

Work package n°3 – Building institutional (capacity)***Report – EMSA online event (Gaining specific practical knowledge and strengthening institutional capacity building)***

As part of the project activities, an online meeting was organized with representatives of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) on 28 May 2024. Russeva Radina, Policy Advisor, Veiga Jaime, Senior Project Officer, and Antonia Ćurdo, Policy Support and Communications Officer, hosted this online meeting. The project team was supported by Ana-Marija Batinović from the Croatian Ministry of the Sea Transport and Infrastructure.

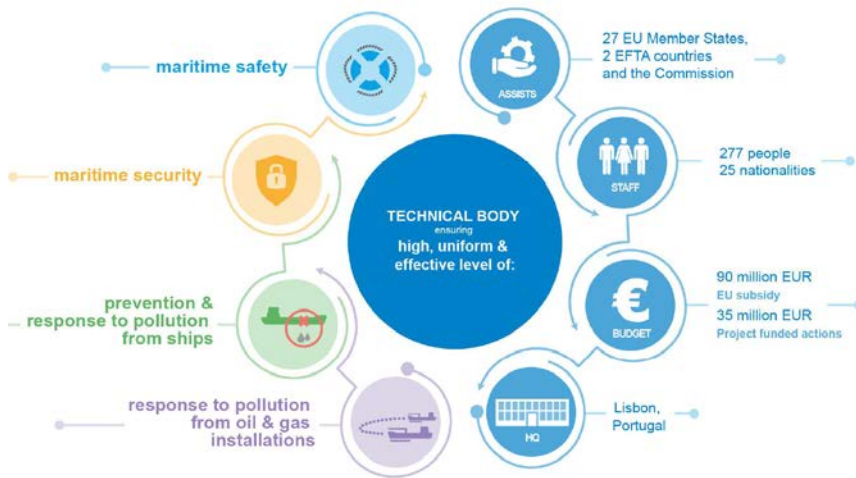
The participants of the MareLaw project team were:

1. Nikola Mandić (Croatia)
2. Merica Slišković (Croatia)
3. Ranka Petrinović (Croatia)
4. Zaloa Sanchez Varela (Croatia)
5. Helena Ukić Boljat (Croatia)
6. Inara Plankova (Latvia)
7. Sandra Lielbarde (Latvia)
8. Francese Xavier Martinez de Oses (Spain)
9. Jaime Rodrigo De Larrucea (Spain).

The main objective of this meeting is to present the role and activities of EMSA to the members of the MareLaw project team. In addition, the MareLaw project will be briefly presented as a preparatory meeting for the dissemination event in November.

Ms Radina Russeva, Policy Advisor at EMSA, began the presentation by explaining EMSA's organization and human resources (Figure 1). Ms Radina Russeva emphasizes efficiency, stakeholder orientation, transparency, and gender balance, highlighting EMSA's commitment to progressive governance and inclusive maritime policies. EMSA's operational and legal basis was described.

EMSA in a nutshell



EMSA human resources

EMSA STAFF BY NATIONALITY 2023

Figures include statutory and non-statutory staff



Figure 1. EMSA organisation and human resources

EMSA's Strategic Framework focus on "5S" pillars or priorities:

1. Sustainability (Green)
2. Safety (Red)
3. Security (Yellow)
4. Simplification (Light Green)
5. Surveillance (Blue)

These areas guide EMSA's efforts in enhancing maritime safety, environmental protection, and digital transformation where EMSA serve as a:

- Service Provider – Offering technical and operational assistance,
- Reliable Partner – Supporting EU and international maritime organizations.
- An International Reference – Setting standards for best practices.

- A Knowledge Hub – Sharing expertise and data on maritime safety and security.

Further, the EMSA role in the areas of maritime safety and security and the prevention and response to pollution from ships and oil and gas installations was described.

Ms Radina Russeva than point out EMSA’s Human Element-Related Tasks and present seafarer statistics (Figure 2).

