

INTL. WOMEN'S DAY 2021: INCLUSIVE AND GENDER BALANCED SECTORS MORE EFFICIENT AND SUCCESSFUL

EMSA's Executive Director has voiced her full support for a more balanced representation of women in the maritime community. In a [video clip](#) released online, she said: "It has been proved time and time again that sectors which are inclusive and gender balanced are more efficient and successful." Ms Markovčić Kostelac also welcomed the actions of the IMO's [Women in Maritime](#) initiative as well as the European Commission's EU [Women in Transport](#) platform in which EMSA participates. These collective efforts will help the maritime industry move forward to fully acknowledge women as key maritime stakeholders.



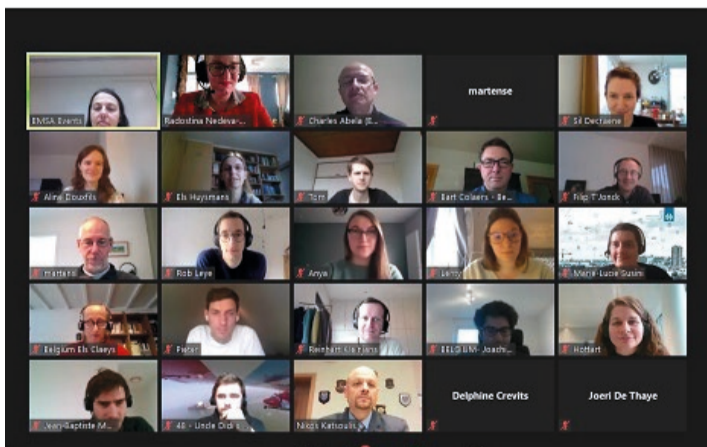
AGENCY SETS OUT PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD IN RECENTLY PUBLISHED 'EMSA OUTLOOK 2021'

EMSA's recently published [Outlook 2021 publication](#) contains the concrete measures the Agency plans to take in 2021 to deliver on its multi-annual strategic objectives, building on the new and adapted working methods adopted in 2020. This annual publication represents a condensed version of the Single Programming Document and is organised by activity theme. The outcome is typically reported in the corresponding Consolidated Annual Activity Report which details the results achieved against the objectives set.



EMSA RESPONDS TO BELGIAN AUTHORITIES' REQUEST FOR INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING

EMSA delivered an institutional training course virtually to several Belgian authorities on 20-21 January. Thirty officials attended from a variety of departments, including the Maritime Transport Directorate General, the Belgian Institute for Postal Services and Telecommunications, and the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences. The course covered: an introduction to the structure of the EU and its legislative process; the mandate of the European Commission in the maritime domain; and, the means of cooperation with member states. How the IMO functions in particular in respect to the International Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) was covered, in addition to the role of the European Commission and EMSA in this international forum. The work of EMSA was explained together with that of its partner institutions and bodies. The training was highly appreciated by all participants.



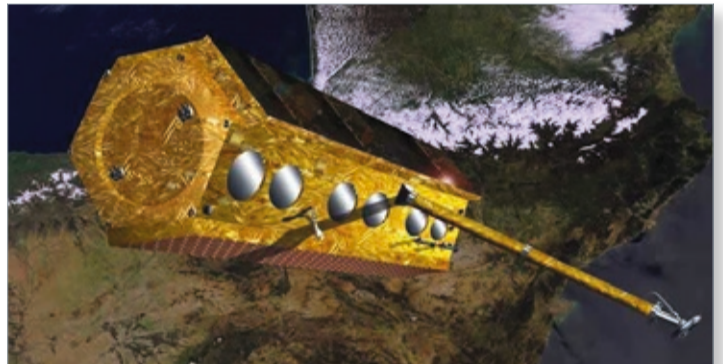
EMSA RPAS CURRENTLY PROVIDING REGIONAL MULTIPURPOSE SURVEILLANCE OVER THE BLACK SEA AREA

