



## MARITIME SECTOR Vademecum No. 43

### **SHORT/commented VERSION**

#### ***Main Highlights, from NEW PARTS IN THIS ISSUE:***

***Community Guidelines: the impact that state aid has had on Shipping:***

*A recent shipping economics study published by Oxford Economics has concluded that the Community Guidelines, as a form of state aids to European shipping and mainly through the gradual adoption of the tonnage tax in different Member States, has had a rather positive impact for industry and the economy.*

***Arctic transits through NSR, NWP: ship numbers, types, Issues:***

*An analysis in depth of the latest data available for the trans-oceanic Arctic transits, mainly through the Northern Sea Route, reveals the main ship types involved, the main companies and countries, outstanding administrative issue, and expected growth in traffic according to new projects, like LNG in the High North.*

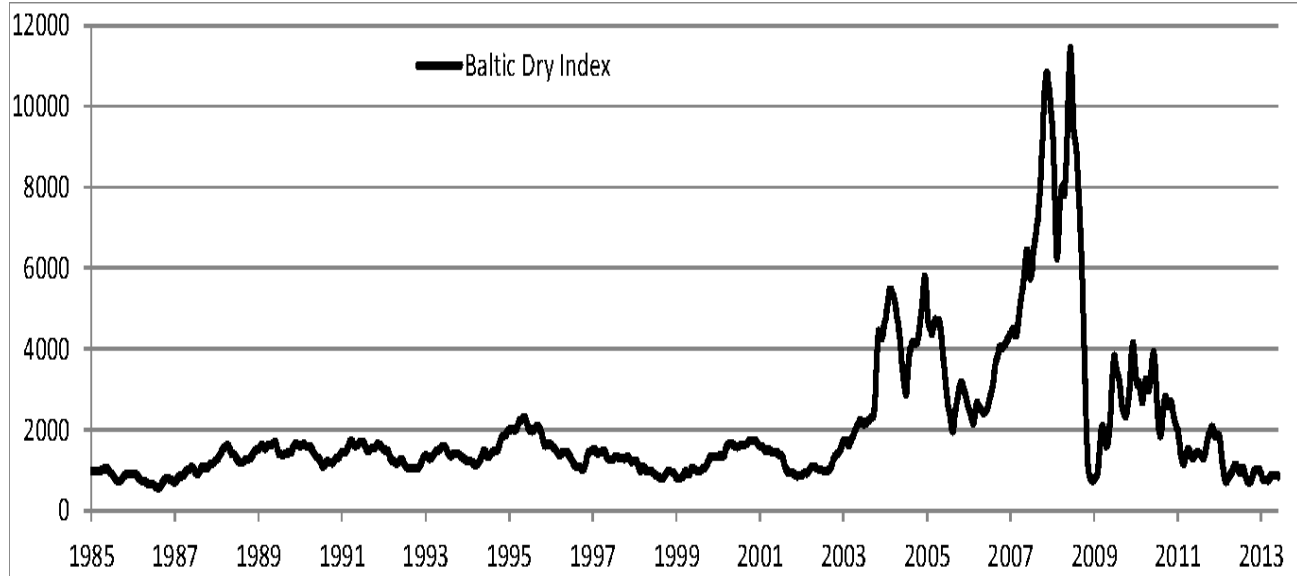
***Maritime Security: the new comprehensive, global EU Strategy 2014:***

*A general description is made of the new 2014 EU Maritime Security Strategy, which covers security under a rather global, holistic and multi-level approach; following the Joint (EC/EEAS) Communication of March 2014, and the subsequent Council's Communication Strategy of June 2014, an Action Plan is following too.*

***DNV-GL's plan to cut sea casualties and accidents by 90%:***

*Norway's-Germany's classification society DNV-GL has recently come with a rather innovative project, intended to dramatically improve shipping's safety record and the image of the industry too; by launching the unmanned cargo ship with new technologies on board and with a zero-emission fully electric ship.*

## MAIN SHIPPING MARKET INDICATORS



Source: Nbooccard/Capitallink

**Baltic Dry Index (BDI)= 1,019 on 5.12.14 [1,814 on 25.11.11; 2,099 on 1.12.10; 3,005 12-2009; 774 12-2008]**

### LIST OF SHIPPING COMPANIES WITH SAFETY-RELATED RISK CONCERNS

Fleet manager, with ships banned, large ships lost or fleet old >22y (Latest names added highlighted in yellow)

Company name	Country	Fleet	Risk	Ship(s), ship types, flag(s)
Almar	Ukraine	3	ban	Ina (ro-ro cargo ship, tg).
Arados Bureau Sea Sces.	Egypt	2	ban	Taknis (general cargo ship, tz).
Arctic Shipping LLC	Russia	6	ban	Frio Petropavlosk (refrigerated cargo ship, kn).
Arne Shipholding SA	Marshall islands	1	ban	Mermaid (general cargo ship, md).
Ergene Shipping &Tr.Co.	Marshall islands	1	ban	Atahan (general cargo ship, md).
GMZ Ship Management	Lebanon	31	ban	<b>2 ships: Joudi, Jasy</b> (general cargo ship, kh, tg).
Mantion Shipping Ltd.	Lebanon	1	ban	Laguna (general cargo ship, tz).
Uni-marine Management	Lebanon	6	ban	<b>2 ships: Sky Hope, Uranus</b> (gral. cargo ship, md, tz).

