

MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF GREECE AND DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF PORTUGAL VISIT EMSA

EMSA's Executive Director Maja Markovčić Kostelac welcomed the Greek Minister of National Defence, Nikos Dendias, and the Portuguese Deputy Minister for Defence Policy, Nuno Pinheiro Torres, to EMSA's Lisbon headquarters for a joint visit. Minister Dendias and Deputy Minister Pinheiro Torres were briefed by Ms. Markovčić Kostelac on EMSA's role and activities. They later observed EMSA's operational work in action when they visited our European Maritime Awareness Centre.



During their visit, Minister Dendias and Deputy Minister Pinheiro Torres were briefed by EMSA's Executive Director on the Agency's work and also visited EMSA's European Maritime Awareness Centre.

RULECHECK 19.0 IS NOW LIVE

Version 19.0 of RuleCheck has been released across its global user community of more than 6,650 users. Originally developed in the context of the Paris MoU, RuleCheck is today used across the Paris, Mediterranean, Black Sea, Caribbean, Indian Ocean, Tokyo, Riyadh and Abuja MoUs, as well as the Viña del Mar Agreement. It also supports flag State inspectors, safety investigators, and maritime administration personnel from EU Member States, ENP beneficiary countries and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority. By bringing together IMO, ILO and EU legislation, IACS Unified Interpretations and MoU documentation in one practical tool, RuleCheck helps users apply requirements in a more consistent way. In doing so, it contributes to greater harmonisation in the implementation of maritime safety, security and environmental protection standards worldwide. RuleCheck includes comprehensive legal and procedural content, practical functions such as deficiency checks, ship-specific filtering, search tools and flag State inspection support, online accessibility on computers and mobile devices, offline versions for certain MoUs, including Paris, Mediterranean and Black Sea, continuous user support through a 24/7 helpdesk, and regular content updates and alerts on new legal acts entering into force.



SZCZECIN THE VENUE FOR THE EMSA OPEN DAY IN POLAND

The first EMSA Open Day of 2026 has taken place in Szczecin, Poland, with an information session for Polish national authorities, and an outreach session for maritime students. The information session took place in the offices of the Polish Maritime Office, Szczecin, led by EMSA's Executive Director, Maja Markovčić Kostelac, and chaired by Wojciech Zdanowicz, Director of the Maritime Office, Szczecin. Ms. Markovčić Kostelac outlined EMSA's services and activities to a range of Polish maritime stakeholders, who also viewed a live presentation from EMSA's European Maritime Awareness Centre (EMAC). The meeting also featured a presentation on EU ETS and FuelEU Maritime. Ms Markovčić Kostelac also joined Poland's State Secretary for Maritime Economy, Arkadiusz Marchewka, to address students at the Maritime University of Szczecin. The maritime students heard about EMSA's work and activities and received an overview of the Agency's traineeship programme.



Top left: EMSA's Executive Director greets the Polish State Secretary for the Maritime Economy, Arkadiusz Marchewka, at the Maritime University of Szczecin. Top right: EMSA's Executive Director and the Director of the Maritime Office, Szczecin, Wojciech Zdanowicz. Bottom: EMSA's Executive Director addresses the information session in the Maritime Office, Szczecin.

EMSA-ECSA ANNUAL MEETING TAKES PLACE IN EMSA'S HEADQUARTERS

The annual meeting between EMSA and the European Community Shipowners' Association (ECSA) has taken place in EMSA's headquarters in Lisbon. Opened by EMSA's Executive Director, Maja Markovčić Kostelac, the meeting gathered delegates from around Europe for the traditional annual exchange on topical sustainability and safety issues, including decarbonisation and the safety of alternative fuels. This year's meeting took place in the framework of the ECSA Safety and Environment committee meeting which also took place at EMSA's premises.



Delegates attending the EMSA-ECSA meeting at EMSA's headquarters in Lisbon.

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PROCUREMENT: Technical Capabilities for the EMSA Academy (27/05/2026). T-AIS data service in specific regions (02/06/2026). Provision of satellite images and value-added products for maritime surveillance based on SAR and very high resolution optical sensors (23/06/2026). See website for more.