of-tanker-transportation/) The goods that these vessels carry are often essential to the global energy supply and material supply chains, while also being highly hazardous.

New FMC chair prefers that shipping comes up with its own solutions. Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch.* 9 July 2021. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article13093480.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article13093480.ece) FMC Chair Daniel B. Maffei urges the container industry to join forces with regulators to solve the problem with congested ports.
The Lloyd’s List Podcast: Why shipping is not going to get any sanctions risk relief.

Empty shipping containers pile up despite global shortage and ‘ghost ship’ runs.


The world’s largest carbon market is set for a historic revamp. Europe’s shipowners are concerned.

Shipping chaos not going away with most seafarers unvaccinated against Covid-19.

Carriers in response to Biden: US demand is to blame for high rates and delays.
Daniel Logan. *ShippingWatch*. 12 July 2021. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article13125209.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/Container/article13125209.ece) Following Biden’s executive order calling attention to prices and competition in the container industry, the industry responds that the US should look inward.


How European industry lobbyists are misaligned with science-based pathways to net-zero emissions. InfluenceMap. 12 July 2021. Available from: https://influencemap.org/report/Industry-Associations-and-European-Climate-Ambition-fdaeeb57dc404c90aaf2f82b9bd729733 Analysis of industry association engagement with EU climate policy suggests a significant disconnect between industry lobbying and science-based policy pathways towards net-zero emissions, as articulated by bodies such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the International Energy Agency (IEA).

Media: EU to seek medium-sized model for climate regulation in shipping. Jens Thomsen. ShippingWatch. 13 July 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article13127324.ece Shipping will be integrated into the EU’s upcoming carbon quota trading system, but only some of the pollution from shipping will be included.

Fuels: Is shipping heading in the right direction? Alexander Love. ShipTechnology. 13 July 2021. Available from: https://www.ship-technology.com/features/fuel-shipping-heading-right-direction/ Climate change is high on the agenda for most countries as they look to reduce greenhouse gas emissions significantly over the coming years.


Shipping counts the cost of handling stowaways. Declan Bush. Lloyd’s List. 14 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137540/Shipping-counts-the-cost-of-handling-stowaways With stowaways costing as much as $300,000 to disembark, getting seafarers invested in ship security is needed to help prevent unauthorised boardings, according to one risk analyst.


EU overreach threatens to sink shipping’s decarbonisation efforts, warns ICS. International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). 14 July 2021. Available from: https://www.ics-shipping.org/press-release/eu-overreach-threatens-to-sink-shippings-decarbonisation-efforts/ The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) has released a statement following the European Commission’s proposed extension of the EU’s Emissions Trading System (ETS) to cover the international shipping sector.
Europe’s carbon plan for shipping reveals rift between European and other shipowners.

European shipowners welcome the Fit for 55 climate package but fear lack of consistency among proposals may undermine increased climate ambition. European Community Shipowners’ Associations (ECSA). 14 July 2021. Available from: https://www.ecsa.eu/index.php/news/european-shipowners-welcome-fit-55-climate-package-fear-lack-consistency-among-proposals-may ECSA welcomes the increased climate ambition of the ‘Fit for 55’ climate package published today, recognising that the climate crisis is one of the greatest humanitarian, economic and environmental challenges our societies are facing.


EU proposes tax on all shipping emissions and to limit polluting fuels. Anastassios Adamopoulos, Michelle Wiese Bockmann and Declan Bush. Lloyd’s List. 15 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137545 EU regulator’s legislative package aims to transform the bloc’s emissions trajectory as it seeks to rapidly decarbonise.


The Lloyd’s List Podcast: Shipping’s coalition of the willing. Anastassios Adamopoulos. *Lloyd’s List*. 15 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137582/ The Global Maritime Forum has quickly cemented itself as one of the key drivers of corporate action for sustainable and responsible shipping, which will have long-lasting consequences not just on shipping’s emissions but on the very way this industry conducts business.


**Two cheers for EC shipping decarbonisation package.** *Lloyd’s List*. 16 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137586/Two-cheers-for-EC-shipping-decarbonisation-package If it gets things right, Brussels’ plans will provide an example for the rest of the world.

**Shipbuilding, shipping industries agree on steps to carbon neutrality.** Baek Byung-yel. *Korea Times*. 18 July 2021. Available from: https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2021/07/693_312349.html With extreme weather events such as floods, heat waves and polar vortex leakages hitting the planet, attention is shifting towards achieving carbon neutrality in many industry sectors, and the shipbuilding and shipping industries are no exception.