### Arctic transits through the Northern Sea Route (NSR): 71 ships in crossings in 2013, Issues

**71 ships** (41 voyages East-bound, 30 West-bound); from 200 permits issued (from over 600 applications!)

**Ship types and cargoes:** Tankers-32, General cargo-13, Bulk carriers-4, in ballast/reposition-22.

**Main flags** ships: Russia-46, Panama-6, Liberia-5, Marshall Isl.-2, **EL-2, CY-2, FI-2, MT-2, NO-2.**

International (non-Russian) **shipping companies** involved: Cosco (China), Sanko (Japan), Tschudi Shipping (Norway), Vitol (Switzerland/UK), Stena Bulk/Hyundai (SE/Korea).

**Administrative entities/requirements** (source: R.M., Ince&Co International Law Firm) : **Permit needed**, to ship owner, master or representative; between 4 months and 15 days before the transit; pdf form with data to be sent (ship name, IMO no., details, contact details, class certificate, insurance, ship owner statement..).

**Steps:** 1) form to NSR Administration (NSRA), in Moscow (e-mail); 2) contact ice breaker administration once application submitted; 3) Decision made (10 working days); 4) Notification (2 working days), permit if/when issued valid for 365 days, with no possibility to sail in the NSR before/beyond the days indicated; 5) Reporting, daily (when in NSR), required, by master to NSRA required, by e-mail. **Refusal of permit:** occurs when/if information is false/misleading, incomplete or ship seen as "unsafe" under Russian law.

**Fees:** payable as a lump sum to the Russian Administration: ice-breaker fees, ice pilot fees, transit costs. "Monopoly situation" is seen in the NSR due to compulsory use of Russian (Rosatomflot) ice-breakers.

**Current Arctic Developments** considered to potentially boost future number of Arctic transits, in NSR: Yamal LNG project (LNG terminal, to be operational by 2018 according to Russia and to multiply by 17 the NSR traffic, to Far-East too); Canada: Baffin Island's Mary River iron ore mine, extraction has begun.

### News and Data about transits in the North-West passage (estimates, no official numbers)

**Summers 2013, 2014:** reported full NWP transits from **Le Ponant** shipowner (two FR cruise vessels in 2013, and new transit in 2014); **Sept. 2014:** *Nordic Orion* cargo ship loaded up with coal from Vancouver made NWP transit to Finland; **Fednav** (Canadian ship owner) sent merchant ship with nickel concentrate cargo to sail from Hudson Strait/Canada to China through the NWP. In **summer 2008**, Denmark's cable layer *Peter Faber* made a successful transit of the NWP from Taiwan to Newfoundland/Canda.

**Counting of NWP transits** include those transiting through Davis and Bering Straits but not necessarily completing the full transit from Atlantic to Pacific or vice-versa: **from 9 ships in 2007 to 30 ships in 2012.**

**Community Guidelines: How EU state aid to maritime transport has had an impact** on EU's merchant fleet strength and competitiveness and EU's GDP/employment (*source: Oxford Economics shipping study*)

**Tonnage tax**, gradually adopted in EU Member States is main type of aid from Community Guidelines, meaning corporate tax for shipping being replaced by much lower lump sums to pay linked to tonnage; to prevent business delocalisation and flagging out of ships in highly mobile/competitive shipping industry. EU MSs having adopted tonnage tax have seen down-trend or decline of their merchant fleet under own flag register (flagging out) stopped or even curbed/reversed (clear examples for DE, DK, FR, UK).

*Oxford Economics* has estimated by **50%** "the amount by which the *total economic contribution of the EU shipping industry could have been reduced in the absence of EU-approved state aid measures*".

**Total Economic impact of EU shipping industry: estimated at €145bn** (€56bn direct + €59bn indirect + €30bn induced), **generating 2.3 million jobs** (of which 590,000 direct jobs) **and €41bn tax revenue.**

Dynamic EU service industry: **70% of growth in tonnage of EU controlled fleet in last decade 2005-14** (660Mdw, 450Mgt = 40% of world, 23,000 vessels), 38,000 students and cadets; large fleet of container ships (60% of global fleet in gt), multi-purpose vessels (52%) oil tankers (43%), offshore vessels (37%).

**Adoption of tonnage tax by EU MSs (in chronological order):**

1957: EL (revised in 1975)	2000: UK	2007: LT
1963: CY	2002: BE (rev.'04), DK (rev.'04/05/07), ES, LV.	2008: SI
1973: MT	2003: FR (rev. in 2004), IE.	2012: FI
1996: NL, Norway	2005: BG, IT.	
1999: DE	2006: PL	<i>EU (coastal) MSs with no tonnage tax: EE, HR, PT, RO, SE.</i>

### Broad EU Maritime Security (global, multi-level approach): The new 2014 EU Strategy

**Two EU (EC/EEAS-Council) Communications in 2014 for an "EU Maritime Security Strategy":**

- 1) Joint (EC/HR) Communication (JOIN(2014) 9 final, of 6.3.14): "For an Open and Secure Global Maritime Domain: Elements for a European Union Maritime Security Strategy".
- 2) Council's "European Union Maritime Security Strategy" (11205/14 adopted by GAC on 24.6.14).

**Main areas identified of relevance, concern, and affecting or to potentially affect EU interest:**

*The "classic" ones, understood as the already covered/regulated ones:*

- Piracy and armed robbery at sea (Somali piracy, other parts of the world).
- Protection from other unlawful acts, terrorism (ships, infrastructure and citizens).
- Protection from organised crime, illegal activities, affecting the maritime domain (surveillance).

