

# WORLD MARITIME SEAFARER PROFILES



NAME: **AYŞE ASLI BAŞAK**

JOB TITLE: **PORT CAPTAIN**

## Why is diversity important in maritime?

Diversity is not just about gender – it is about creating an equal world for all people without discrimination on the basis of gender, race or nationality. In fact, it works as a philosophy against any kind of discrimination in general. The maritime industry needs more diversified power for a safe and sustainable future.

## Why is training important and can you talk about what type of training you found most effective?

For seafarers, training is an asset, but we need to set up systems to avoid a blame culture and stopping putting more of a burden onto seafarers' shoulders. Online training is the best option to make the most of a technologically advanced environment, however applied courses are also needed for now. If we use more technologies such as artificial intelligence, virtual reality systems and adapting training into innovation, it will be more effective for seafarers around the world.

## What do you wish the world knew about the important role that seafarers play in shipping?

People should know that no shipping means no shopping. Seafarers are the backbone of global shipping, which carries the most goods among all the types of transport in the world.

## Can you describe your ideal onboard working environment?

For me an ideal working environment would be one where everyone is treated equally. I would like a focus on both mental and physical health and efforts to prevent overworking long hours. Our environment should remind us every day that seafarers are humans and not part of a machine.

## What does sustainability mean to you?

To me, sustainability means that we are working to create a better world for the future. We must protect the environment and the human as a part of nature. Sustainability is not only an action, but a necessity – it's a must.

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