



Newsletter December 2019

Ursula von der Leyen presents the European Green Deal

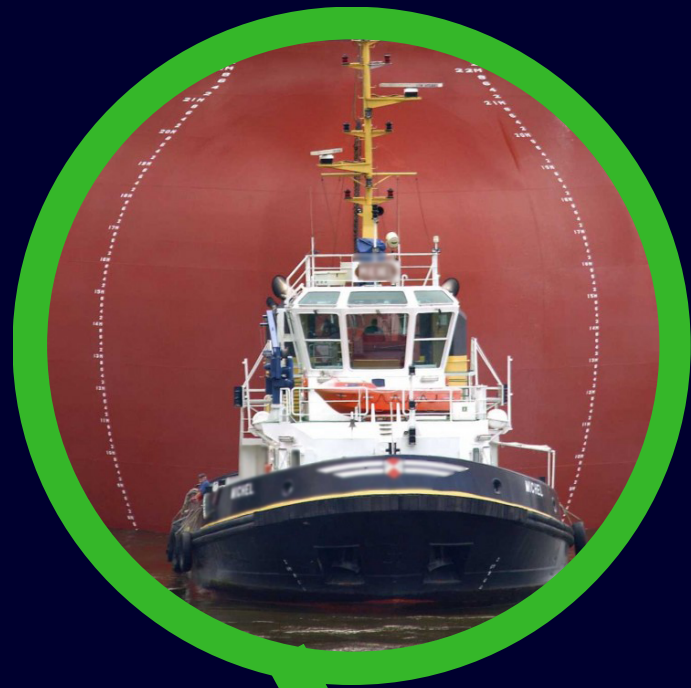
The European Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen presented her flagship project for this term, the European Green Deal. This strategy aims for the development of a climate neutral European economy by 2050.

The European Commission wants the EU to be the front-runner in clean technologies and to lead the global efforts to fight climate change. The Green Deal policy and legislative initiatives focus on these main elements:

- A climate neutral Europe, which implies the adoption of new and more ambitious decarbonization goals (50% emissions reduction in 2030 and climate neutrality in 2050).
- A new and more robust circular economy plan with specific goals and initiatives for industries like steel, cement, textiles and batteries.
- A boost on R&D+I funding to finance the development of new green technologies.
- A stronger EU diplomacy that puts climate change policies in the center of international debates and agreements.
- Developing new financial tools and programmes to fund the necessary greening of the economies and to support those zones where these reforms have a stronger impact.
- Aiming for zero emissions transport, supporting the deployment and supply of alternative fuels and fostering multimodality and smart solutions.

Concerning the maritime sector, the European Commission plans to include the industry's emissions in the European Emissions Trading System, obliging shipping companies to pay for carbon allowances. Moreover, the EC shall propose a revision of the Energy Taxation Directive which could imply an end to the marine fuel taxes exemption.

"The European towage industry welcomes the Green Deal. Our sector has been making significant efforts to adopt green technologies and smart solutions. ETA looks forward to submitting its views on the Green Deal in the EC consultation process" says ETA Secretary General, Anna Maria Darmanin.





ETA participates in the consultation on the proposed prolongation of the Consortia Block Exemption Regulation

A year ago the European Commission invited all interested parties to comment on a proposal to prolong the existing block exemption of liner shipping consortia. This exemption will expire on 25 April 2020. As a result of the evaluation, the Commission considers prolonging the Consortia BER by another four years.

ETA has joined forces with a number of associations like CLECAT, FEPORT and ESC. In the consultation, ETA expressed that the Commission has failed:

ETA sustains it is not admissible for the European Commission to simply extend the CBER for another four years. In those four years, the current CBER regime could cause serious and irreparable harm to the European maritime logistics sector. At most, the Commission should extend the CBER for one year, during which a proper review is conducted. If not, the Commission must let the CBER expire in April 2020.

EMSA presents its 5-year strategy

The European Maritime Safety Agency published its new strategy for the period 2020-2024. The document outlines the Agency's vision, mission and main goals for the next 5 years. The Strategy enumerates 5 priorities:

Sustainability, contributing to the EU green agenda and decarbonization goals.

Safety, developing higher standards and anticipating future maritime safety challenges.

Security, strengthening European and global maritime security in collaboration with third partners.

Simplification, developing and facilitating the adoption of digital solutions for the sector.

Surveillance, acting as the information management hub for maritime surveillance.

Among other actions, the EMSA plans to assist the EC and members states in the implementation of the revised Port Reception Facilities legislation or further developing its capacity building capabilities to provide maritime authorities with the best technical assistance

Save the date: 3rd European Shipping Week

ETA is once again part of the Steering Committee organising the 3rd European Shipping Week. The event will take place in Brussels, from the 17th to the 21st of February. The ESW will feature an array of various events with high-profile speakers representing the shipping sector and policy makers at the EU and IMO level.

The first three days of the week will focus on different relevant themes and all events on that day will be addressing related issues.

Monday, 17 February – Trade and competitiveness

Tuesday, 18 February – Safe and social shipping

Wednesday, 19 February – Shipping and the environment

Thursday, 20 February – Flagship Conference and Gala Dinner

Next events

17-21 February

European Shipping Week
Brussels

27-29 May

ETA 57th Annual Meeting
Cork