*The wider, broader approach, to cover all areas in comprehensive way, from a global perspective:*

- Unlawful practices (ref. Unclos) affecting, e.g. freedom of Navigation, right of innocent passage.
- International maritime disputes, threatening peace/stability in crucial areas (e.g., East Asia seas).
- Prospects from future use or opening of new trade/sea lanes (e.g., Arctic & environment).
- Conflict prevention, crisis response/management, areas involving maritime.
- Concept of maritime domain emerging world-wide, at MS and EU levels, to be protected.

**Means to achieve it and objectives highlighted (from different perspectives):**

- increased cross-sectorial, intra-EU and civil-military co-operation.
- full respect of international law, UNCLOS, promoting use of international arbitration, Courts.
- preserve peace and prevent conflict through arbitration, mediation, bilateral dialogues (with EU or not).
- better understanding and management of resources, training.

**Follow-up of the Council's and Joint (EC/EEAS) Communications:**

- Action Plan to follow, preparation for adoption during IT Presidency (end of 2014).

**Further improving European shipping industry's image and safety record, performance:  
DNV-GL's plan to cut casualties and accidents at sea by 90% (source: Lloyd's List, DNV-GL)**

The CEO of the world's largest classification society today, **Norway's Det Norske Veritas**, recently merged with Germany's **Germanischer Lloyd (DNV-GL)**, Mr Tor Svensen, has announced plans to work on reducing shipping deaths and accidents by 90% in the long term.

*Present situation (key facts and figures, background):*

- around **800-900 people** still die in maritime incidents every year on average (shipping related)
- this number is considered to be **10 times higher** than for "comparable land-based industries".
- 50% of the casualties considered to be due to **navigation errors** (and 80% to human error).

*Ways and Means to achieve such an ambitious objective (through class society's influence):*

- research and development for new projects and applications (5% of annual revenue in DNV-GL)
- more automation and monitoring in navigation (developing and adopting new ICT technologies)
- example: the "unmanned" ship (prototype launched by DNV-GL in Sept.'14), battery-powered\*.
- special focus on passenger and ro-ro ships where the number of casualties in accidents highest.
- from an accident's cause perspective: special focus on avoiding collisions and groundings.

*\*The unmanned ship concept/idea launched by DNV-GL: towards the future "drones" of the seas?*

The "ReVolt" prototype ship has been launched by DNV-GL, to operate in Shortsea trades: merchant ship size: 60m length overall, 14.5m beam, 5m draught, 1,300dwt (100 containers/teu), 50kW energy requirement (like small car), zero-emission+unmanned. Autonomous operation: collision warning alert, avoidance; nautical chart reading; radar data processing. Maintenance free, range: 100 n.miles (before battery of 3,000kWh needs re-charge), average speed of 6 knots, no super-structure (no need for crew), to serve as "inspiration" for equipment makers, shipyards, ship owners.

## **1. EU Maritime Policy and Legislation**

### Maritime Safety

- Around 2,600 ships involved in casualties around the world in 2013; 94 were total losses, being the second time that figure drops below 100 since 2003 (EMSA News, 14.3.14)
- 17 parties file appeal against Court sentence on Prestige sinking; unprecedented result with no convicted draws protest from Spain, France, civil society, other (El Periódico, 22.5.14)

### Environment, Sea pollution, Air emissions

- Stumbling blocks on path to MRV; industry questions regulators' understanding of vessel operations as emissions rules debated, EC sets 2018 as first monitored year (LL, 24.1.14)
- EC welcomes EP's vote for renewed resources for combating pollution at sea; EP adopts 2014-2020 anti-pollution financial package of 160.5 Meuro for EMSA (RapidPR, 15.4.14)
- EU Shipowners applaud European Parliament's change of heart on monitoring of shipping CO2 emissions; EP adopts report on EC's EU Regulation proposal (ECSA News, 30.4.14)
- ECSA: Implementation of EU Sulphur Directive must be harmonised and realistic; MSs must have transposed by now EU law, to enter into force on 1.1.15 (ECSA News, 18.6.14)

### Maritime Security, Piracy

- Nato Anti-Piracy operation is extended due to threat of ship hijacks off Somalia; operation with ships patrolling area since 2009, is extended until end of 2016 (Emsa News, 5.6.14)
- Brussels strengthens Europe's maritime security; European Council approves new EU maritime security strategy, developed under the Greek Presidency (LL, 24.6.14)
- EC's call for tender: Study on Cruise Ship Security; EC publishes call for tender for study to look into security issues and possible threats to cruise sector (ESPO News, 30.6.14)

### Short Sea Shipping, Motorways of the Sea, modal shift, internal market, Blue Belt

- Athens Declaration sets EU future maritime transport policy priorities; Informal meeting of EU Maritime Ministers ends in Athens, lists policy priorities (COMM News, 8.5.14)
- Continuous efforts needed to establish harmonised reporting procedures for vessels; EC adopts report on the functioning of Reporting Formalities Directive (Rapid PR, 25.6.14)

