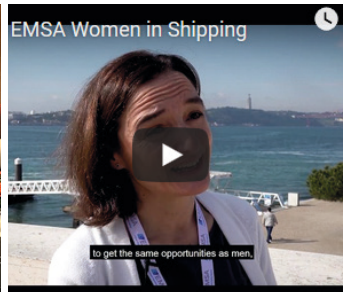


WOMEN IN SHIPPING - TAKING STEPS TO REDRESS THE GENDER BALANCE

EMSA's Executive Director, Ms Markovčić Kostelac, was invited to speak on the topic of **women in shipping** at the WMU's third international women's conference in Malmö, Sweden, on 4-5 April. While a wide range of professional activities exist in the maritime sector, the reality is that very few of these are occupied by women. The International Transport Workers Federation estimates for example that only 2% of global seafarers are women. To redress the overall balance and tackle the rising labour shortages, efforts should be made to gather workforce distribution data, to understand the motivation behind these choices, and to provide clear analysis to feed into policies and measures which can lead to a stronger, more balanced gender representation in the shipping sector.



35% of positions at EMSA are held by women

SUPPORTING NATIONAL TRAINING FOR VTMIS OPERATORS IN ITALY THROUGH EMSA'S INTEGRATED MARITIME SERVICES

Eighteen VTMIS operators from the Italian Coast Guard received training on EMSA's Integrated Maritime Services (IMS) at the VTS Training Centre in Messina, Sicily, on 10-11 April. The training, organised at the request of the Italian authorities, covered the IMS graphical interface (SEG), SafeSeaNet data, Copernicus Maritime Surveillance products and Automated Behaviour Monitoring. The VTMIS operators became familiar with the latest version of the SEG interface, discovering its capabilities and the new SEG-based ABM console. EMSA supports national training activities of member states, specifically in relation to Integrated Maritime Services, which give users the possibility of getting a customisable overview of activities at sea, enhancing monitoring capabilities and the identification of the related risks.



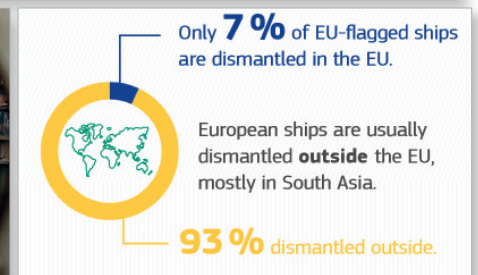
ANNUAL EUROPEAN COAST GUARD EVENT HELD IN POLAND

The second annual European Coast Guard Event, organised jointly by Frontex, EFCA and EMSA, kicked off on 16 April in Świnoujście, Poland. The event provides a platform for national authorities, EU agencies and the European Commission to exchange views on matters related to safety and security at sea. The discussions focused on information sharing and surveillance, analysing risks at sea and the training of coast guard officers. Frontex, EFCA and EMSA are supporting member states with information sharing, surveillance and communication services, capacity building activities as well as risk analysis and information exchange on threats in the maritime domain. The three agencies work on multipurpose operations, where they together perform activities that support various coast guard functions. This year, these operations are being carried out across the Black Sea, Baltic Sea and the Mediterranean.



TOWARDS SAFER, MORE ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY SHIP RECYCLING

EMSA held a workshop on 11-12 April on conducting inspections of ships to check compliance with the Ship Recycling Regulation. The particular focus of the workshop was on a guidance document prepared by EMSA to facilitate these inspections as well as on developments to the dedicated module in the THETIS-EU information system. The draft guidance document was thoroughly discussed and agreed on with the national authorities present, including those responsible for the overall implementation of the SRR and for the related port state control activities. Participants also endorsed the business rules for the development and use of a new THETIS-EU module. The plan is to finalise both the guidance and the THETIS-EU module before the end of the year. The workshop was well attended with 22 EU member states and EFTA countries, gathering 36 participants in total and two representatives from the European Commission (DG ENV and MOVE).



RPAS MARITIME SURVEILLANCE SERVICES UNDERWAY IN ICELAND

A medium altitude long endurance RPAS drone is being used by the Icelandic maritime authorities to enhance the maritime picture over its Exclusive Economic Zone, the service follows a request made by the Icelandic coast guard to EMSA and is expected to run until mid-July. The RPAS has been integrated into the existing surveillance mechanisms and procedures covering coast guard functions in the areas of maritime safety and security, search and rescue, environmental protection, law enforcement and fisheries control. The Hermes 900 RPAS is adapted to withstand the strong winds and icy conditions common to the North Atlantic Ocean. Several Icelandic authorities are able to follow the missions remotely in real time thanks to the EMSA RPAS data centre. "EMSA's RPAS services give us and our users, in this case Iceland, another lens through which we can gain even greater situational awareness," explained Executive Director, Maja Markovčić Kostelac.



ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION TRAINING DELIVERED IN KIEV AS PART OF THE BLACK & CASPIAN SEA PROJECT

Black and Caspian Sea project training was delivered to the relevant Ukrainian authorities by EMSA officials on 9-10 April in Kiev. The course introduced the international and European legislative framework in the field of marine casualty investigation and provided some practical tools to analyse marine casualties and incidents. The two EMSA lectures presented best practices supporting the set-up of the accident investigation and its initial phases, including coordination, cooperation with other interested countries (both EU and non-EU) and national authorities. Principles and good practices when approaching the accident site and collecting physical evidence were also discussed in a lively, interactive manner among the audience. The course contributed to further developing the accident investigation capabilities of the Ukrainian authorities.



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VACANCIES: Maritime Support Services Duty Officer with IT background (SNE) (deadline: 22/5/2019); Financial, Budget and Procurement Officer for the Common Information Sharing Environment-CISE (deadline: 3/6/2019); Configuration and Deployment Officer for CISE (deadline: 7/6/2019)

PROCUREMENT: Service Contract for Equipment Assistance Service (EAS) Baltic Sea (Lot 1) and North Sea (Lot 2) (23/5/2019). See website for more.