NEWSLETTER

No. 239



QUALITY SHIPPING, SAFER SEAS, CLEANER OCEANS

MAY 2025

THIRD EMSA-LED MULTIPURPOSE MARITIME OPERATION LAUNCHED IN ZEEBRUGGE

A Multipurpose Maritime Operation, led by EMSA in cooperation with the maritime authorities of Belgium and France and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA), has been launched in La Manche and the southern section of the North Sea. The operation aims to support the maritime authorities of Belgium and France across a variety of coast guard functions and has been launched on their request. Until 19 September, EMSA, together with EFCA, will provide enhanced support for search and rescue, maritime surveillance, environmental protection and fisheries control in the operational area. This support includes the provision of services such as: EMSA's satellite imagery and vessel detection; EMSA's Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) for multipurpose maritime surveillance and environmental monitoring; and the provision of EMSA's Integrated Maritime Services (IMS) and operational tools for reporting and data exchange. The operation will be coordinated from EMSA's headquarters in Lisbon. A Multipurpose Maritime Operation (MMO) is a coordinated activity in a specific maritime area and for a defined period of implementation, aimed at supporting national authorities carrying out coast guard functions at national, Union, and international levels. MMOs involve at least two coast guard functions falling under the mandate of multiple agencies and can be launched upon request from Member States or EFCA, EMSA, or Frontex. The involved Agencies may provide assets, services, or experts, which can be supplemented by the Member States.



At the opening event of the Multipurpose Maritime Operation (MMO) in Zeebrugge, Belgium, EMSA's Executive Director joined the Director of Waterborne at DG MOVE in the European Commission, along with representatives of authorities performing coast guard functions from France and Belgium.

WORKSHOP ON DIRECTIVE 2001/96/ EC "BULK" END-OF-CYCLE WORKSHOP -VISITS TO MEMBER STATES

On 20 May 2025, EMSA hosted the end-of-cycle workshop concerning Directive 2001/96/EC, which establishes harmonised requirements and procedures for the safe loading and unloading of bulk carriers. With the completion of the visit cycle, the Agency has reviewed the findings and produced a horizontal analysis report, which was presented to the relevant national authorities during the event.



Delegates from all over the EU attended the end of cycle workshop held at EMSA

WEBINAR: TRAINALTER STUDY

On 5 June, EMSA is holding a webinar on the TRAINALTER study which aims to identify specific competences for seafarers on ships using alternative fuels and energy systems. The main results of the study will be presented and discussed during the webinar by EMSA experts. There is still a limited number of places available to attend the webinar; anyone interested in registering can do so via the following link: https://extranet.emsa.europa.eu/trainalter/. Registration closes on 2 June 2025 at 17:00 Lisbon time (1800 CEST).



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EMSA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PARTICIPATES IN PANEL DISCUSSIONS AT EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY IN IRELAND

During European Maritime Day in Cork, Ireland, EMSA's Executive Director Maja Markovčić Kostelac participated in a panel discussion on the EU Maritime Security Strategy and the role of the European Fisheries Control Agency, EMSA, and Frontex. Ms. Markovčić Kostelac joined the Executive Director of EFCA, Susan Steele, the deputy Executive Director of Frontex, Lars Gerdes, and the Director-General of the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries at the European Commission, Charlina Vitcheva, to discuss the role of the three Agencies in the exchange of experience and best practices, and to promote maritime situational awareness. Ms. Markovčić Kostelac also participated in our European Maritime Day workshop on CISE as a key tool for EU response to maritime security threats, in a forum which brought together EU institutions and national authorities to discuss how the Common Information Sharing Environment supports maritime security across Europe. The workshop focused on the role of CISE in strengthening cooperation and enhancing the protection of critical maritime infrastructure. Participants shared operational use cases, strategic insights, and technical developments demonstrating how CISE enables secure, automated, cross-sector information exchange.





Our Executive Director addresses panels at European Maritime Day in Cork, Ireland - on the role of EU Agencies in the EUMSS and on the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE)

SEAFARER STATISTICS IN THE EU -STATISTICAL REVIEW (2023 DATA STCW-IS)

EMSA has published the latest edition of the statistical review based on data extracted from certificates and endorsements registered by EU Member States, Iceland and Norway until 31 December 2023. This data, which was transferred and recorded in the STCW Information System (STCW-IS) by 31 December 2024, represents a snapshot of the European labour market in terms of the number of seafarers holding valid certificates and endorsements in 2023. It should be noted that the numbers presented cover masters and officers who are certified but not necessarily actively serving on board ships. The data included in the STCW-IS shows that by end-2023, 172,308 masters and officers held valid certificates of competency (CoC) issued by EU Member States while another 125,519 masters and officers held original CoCs issued by non-EU countries with endorsements issued by EU Member States attesting their recognition (EaR). Overall, the end of 2023 saw almost a third of a million masters and officers as potential manpower to serve on board EU Member State-flagged vessels. Access the report here.

emsa.europa.eu

VACANCIES: Seconded National Expert: Officer, Visits & Inspections (11/06/2025; deadline extended); Seconded National Expert: Officer, Ship Safety (11/06/2025; deadline extended); See website for more.

PROCUREMENT: Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Electric Vehicle Chargers (09/06/2025), Sale of oil pollution response equipment (16/06/2025), Catering services (18/06/2025). See website for more.