### Policy Strategy, Competition, Cabotage, State Aids, Integrated Maritime Policy

- Legal grey area for shipping lines as Brussels opens antitrust proceedings; EC investigates whether freight rate announcements from leading container lines is unlawful (LL, 5.2.14)
- Commission adopts European Strategy to Promote Coastal and Maritime Tourism; EC presented, on 20 February, its new strategy to support sector in EU (ESPO News, 3.3.14)
- EC gives green light for the P3 Network, G6 cooperation; EC opens path for operation of world's two biggest shipping alliances, says it will not open a file (COMM News, 5.6.14)
- Domestic factors key to Beijing's rejection of shipping merger; P3 alliance for a grand European shipping alliance was a threat in the eyes of Chinese operators (FT, 19.6.14)
- EC extends Liner Consortia Block Exemption Regulation until 2020; exemption of liner shipping consortia from EU antitrust rules extended, EC says (ECSA News, 24.6.14)

### Common Maritime Space, surveillance, e-maritime, IMO membership, EU register, immigration

- Greece probes migrant deaths; boat sank with 28 people on board, Afghan and Syrian migrants, while it was being towed, Coastguard faces misconduct claims (FT, 25.1.14)
- 42,000 immigrants entered EU, mainly in boats, during 2013-Q3; third quarter of 2013 saw a massive upswing in irregular migrants arrivals, it is reported (Emsa News, 4.2.14)

- EU adopts new norms to reinforce sea border controls; new EU Regulation with norms on border control to simplify Frontex task to fight illegal immigration (El Periódico, 13.5.14)

#### Shipyards/shipbuilding, marine equipment and technology, ship scrapping

- EP approves Directive on ship equipment; EP accepts EC's proposal for the replacement of the existing Directive on marine equipment with a new one (COMM News, 22.4.14)

#### Ports & port services

- Competition Commissioner to look into state support for sea ports; EC to see possible illegal state aid for ports, in response to questions from MEP (Comm News, 20.3.14)
- Port services: EC plans to maintain its proposal; divided over project of opening activity to competition, MEPs postpone issue until the next legislature (COMM News, 25.4.14)
- ESPO to develop code of good practice for EU cruise and ferry ports; European Sea Ports Organisation responds to growing number of sea passengers in EU (ESPO News, 3.6.14)

#### Seafarers and social sector, passenger rights

- Europe's Shipping sector welcomes new facilitations for seafarers under the revision of the EU Visa Code; revision seen to benefit visa facilitation for seafarers (ECSA News, 3.4.14)
- Brussels will not ban Filipino seafarers, who faced the threat of derating; EMSA tells country's authorities to report to the European Commission every quarter (LL, 2.5.14)

#### International, bilateral & multilateral, EU actions, Arctic policy

- EU imposes Crimea sanctions; EU to impose sanctions against 21 Russian and Crimean officials, after Crimea votes to leave Ukraine and join Russian Federation (LL, 17.3.14)

#### Transport intermodality, inland waterways, Galileo, Copernicus, telecom satellites, logistics

- Europe starts launch of new fleet of satellites to monitor the Earth; First "Sentinel" satellite from Copernicus programme to be launched from French Guyana (El Periódico, 31.1.14)
- TRAN adopts legislative proposal Naiades II package; Transport and Tourism Committee of EP adopted on 20 February the 2 proposals of Naiades II package (ESPO News, 3.3.14)

#### Energy maritime issues, energy for transport

- EC creates Forum for Marine renewable energies; Commissioners for Maritime Affairs and Energy present an Action Plan for EU marine energies (French Shipowners, 23.1.14)

#### Projects financing, Marco Polo, TEN-T, EIB loans, institutional

- Horizon 2020: 6.3 billion euros for transport; some of the calls for proposals for EC's new R&D programme, published in December, cover maritime (French Shipowners, 15.1.14)
- TEN-T: Greener river vessel inaugurated thanks to EU support; Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA) inaugurates retrofitted LNG-powered ship (RapidPR, 19.6.14)

#### Insurance, P&I Clubs, finance, class societies

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## **2. News in the Sector, Market Trends, Companies**

### Markets

- Shipping is back with a bang: Euronav agrees to splash \$980m on 15 Maersk very large crude carriers in biggest acquisition in VLCC sector in memory (LL, 9.1.14)
- US approves G6 alliance extension; US Federal Maritime Commission approves alliance between APL, Hapag Lloyd, Hyundai, Mitsui, NYK, OOCL (FR Shipowners, 16.4.14)

### Shipping companies, associations

- Maersk cautions on year ahead; container demand is expected to rise 4%, whereas profits are forecasted flat for overall group, that faces year of hard work, says CEO (FT, 28.2.14)
- Hapag-Lloyd buys Chilean CSAV; German shipowner expands by purchasing Chilean group, becomes the world's fourth largest liner shipping group (FR Shipowners, 17.4.14)

- Maersk buoyed by upward trend in global trade; First-quarter results of Danish group, that transports 15% of world freight, beat expectations, lift profit forecast to \$4bn (FT, 22.5.14)

#### Cruisers/Ferries

- Over 600 passengers on cruise ship ill with gastroenteritis; "Explorer of the Seas" vessel from Royal Caribbean is expected to arrive at New Jersey, USA (El Periódico, 28.1.14)
- Cruise operator Carnival returns to calmer waters; group reports better than expected earnings, helped by sustained marketing push and better economic climate (FT, 25.6.14)

#### Maritime Safety

- IMO gives go-ahead to mandatory container weight checks; Mandatory container weight checks to be introduced following IMO agreement, final adoption to follow (LL, 19.5.14)
- Reward for owner increased to \$500,000 after ro-ro ferry sinks with loss of 302 off South Korea; ten-fold increase in reward to find billionaire owner of ferry (Emsa News, 26.5.14)