EMSA RPAS is flying over the Black Sea area since early March following a request made by the Romanian Border Police. The flights cover multiple coast guard functions, thereby supporting local authorities and the EU agencies present in the region – including the Romanian Naval Authority, the Romanian National Agency for Fishing and Aquaculture, the Bulgarian Maritime Administration, the Bulgarian Border Police, EFCA and Frontex. The mid-size vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) RPAS mobilised by EMSA has seven hours of endurance, a range of up to 200 km and is equipped with a high performance gimbal for day and night operations in addition to a sea surface scanner to detect uncooperative targets, a distress beacon detector and an AIS sensor to collect vessel positions in the area. In addition to this, EMSA will also be mobilising a lightweight RPAS which will operate from the Romanian Patrol vessel Stefan Cel Mare later in the year. These surveillance means – made available by EMSA – will increase regional maritime awareness for the relevant stakeholders. Through the services, EMSA will be providing a meaningful contribution to the Multipurpose Maritime Operation in the region in an effort to foster cooperation and increase efficiency of use of EU resources in close coordination with EFCA and Frontex.



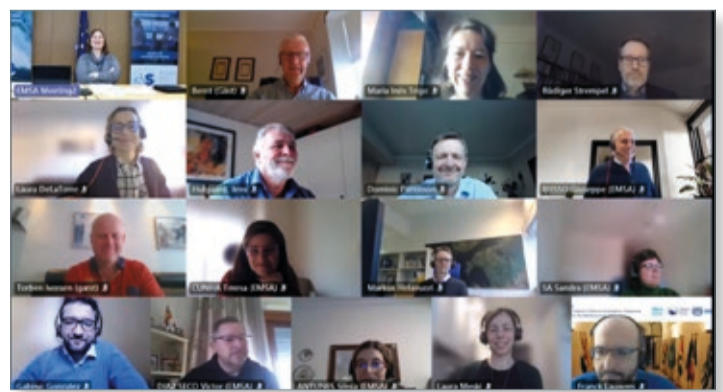
EMSA'S EARTH OBSERVATION SERVICES: DEPLOYMENT OF A NEW SAR SATELLITE

EMSA's Earth Observation services has started to use images from the Spanish PAZ satellite. This Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) satellite is able to collect very high-resolution images up to 25 cm. It orbits the Earth 15 times per day, covering an area of 300,000 km². PAZ acquisitions complement SAR data already acquired through Sentinel-1A, Sentinel-1B, RADARSAT-2, TerraSAR-X and Tandem-X, and strengthen the Agency's capacity to provide near real-time services to multiple user communities interested in monitoring activities at sea. The PAZ satellite is part of the TerraSAR-X constellation and can acquire multiple imaging modes. PAZ satellite images can be acquired regardless of cloud cover conditions, at any time of day or night and will be used by EMSA for pollution monitoring and maritime surveillance purposes.



POLLUTION PREVENTION ISSUES ADDED TO AGENDA AT VIRTUALLY HELD INTER-SECRETARIAT MEETING

On 24 and 25 February, the Agency held the 17th Inter-Secretariat meeting, with approximately 30 participants from the Secretariats of the various Regional Sea Conventions and Regional Agreements in Europe, relevant European Commission services and EMSA. These annually held meetings provide a unique forum for exchanging information, sharing good practice and providing inter-regional updates on ongoing work and on topics of common interest in the field of oil and HNS marine pollution preparedness and response. This year, the meeting was held online and with an extended scope and agenda, also addressing relevant pollution prevention issues, such as regional work on marine litter and MARPOL Annex VI emissions monitoring, as well as the implementation of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive.



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PUBLICATIONS: EMSA Outlook 2021 (24/2/2021); Network of Stand-by Oil Spill Response Vessels: Drills and Exercises. Annual Report 2020 (1/3/2021). See website for more.

VACANCIES: Project Officer for Visits and Inspections (SNE) (15/3/2021).

PROCUREMENT: Provision of portable devices to measure sulphur content in marine fuels (14/4/2021); RPAS Services for Maritime Surveillance with Extended Coastal Range (17/3/2021). See website for more.