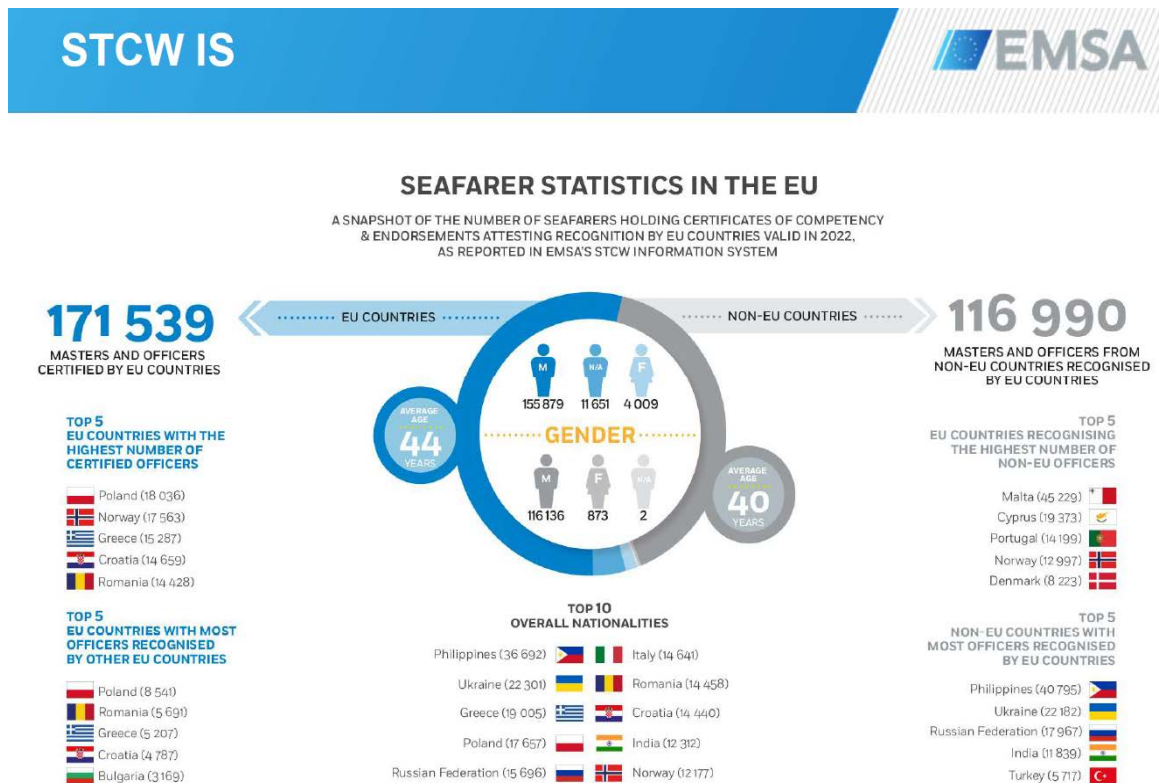


Figure 2. Seafarer in numbers

Support for Directive (EU) 2022/993 on training standards for seafarers EMSA carried out inspections in the EU and third countries to ensure compliance with the STCW (International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers). Additional, supports the European Commission in the revision of the STCW Convention and the STCW Code and the STCW Information System (STCW-IS) for tracking seafarers' certificates of competency. Participate in compilation and reporting of EU seafarers' statistics.

In area Maritime Labour & Capacity Building EMSA supports the implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006. Conduct studies on the Maritime Labour Convention in ASEAN countries.

Additionally, EMSA provide a technical assistance to Non-EU Countries (Figure 3.)