#### Environment, sea pollution, air emissions, climate change

- DFDS to axe North Sea route ahead of SOx deadline; Company warns customers of new surcharge as it switches to low-sulphur fuels, route Esbjerg to UK to close (LL, 29.4.14)

#### Maritime Security, Piracy

- Drop in Somali piracy suggests a rethink over prosecutions; infrastructure to prosecute Somali pirates should be dismantled if trend continues, says US academic (LL, 28.1.14)
- Two security officers found dead on famous Maersk box ship in Seychelles; cause of death of security officers in US containership *Maersk Alabama* unknown (Emsa News, 20.2.14)
- VLCC attacked by pirates off Oman; Thai flagged very large crude oil carrier is attacked when it was 60 n-miles off coast of Oman, near the Strait of Hormuz (Emsa News, 5.3.14)
- Maritime Security Strategy: Shipowners call for more action on piracy and port security; ECSA calls for EP and Council to endorse EC/EEAS document (ECSA News, 20.6.14)
- Nigerian Navy is forcibly preventing the use of armed security guards on board of ships within the country's EEZ; IMO has requested clarification from authorities (LL, 25.6.14)

#### Surveillance, Immigration

- Over 2,500 migrants saved by Navy in 24 hours; Italian Navy says it rescued a total of 17 migrant boats that had departed from the coast of North Africa (Emsa News, 6.6.14)

#### Short Sea Shipping, Motorways of the Sea, competitiveness, competition

- Shippers urge regulators to rein in P3; Global Shippers' Forum calls for adjustments to ease competition concerns, just days before the US is to announce decision (LL, 18.3.14)

#### Shipyards/shipbuilding, marine equipment and technology, ship scrapping

- First French ferry vessel powered by LNG to be constructed by STX in France, St.Nazaire; *Pegasis* ferry ship will be the world's third largest of this kind (Le Marin, 15.1.14)
- Drones soon also at sea; Rolls-Royce preparing cargo ships that will sail without crew, to be more cost-effective, safer and more environmentally friendly (French Shipowners, 4.3.14)
- Five die in Alang shipbreaking; five workers killed in latest incident in India raises the number of killed this year in South Asian ship recycling yards to 20 (LL, 30.6.14)

#### Ports & port services

- Italian port chosen for transfer of Syrian chemical arsenal; chemical weapons to be loaded in Gioia Tauro from Danish ship to US ship for destruction (French Shipowners, 17.1.14)
- EU-China railway a threat for EU ports; Dutch logistics director of Hewlett-Packard says increasingly popular railway connection threatens main EU ports (COMM News, 21.3.14)

#### Seafarers and social sector

- The situation of seafarers worries the Vatican; Pope meets *Apostolatis Maris*, shares concerns about work and life conditions of world's seafarers (French Shipowners, 27.1.14)
- Sewol master and three crew members could face the death penalty; South Korean prosecutors bring indictments of homicide through gross negligence (LL, 15.5.14)

### Transport intermodality, inland waterways, telecom satellites, logistics

- Inland ports discuss European issues on Danube; Inland ports meet in Bratislava for the Executive Committee meeting of the European Federation of Inland Ports (EFIP, 31.3.14)
- Almost 200 evacuated before cruise ship sinks in Netherlands; passengers and crew evacuated after ship hits obstruction and sinks, in river IJssel (Emsa News, 23.6.14)

### Energy maritime issues, energy for transport, transport of oil and gas, LNG

- Ukraine conflict said could change global LNG shipping trends; disruptions to gas exports piped from Russia to Europe could force Europe to rely more heavily on LNG (LL, 5.3.14)

### Insurance, P&I Clubs, banking and ship finance, class societies

- Lloyds Bank continues to disengage from maritime transport; UK bank tries to get rid of \$500m of shipping loans, in global policy of risk reduction (French Shipowners, 18.2.14)

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## **3. News in the enlarged Europe and EU Bordering Zones**

### Austria

### Belgium

- Zeebrugge: Fluxys signs deal with Yamal LNG on transshipment of Arctic gas; Russian joint venture with Novatek, Total signs deal with Belgian group (FR Shipowners, 23.4.14)
- NGO calls for end-of-life car carrier to be seized in Belgium; Platform on Shipbreaking calls on Belgium to seize 1987-built ship before sailing to Alang (Emsa News, 5.6.14)

### Bulgaria

### Croatia

### Cyprus

- Oil tanker seized by US Navy South-east of Cyprus; rogue crude oil tanker is seized by the US Navy, preventing it from selling unauthorised cargo of Libyan crude oil (LL, 17.3.14)
- Greek-Cypriot tender could be first step for Cyprus to become an LNG trading hub; Delek Group and partners in East Med natural gas field submit tender (FR Shipowners, 17.4.14)

### Czech Republic

### Denmark

- Maersk to sell stake in Danish retailer; AP Moller-Maersk is selling most of its stake in Denmark's largest retailer, shipping-to-oil empire continues to prune portfolio (FT, 8.1.14)
- Danish carriers have billions at stake in Russia; Maersk, Unifeeder, DFDS are at particular risk of being hit by Russian sanctions, say Danish Shipowners (Comm News, 20.3.14)

### Estonia

- Estonian MEPs react after anti-piracy vessel is arrested on arms charges in India; joint statement made on arrest of US ship with crew of 35, 14 Estonian (Emsa News, 17.1.14)