**Turkish woman stands up to redefine sexist adjective in maritime industry.** *Hurriyet Daily News (Turkey)*. 19 July 2021. Available from: https://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-woman-stands-up-to-redefine-sexist-adjective-in-maritime-industry-166412 Forced to marry at the tender age of 14 and continued her life as a single mother of two at the age of 16, a Turkish woman has initiated an effort to bring about a revolutionary change in the maritime profession she started, paving the way to redefine the term “seaman” (gemi adami in Turkish) as “sea person.”
Major retailers linked to polluting shipping practices that harm public health and climate. Stand.earth. 20 July 2021. Available from: https://www.stand.earth/latest/protect-arctic/ocean-protection-and-shipping/major-retailers-linked-polluting-shipping-practices Just fifteen companies are responsible for emitting millions of tons of pollution from importing their goods into the US on fossil-fueled ships, according to a study released today from Pacific Environment and Stand.earth. Shady Ships: Retail Giants Pollute Communities and Climate with Fossil-Fueled Ocean Shipping


American shipowners view EU quota plans for shipping as threat to global initiatives. Daniel Logan and Idha Toft Valeur. ShippingWatch. 22 July 2021. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article13147829.ece The Chamber of Shipping of America tells ShippingWatch that the EU’s plans to put shipping under its emission trading scheme is “a real threat” to the work being done by the IMO.

MSC scraps carbon offsets, focuses on reducing CO2. Argus Media. 23 July 2021. Available from: https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2237417-msc-scraps-carbon-offsets-focuses-on-reducing-co2 In 2019, the leisure cruise company said it would invest in carbon offsets to meet future emissions regulations, but it has now decided to invest in research and development of alternative marine fuels, such as ammonia and hydrogen.

What the EU climate plan means for shipping fuel. Transport & Environment. 23 July 2021. Available from: https://www.transportenvironment.org/publications/what-eu-climate-plan-means-shipping-fuel The European Commission, as part of its Fit for 55 package, proposed to introduce a GHG intensity target that increases in stringency over time, requiring ships calling at EU ports to reduce the carbon footprint of the energy used onboard. FuelEU Maritime: Shipping required to switch fuel but without clear path to sustainable alternatives


The pros and cons of India’s new subsidy scheme for shipping. Inderpreet Walia. Lloyd’s List. 28 July 2021. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1137703/The-pros-and-cons-of-Indias-new-subsidy-scheme-for-shipping Under the government-approved scheme, Indian shipping companies will be given a subsidy as they bid for global tenders for cargoes imported by the government or its entities.


Verifavia shipping highlights widespread confusion over EEXI technical parameters. Port News. 29 July 2021. Available from: https://en.portnews.ru/news/316323/ Verifavia, the leading independent emissions verification company for the transport sector (aviation and shipping), insists that accurate calculation of the IMO’s new Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index (EEXI) relies on inputting the correct data.

Cyprus Chamber of Shipping says EU emissions package won’t work. Andrew Rosenbaum. Cyprus Mail. 29 July 2021. Available from: https://cyprus-mail.com/2021/07/29/cyprus-chamber-shipping-eu-emissions-package-wont-work/ The “Fit for 55” package is a set of proposals to revise and update EU legislation in an effort to reduce greenhouse emissions by 55 per cent by 2030.


**RESEARCH**


Mudryk LR, Dawson J, et al. *Impact of 1, 2 and 4°C of global warming on ship navigation in the Canadian Arctic*. *Nature Climate Change*. 8 July 2021. Available from: [https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-021-01087-6](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-021-01087-6) Climate change-driven reductions in sea ice have facilitated increased shipping traffic volumes across the Arctic.


Galani S. **Port closures and persons at sea in international law** *International and Comparative Law Quarterly.* 21 July 2021. Available from: https://bit.ly/2WSHlqA This article looks at the impact of port closures on the rights of persons at sea and considers how international law can protect those rights.


Li X, Stephenson SR, et al. **Arctic shipping guidance from the CMIP6 ensemble on operational and infrastructural timescales.** *Climatic Change.* 28 July 2021. Available from: https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-021-03172-3 The expectation of a seasonally ice-free Arctic expected by mid-century has sparked economic and geopolitical interest in potential Arctic opportunities and risks.

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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.