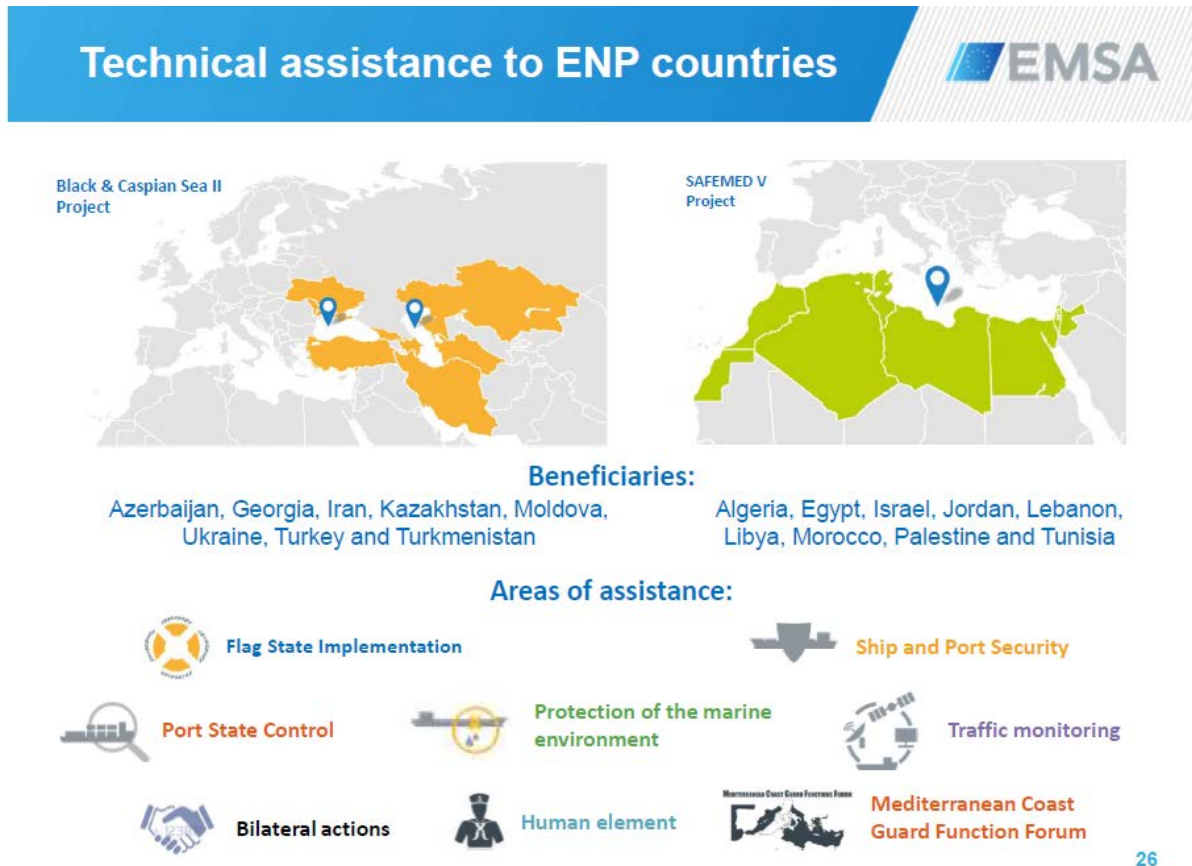


Figure 3. Technical assistance to Non-EU Countries

During presentation several issues came up and EMSA provided a detailed explanation by email.

1. MASS:

- SAFEMESS study (to identify emerging risks and regulatory gaps that are posed by the implementation of different degrees of autonomy) [Ship Safety Standards - SAFEMASS - EMSA - European Maritime Safety Agency \(europa.eu\)](#)
- RBAT (Risk Based Assessment Tool (RBAT) and software facilitating the analysis and approval of preliminary MASS designs by EU Member States administrations) - [Ship Safety Standards - Risk Based Assessment Tool \(RBAT\) - EMSA - European Maritime Safety Agency \(europa.eu\)](#)
- EU Operational Guidelines on trials of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS) [Maritime Autonomous Ships and Shipping - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)
- EMSA Study on Identification of Competences for MASS Operators in Remote Operations Centres - [Latest News - CMOROC Final Report - Identification of Competences for MASS Operators in Remote Operations Centres - EMSA - European Maritime Safety Agency \(europa.eu\)](#)

2. Cybersecurity:



- EMSA Interim Guidance on Maritime Security for Member States' Competent Authorities - [Latest News - Interim Guidance on Maritime Security for Member States' Competent Authorities Version 2023. - EMSA - European Maritime Safety Agency \(europa.eu\)](#)
 - EMSA course on Awareness in Maritime Cybersecurity - [Data - Awareness in Maritime Cybersecurity - EMSA - European Maritime Safety Agency \(europa.eu\)](#)
3. **Request form - assess to EMSA data** - [Documents - Maritime Data - EMSA - European Maritime Safety Agency \(europa.eu\)](#)
 4. **EMSA traineeship programme Career Opportunities** - [Career Opportunities - Traineeship at EMSA - EMSA - European Maritime Safety Agency \(europa.eu\)](#)
 5. **EMSA database of experts** - [EMSA ePortal for Experts and Speakers & Experts \(europa.eu\)](#)

The project team points out the advantages of this presentation:

1. Clear understanding of EMSA's role and strategy
2. Awareness of regulation and compliance
3. Digitalization and technological progress
4. Collaboration & funding opportunities.