### Finland

- Finland reveals further state aid for shipowners seeking to meet environmental challenges; move underscores new maritime strategy to 2022, supports greening of fleet (LL, 12.3.14)

### France

- France debates legalising private maritime security firms; France is finally set to authorise use of private maritime security firms on ships, draft legislation presented (LL, 15.1.14)
- French Normand ports cooperate themselves to face competition; French ports of Rouen, Le Havre, Caen and Paris sign a three-year partnership agreement (Comm News, 27.1.14)
- French General says threat of ship hijacks ended off Somalia; General Hogard says piracy in seas around Somalia no longer poses threat to merchant shipping (Emsa News, 23.6.14)



## Germany

- Ports of Bremen and Bremerhaven affected again by the crisis; German twin ports, that registered a good growth in 2011 and 2012, are hit again by crisis (Comm News, 18.3.14)
- German flag falls below 400 ships; number of vessels at lowest level for decades; number of German-owned vessels on other flags also drop, to below the 3,000 mark (LL, 19.6.14)

## Greece

- Greek tax grab sours shipowners' mood; Ministry of economy pushes a surprise new tax law for ships, after industry had agreed to pay voluntary double tonnage tax (LL, 16.1.14)
- Russia-Ukraine tensions have yet to affect tanker movements, says broker; tanker business in the region, mainly operated by Greek shipowners, not seen affected so far (LL, 5.3.14)
- Greek-owned fleet soars to record level; In its biggest expansion since 2008, Greek-owned merchant fleet has grown year-to-year by 9.6%, survey says (FR Shipowners, 7.4.14)
- Posidonia 2014: Greek Shipping Minister calls for EU shipping reform; Varvitsiotis calls for EC intervention, EU policy reform, to support shipping competitiveness (LL, 2.6.14)

## Hungary

## Ireland

## Italy

- Danish ro-ro cargo ship takes first Syrian chemical weapons to Italy; ship underway from Syria to Italy with first chemical weapons cargo to be destroyed (Emsa News, 8.1.14)
- 4,337 rescued from vessels off Italy in four days; UNHCR is urging EU to provide more support, and Italian PM asks Brussels for reinforcement of Frontex (Emsa News, 21.3.14)
- Fincantieri launches its initial public offering; Italy plans to sell a 38% stake in state-owned shipbuilder, specialised in cruise ships, naval and offshore vessels (LL, 16.6.14)

## Latvia

## Lithuania

## Luxembourg

## Malta

- Court appeal held up after Malteses cruise ship sinking off Greece in 2007; Greek court adjourns appeal case of 9 people convicted in link with accident (Emsa news, 29.1.14)

## Netherlands

- Dutched flagged anti-whaling ship collides with Japanese whaling ship in Southern Ocean; Japan accuses Sea Shepherd of engaging in very dangerous sabotage (Emsa News, 5.2.14)
- Ship release sought by Greenpeace after seizure off Russia, jailing of crew; formal petition filed for release of NL-flagged *Arctic Sunrise*, 5 months after seizure (Emsa News, 5.3.14)

## Poland

- Gdansk surpasses barrier of 30m tonnes; arrival of Maersk's giant containerhips of 18,200 teu and other cargoes have contributed to the port's growth (French Shipowners, 9.1.14)

## Portugal

- EU's Maritime and Fisheries Policy: Putting Portugal on Path of Growth; Commissioner Damanaki delivers speech on growth and jobs at Lisbon Conference (Mare News, 22.4.14)

## Romania

## Slovakia

## Slovenia

## Spain

- Spanish Public Works Minister flies to Panama to discuss Canal dispute; Spain attempts to defuse a billion dollar row involving firm Sacyr and Panama Canal Authority (LL, 6.1.14)
- EU says that aid that the Spanish shipbuilding industry must return is greater; EC says the amount of 126 Meuros that Spain has calculated is not sufficient (Comm News, 28.1.14)

- Port of Barcelona urges the Spanish Government to preserve its financial autonomy; new land accessibility Fund is to finance Spanish ports' connections (El Periódico, 27.6.14)

#### Sweden

- TEN-T project: EU co-financing to help port of Stockholm redevelopment; EU to co-finance with over 14 Meuros project to revamp port infrastructure (MOVE News, 28.3.14)
- Permit granted for LNG terminal in Gothenburg; terminal to be capable of supplying shipping, industry and heavy transport with gas, as switch from oil is made (LL, 9.6.14)

#### United Kingdom

- Derelict 38-year-old cruise ship feared to be drifting towards UK; *Lyubov Orlova*, adrift in NW Atlantic since January 2013, is feared to be heading for Britain (Emsa News, 23.1.14)
- UK seeks closer collaboration in maritime security; the UK publishes its National Strategy for Maritime Security, to provide "joined-up", cross-government approach (LL, 13.5.14)

#### EU Candidate countries, Western Balkans

- Iceland withdraws candidacy for EU Accession; After stopping negotiations in September, Icelandic government withdraws application, with no referendum (Comm News, 24.2.14)

#### Norway

- Norwegian research vessel expelled from disputed waters off Cyprus; Cyprus to complain to UN after Turkish Navy patrol ship expels ship in gas exploration (Emsa News, 5.2.14)
- Europe's only LNG export plant is out of action for six weeks; Norway's liquefied natural gas export plant in Hammerfest closes for maintenance until June (LL, 1.5.14)

