

# Upgrading and harmonization of Maritime law STCW based curriculum for Maritime students (MareLaw project)

Nikola Mandić\*, Merica Slišković\*, Ranka Petrinović\*, Petra Amižić Jelovčić\*, Zaloa Sanchez Varela\*  
Inara Plankova\*\*, Sandra Lielbarde\*\*  
Xavier Martínez de Osés\*\*\*, Jaime Rodrigo de Larrucea\*\*\*

\*University of Split (Faculty of Maritime Studies and Faculty of Law)

\*\*Riga Technical University (Latvian Maritime Academy)

\*\*\*Technical University of Catalonia (Faculty of Nautical Studies of Barcelona)



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## PROJECT IDEA

- According to the **STCW Convention** and national regulations, all seafarers should have knowledge in maritime law.
- **Maritime law courses** taught at Maritime Higher Education are specific and different from those taught at law faculties.
- Project titled **Upgrading and harmonization of Maritime law STCW based curriculum for Maritime students** lead by University of Split tray to answer the questions:  
*How to teach social science i.e. maritime law at Maritime higher education?*



## PROJECT

Project Title: **Upgrading and harmonization of Maritime law STCW based curriculum for Maritime students**

Project Acronym: **MareLaw**

Field: Higher Education KA220-HED - **Cooperation partnerships in higher education**

Project Duration: **from 01/12/2022 till 31/03/2025**

National Agency of the Applicant Organization: HR01 - Agency for Mobility and EU Programs (AMPEU)

### Work packages

WP 1 - Project Management

WP 2 - Gap analysis of competencies and teaching materials

WP 3 - Building institutional (capacity)

WP 4 - Content improvement and digitalization of teaching materials

Web site: <https://marelaw.pfst.hr/>



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### Priorities

1. Promoting **inter - connected higher education** systems
2. Stimulating **innovative learning and teaching practices**
3. Environment and measures against climate change (addressing SDGs)



### Topics

1. Creating new, innovative or **joint curricula or courses**
2. Enhancing **digital skills and competences**
3. Initial and **continuous training** for teachers



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## PROJECT - Target groups of the project

**HEIs in maritime field** - HEIs in the maritime field play an active role in the regions of the involved partners, as they are **responsible for education** of experts in the field in terms of economic and social contribution

**Maritime students** - Maritime students have prior interdisciplinary knowledge in various fields acquired through their studies. Despite the acquired skill sets, the STCW Convention, which is above the national education system, creates the **need for specific knowledge** in the field of maritime law.

**Maritime law teachers at the maritime HEIs** - Teachers of maritime law at maritime HEIs who must **create an innovative approach to education** in order to adapt the **extensive subject of maritime law to people with primarily technical knowledge**, who are not experts in law. In order to respond to the specific needs of seafarers, teachers must continuously **improve their digital knowledge and skills**, all with the aim of adapting their materials for **creation of novel and flexible learning pathways**.



## WP 2 - Gap analysis of competencies and teaching materials

1. Analysis of academic background and teachers' competencies
2. Double screening of approaches and teaching materials
3. Focus group 1 - Analysis of approaches to teaching and teaching materials
4. Focus group 2 - Analysis and improvement of learning outcomes for maritime law course according to the STCW Convention.

## WP 3 - Building institutional (capacity)

1. Improvement of teachers' pedagogical and digital competencies
2. Improvement of teachers' professional competencies
3. Gaining specific practical knowledge and strengthening institutional capacity building

## WP 4 - Content improvement and digitalization of teaching materials

1. Harmonization of maritime law courses
2. Development of teaching materials
3. Creating a set of exam questions and self-assessment forms
4. Presentation of the prepared teaching materials and the set of exam questions



## Work package n°2 - Gap analysis of competencies and teaching materials

### *Double screening of approaches and teaching materials*

- *Report about similarities between Faculty of Maritime Studies Split, Latvian Maritime Academy and Barcelona School of Nautical Studies regarding maritime law contents of the appropriate courses*
- IMO Model course 7.01 (maritime navigation)
- IMO Model course 7.02 (marine engineering)



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## Revision of Model Courses following the 2010 amendments to the STCW

Regarding Maritime law, changes that have been made in Model Course 7.01 are referring to:

- United Nations Convention in the Law of the Sea
- Maritime Labour Convention
- Salvage
- Marine insurance and liability,
- Stowaways;
- Shipping agents and agencies,
- Places of refuge,
- Master/pilot relationship
- International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships Ballast Water and Sediments
- Port State Supervision
- National Legislation.

Minimum number of hours increased from 36 to 54 hours!



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- Analysis of the newly adopted amendments and additions that need to be amended to the national legislation (which prescribes newly adopted standards in the education of seafarers) and study programs, has shown that in the field of education of seafarers in the field of maritime law this alignment has not been fully implemented.



## Faculty of Maritime Studies – University of Split

- two basic maritime law subjects through which the contents of maritime law are studied according to STCW Convention, Model Course 7.01.; Maritime Law I and Maritime Law II
- Total number of hours for both subjects is 75, while Model Course 7.01 requires 54 hours
- two basic textbooks and presentations that are used at the lectures



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## Latvian Maritime Academy (Department of Maritime Transport)

- Four basic maritime law subjects through which the contents of maritime law are studied according to STCW Convention, Model Course 7.01.; Maritime Law, Echnology of Cargo Transportation, Ship Management and Environmental Maritime Protection
- Number of hours in basic subject (Maritime law – 48 hours) and other subjects which contain Maritime law is sufficient, but not all contents are included
- the textbook is from 1997



## Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya BarcelonaTech (UPC)