#### Switzerland

#### Ukraine

- Russian flag already flies in all military units and installations of Crimea; only two ships from Ukrainian Navy managed to escape from seizure by Russians (El Periódico, 27.3.14)

#### Other European countries

#### Russia

- Russia to use military infrastructure for Northern Sea Route; Russia to construct military stations and coastal infrastructure, to reconstruct abandoned aerodromes (EU Del, 24.1.14)
- Russia sinks vessel in Black Sea to block passage of Ukrainian Naval fleet; Russian forces sink old navy ship, block access to Ukraine naval base in Sevastopol (El Periódico, 6.3.14)

#### Arctic, Polar regions

- Chinese ice-breaker assisting ship stuck in Antarctic sea-ice gets stuck; 52 passengers from Akademik Yokalski were earlier transferred to Australian ship (El Periódico, 3.1.14)
- More North-West Passage travel planned by Danish shipper; Nordik Bulk Carriers plans to increase NWP shipments next year, after first commercial transit (Comm News, 7.1.14)
- Cruiseship pairing not viable in Arctic waters, warns CLIA; industry cites insufficient customer demand, operational risks, as insurance industry voices concerns (LL, 10.1.14)
- Shell suspends Arctic drilling; Anglo-Dutch oil major suspends its drilling in Arctic waters off Alaska, chief says decision is linked to US Court challenge on licenses (FT, 31.1.14)
- Arctic routes forecast to be only a limited boon for shipping; opening of Arctic shipping routes said -in summit- not to generate immediate boom in use of the route (LL, 6.3.14)
- Daewoo shipbuilding receives shipbuilding order, signs contract with Russia worth \$367m for construction of LNG tanker with ice-breaking capability (French shipowners, 17.3.14)
- Greenpeace protests as Sovcomflot's tanker lands an Arctic first; Sovcomflot's ice-class tanker docks at Rotterdam with cargo of 67,000 tonnes of Arctic crude oil (LL, 1.5.14)
- Ice melt in Antarctica is already "unstoppable" and "irreversible"; NASA scientists warn and draw conclusion from data collected in the last four decades (El Periódico, 13.5.14)

### Mediterranean Partners, countries

- First chemical weapons load from Assad leaves Syria; the vessel, with Danish flag, leaves the port of Latakia for international waters, escorted by war ships (El Periódico, 8.1.14)
- Growth of container traffic in the port of Algiers; Maritime traffic in Algerian port has grown by 15% year-on-year for ro-ro and 6% for containers (French Shipowners, 14.1.14)

### Incidences in European seas, maritime accidents

- Danish box ship loses 520 containers off France; incident involving 7,200-teu containership occurred in hurricane force winds around 60 n-miles off Brest (Emsa News, 19.2.14)
  - UK protests at alleged incursion by Spanish Navy ship off Gibraltar; Navy ship in waters around Gibraltar during British forces parachute training exercise (Emsa News, 20.2.14)
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## **4. Other International, World News**

### Japan

- Japanese icebreaker aground on rocks of Antarctica; ship runs aground when it was 700m off the un-manned Russian *Molodyozhnaya* Station in Antarctica (Emsa News, 20.2.14)
- Japanese ship seized in wartime claims row; Chinese court seizes Japanese cargo ship over legal claims related to WWII as tensions rise, Japan denounces confiscation (FT, 22.4.14)
- Japan pledges support in China disputes; Japanese PM says his country is to play a bigger role in ensuring peace in Asia by providing support to SE Asian nations (FT, 31.5.14)

### United States

- Siemens to supply first eolian park to the US; German group signs contract to deliver 130 wind turbines for offshore park along coast of Massachusetts (French Shipowners, 9.1.14)
- ABS offers advice for sailing Russia's Northern Sea Route; US class society expects that interest in sailing the Arctic waterway to grow, says ready to help in transit (LL, 29.1.14)
- Hundreds of cargo ships affected by greatest ice cover in over 30 years in US; ice cover on Great Lakes hits one of America's most important economic regions (Emsa News, 2.5.14)

### China

- Beijing starts antitrust review of P3; container ship liners mega-alliance is under review, decision by Chinese authorities not expected before second quarter of 2014 (LL, 29.1.14)
- Cosco Group, China shipping strategic cooperation agreement; Chinese shipping groups sign agreement, to establish comprehensive strategic partnership (safety4sea, 18.2.14)
- Cosco Pacific, China Shipping invest in Hutchinson Port; China's two biggest shipping companies invest in Singapore-listed Hutchinson Port Holdings (Comm News, 14.3.14)

### Hong Kong

- Guangzhou ports threaten Hong Kong's status; traffic through Nansha alone has grown over fourfold in just a decade, with fast growth of its three other ports too (FT, 16.1.14)

### Taiwan

### Korea (South)

- 26,000 tonnes of chemicals could spill if tanker breaks up off South Korea; blaze in tanker after ships collision raises risks, after ship is denied place of refuge (Emsa News, 20.2.14)
- South Korean trawler gets back to Antarctic work after stranding; *Kwang Ja Ho* refloats itself with all 90 fishermen safe, returns to normal operation to Antarctic (LL, 26.2.14)
- Korean PM resigns over bad management of the sinking of the ferry ship "Sewol"; Chung Hong-won resigns after assuming responsibility over tragedy faults (El Periódico, 28.4.14)

### Singapore

- Strait of Malacca still not safe from pirates; Waters in Singapore, Malacca straits are still not entirely safe from pirates, as evidenced by recent incidents (Comm News, 14.3.14)

### Canada

- Major blaze disables Canadian ship with over 300 on board in North Pacific; Canadian Navy refuelling ship disabled, towed to Hawaii by US Navy ship (Emsa News, 5.3.14)

### India

- Italy withdraws envoy in India dispute; Italy withdraws its ambassador in protest at what it calls "manifest inability" of justice system to handle case of Italian marines (FT, 19.2.14)

### Saudi Arabia

### Brazil

- Hamburg Süd wants to grow and invest in Brazil's ports sector; German group already controls one of Brazil's largest cabotage shipping company (French Shipowners, 25.3.14)

### Malaysia

- 3 days after Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing disappears over South China Sea, there is still no sign of wreckage but searches go on (FT, 11.3.14)

### Iran

- Brussels lifts its ban on shipping Iranian oil; EU implements sanctions relief for Iran for six months as Tehran curbs its nuclear programme (LL, 14.1.14)

### Philippines

- 2 lost, 8 missing after ship hits and sinks fishing vessel off Philippines, cargo ship carrying containers is being sought by the Philippines authorities (Emsa Nes, 14.3.14)
- Manila warns over China's oil drilling tactics; President of Philippines warns that Beijing may repeat its tactics of exploring for oil in disputed waters close to country (FT, 27.5.14)

### Indonesia

- 132 rescued, 7 missing after ro-ro ferry sinks off Indonesia; Indonesian ferry sinks 22 nm off the port of Tanjung Priok, Jakarta, after struck by huge waves (Emsa News, 23.1.14)
- Indonesia's gamble on ore export ban worries investors and mining communities; long-planned ban on the export of unprocessed ores, like bauxite, is implemented (FT, 8.5.14)

### Australia

- Ten ships search Indian Ocean for Malaysian Airlines flight MH370; Australia reports no new progress finding aircraft missing with 239 passengers (LL, 31.3.14)

### Thailand

### Vietnam

- Damen inaugurates its shipbuilding yard of Song Cam in Vietnam; Dutch group opens its new centre of 43 hectares, to construct main tug ships (French shipowners, 25.3.14)
- Hanoi steps up war of words with Beijing after boat sinks; China, Vietnam fire accusations at each other after sinking of Vietnamese fishing vessel near Paracel islands (FT, 28.5.14)

### UAE, Gulf region

### Caribbean region

### South Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa

### Other countries and regions

### Panama Canal, register

- Panama Canal widening project threatened by dispute over costs; consortium threatens to suspend a \$3.2bn project if not compensated for \$1.6bn of costs overruns (FT, 3.1.14)
- Frist tests on enlarged Panama Canal in one year; first tests foreseen in one year, says Administrator, after inauguration originally foreseen in 2014 (FR Shipowners, 11.6.14)

### Suez Canal

- Death sentence for 26 for planning terrorist attacks on ships in Egypt; 26 sentenced for plotting attacks in Suez Canal, manufacturing missiles, explosives (Emsa News, 27.2.14)
- 15 tonnes of explosive material found near Suez Canal; Egyptian Army says it is one of biggest hauls since the start of campaign against Islamist militants (Emsa News, 15.5.14)

### Incidences in world seas, maritime, ship accidents

- Passenger search after Korean ferry sinks; marine police search for almost 300 people after ferry carrying over 450 passengers sinks off SW coast of South Korea (FT, 17.4.15)
- Passenger ship accident in India kills 21 people; passenger ship transporting tourists in South East of India, in Gulf of Bengal, sinks, at least 21 missing (Comm News, 27.1.14)

### Territorial/maritime disputes, UNCLOS-related issues

- China passes law to keep non-Chinese fishing vessels out of disputed parts of South China Sea; foreign ships to need to seek permission before entering waters (Emsa News, 10.1.14)
- Maritime border between Peru and Chile redefined; Peru says is pleased with International Court of Justice's ruling, increasing Peru's EEZ by 20,000 sq.km (El Periódico, 28.1.14)
- Tensions in South China Sea escalate after Vietnam says Chinese ships rammed its vessels near Paracel islands and Philippines detains Chinese fishing boat and crew (FT, 8.5.14)

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## **5. International Legislation, Institutions (IMO, WTO, ILO...)**

### International Law, Unclos, IMO

- Sekimizu renews call for faster adoption of IMO Conventions; IMO Secretary-general seeks "genuine progress" in implementing the organisation's goals (LL, 22.1.14)
- Nairobi Convention on shipwreck removal to enter into force on 14 April 2015; Denmark becomes 10<sup>th</sup> State to ratify IMO Convention, signed in 2007 (FR Shipowners, 17.4.14)

### Social aspects, seafarer profession, ILO

- ILO adopts new measures to protect abandoned seafarers; changes to MLC 2006 to ensure financial security for abandoned seafarers and death, injury claims agreed (LL, 14.4.14)

### International trade, WTO, competition, Unctad, WCO

- P3 decision shows why shipping needs a global competition body, single authority would benefit the industry, says lawyer; after China's decision to reject P3 Alliance (LL, 25.6.14)

### International economy, OECD, IMF, WB, G-8, G-20

- China to overtake US as top economic power this year; change, monitored by world's leading statistical agencies, was initially not expected until 2019 (FT, 30.4.14)

### Environment, UNEP, Climate change

### UN, General