- Four basic maritime law subjects through which the contents of maritime law are studied according to STCW Convention, Model Course 7.01.; Maritime Legislation; Regulation, Ship Operation and Logistics; Maritime Legislation, Regulations and Economy and Management of Maritime Safety and Pollution Prevention
- total teaching hour is higher than it is prescribed by the recommendations in accordance with STCW
- Bibliography needs to be updated and extended with relevant legal and internet sources as well as with recent scientific books and articles



- importance of harmonization of Maritime law STCW based curriculum for Maritime students
- unification of the teaching literature on maritime law at maritime universities
- regular update of curricula



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# Teaching materials

## Set of exam questions and self-assessment forms



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## Subject: **Maritime Health Declaration**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Purpose and scope of the International Health Regulations 2005 (IHR)*
- *Documentation required by IHR*
- *Port formalities in respect of health issues on a ship*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.5>



## Subject: **Convention of facilitation of international maritime traffic (FAL)**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Purpose and scope of the FAL*
- *Documentation required by FAL*
- *Electronic exchange of FAL documentation and single window approach*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.1>





## Subject: **Convention on limitation of liability for maritime claims (LLMC)**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Concept of limitation of liability for maritime claims*
- *Persons entitled to limit liability and claims subject to limitation of liability*
- *Directive 2009/20/EC of 23 April 2009 on the insurance of shipowners for maritime claims  
(Directive 2009/20/EC)*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.6>



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## Subject: **General Average and Marine Insurance**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Concept of General Average*
- *York-Antwerp Rules*
- *Relation between the General Average and Marine Insurance*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.9>



## Subject: **Marine Insurance and liability**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Concept of Marine Insurance*
- *Types of Marine Insurance*
- *Contract of Marine insurance and main obligations of the parties under it*
- *Types of loss and the measure of indemnity*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.10>



## Subject: **International Convention on Load Lines (LLC)**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Purpose and scope of the International Load Lines Convention 2005 (LLC)*
- *Documentation and certificates required by LLC*
- *To understand the appropriate load lines of a ship corresponds to the season and to the zone*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.2>



## Subject: **Responsibilities under the relevant requirements of the International Convention for the Safety of life at Sea**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Information required in danger reporting messages*
- *Modus operandi in routes with dangerous Zones*
- *Use of distress signals and assistance to vessels*
- *Vessels Required to Carry the International Code of Signals*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.3>



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## Subject: **Classification societies**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Purpose and process of Ship Classification*
- *Certification and Class Registration*
- *Type of Inspection and Requirements for Maintaining Class*
- *Additional Roles and Government Collaboration*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.7>



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## Subject: **Ports of refuge procedures**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Categorize the concept of port of refuge related with York-Antwerp rules*
- *Distinguish the valid reasons for deviating to a port of refuge*
- *Identify the valid documentation, the average adjuster shall require*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.13>



## Subject: **Port State Control (PSC)**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Regulatory Framework and Governance of PSC*
- *Inspection Procedures and types*
- *Documentation and certification*
- *Information Systems and Databases*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.7.2>



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## Subject: **Prevention of the marine environment by ships under, intervention, and CLC**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Convention of the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping Wastes and other matter*
- *International conventions*
- *Obligations of flag and port states regarding the certificate*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.8>



## Subject: International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *MARPOL Convention, Annexes I - VI and their objectives*
- *All the required certificates, books and documents for each Annex*
- *All types of surveys and their role*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.4>



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## Subject: **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *UNCLOS III Geneva 1974*
- *Territorial sea, Contiguous zone, Exclusive Economic Zones*
- *Innocent passageo*
- *State jurisdiction*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.2>



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## Subject: **Maritime Labour Convention**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *To define maritime labour law, and know its characteristics and sources*
- *Functions of the International Labour Organization (ILO)*
- *Different ILO conventions dealing with seafarers and their significance*
- *Rights and duties of seafarers*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.3>



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## Subject: **Collision**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Collision Convention, 1910.*
- *Types of collision*
- *Liability principle and liable person; Principles of compensation*
- *Duties of the Master after collision*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.4>



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## Subject: Assistance and salvage

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *International Convention on Salvage, 1989 (The London Salvage Convention)*
- *Lloyd Standard Form of Salvage Agreement (LOF, 2000)*
- *Special Compensation P&I Club (SCOPIC) Clause*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.5>



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## Subject: **Cargo**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *The Hague Rules, 1924*
- *Bill of lading; Liability principle and liable person, types of exceptions to the carrier's liability*
- *Compensation*
- *Casualty Investigation Code, 2008*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.8>



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## Subject: **Stowaway**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Revised Guidelines to Resolution FAL 13(42)*
- *Responsibilities of all States involved*
- *Rights of the stowaway*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.11>



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## Subject: **Ship's agents and agency**

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *UNCTAD's Minimum Standards for Shipping Agents*
- *Types of shipping agents according to their duties*
- *Shipping agents' rights and duties*
- *Maritime agency agreement.*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.12>



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## Subject: Master/pilot relationship

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Concept of pilot*
- *IMO Resolution A.960(23)*
- *The importance of master/pilot cooperation,*
- *Shipowners' liability for the damage caused by the pilot's negligence*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.6.14>



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## Subject: Ballast water convention

### Main issues covered by the subject:

- *Ballast Water Management Convention*
- *D-1 ballast water exchange standard*
- *D-2 ballast water treatment standard*

<https://marelaw.pfst.hr/lessons/lesson-1.7.1>



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# Guidelines for harmonisation of Maritime law course curriculum



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## Guidelines for harmonisation of Maritime law course curriculum

<https://marelaw-be.pfst.hr/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Guidelines-for-harmonisation-of-Maritime-law-course-curriculum-1.pdf>



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# Thank You!



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