

## DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCES FOR SEAFARERS: ALTERNATIVE FUELS WORKSHOP TAKES PLACE AT EMSA

EMSA organised a workshop on 20 and 21 November 2025 dedicated to the development of competences for seafarers working on board ships using alternative fuels and energy systems. This workshop was another key initiative in the continued follow-up to the TRAINALTER study, published by EMSA at the end of 2024. The workshop aimed to stimulate further debate on the subject, including developments at both the IMO and within the wider shipping industry. Participants included representatives from the European Union, EFTA, IPA, MED, and Black and Caspian Sea maritime administrations, as well as the IMO, the European Commission, MET institutions, social partners, and classification societies. With this diverse range of stakeholders, the workshop provided a strong platform to foster dialogue, cooperation, and collaboration across the maritime sector, an essential element in supporting a human-centred green and digital transition. Stakeholders considered the results of the TRAINALTER study alongside other relevant work undertaken by interested parties. The feedback gathered during the workshop will contribute to the development of competence frameworks and methods for demonstrating competences not only for the training of seafarers but also for the training of surveyors and instructors. On the second day, participants were divided into four working groups to explore, in greater depth, the perspectives of industry, administrations and MET institutions, as well as the growing importance of cybersecurity and its integration into future training programmes. Through this workshop, EMSA continues to support Member States and the maritime community in preparing for the evolving requirements of a greener and more digital sector, particularly in relation to alternative fuels and energy systems.



Participants attended online and in person, engaging in two days of debate and discussion on the development of competences for seafarers working on board ships using alternative fuels and energy sources

## WATCH THE EUROPEAN MARITIME SAFETY CONFERENCE: SAFETY FIRST ONLINE ON 8 DECEMBER

On 8 December 2025, EMSA hosts the **European Maritime Safety Conference at our headquarters in Lisbon**. The event, which will be streamed online, brings together key maritime stakeholders for debate and discussion. An important highlight of the conference will be the presentation of the second edition of the European Maritime Safety Report (EMSAFE), the most comprehensive overview of maritime safety in the European Union. More information on the conference, including how to watch the online event, [is available here](https://emsa.europa.eu/emsafe).



## VISIT OF EUROPEAN COMMISSIONER FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN TO EMSA

On 14 November, EMSA's Executive Director, Maja Markovčić Kostelac, welcomed the European Commissioner for the Mediterranean, Dubravka Šuica, to our Lisbon headquarters. Commissioner Šuica was briefed by the Executive Director on EMSA's work and activities, including our projects in the Mediterranean region, in particular the SAFEMED technical assistance project which EMSA has been continuously implementing since 2013. Commissioner Šuica also visited our Maritime Support Services centre to see our operational work in action.



Commissioner Šuica learned about EMSA's work, including in the Mediterranean region through the SAFEMED programme, during her visit to Lisbon.

## EMCIP FAMILIARISATION SESSIONS AND USER GROUP MEETING TAKE PLACE AT EMSA

EMSA hosted twelve investigative bodies across the EU, including Spain, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, Latvia, Finland, Greece, Malta, France and Ireland, for a familiarisation session on EMCIP, the **European Marine Casualty Information Platform**. During the meeting, participants had the opportunity to explore the EMCIP platform and its latest features through practical exercises and theoretical presentations. These familiarisation sessions help Member States gain experience in their use of the platform, while also addressing their questions and taking their feedback into account. Additionally, on 25 November, EMSA hosted the EMCIP 17th User Group meeting. Twenty-six delegates from accident investigative bodies and other national authorities, regular users of the platform, attended in situ and remotely from Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, France, Germany, Ireland and Italy. These meetings offer representatives across the EU and EEA the opportunity to share valuable feedback on the use of EMCIP, to discuss topics related to data reporting and analysis, and also serve as a forum for gathering input to support future improvements to the platform.



Developing, learning, and giving feedback - November was a busy month for EMCIP with the User Group meeting (pictured below) and a familiarisation session (above).

## MARITIME SAR COORDINATOR COURSE CONCLUDES AT EMSA

EMSA has concluded the Maritime Search and Rescue (SAR) Coordinator Course, a specialised training programme designed to strengthen operational coordination and decision-making in maritime emergency response. The course combined two weeks of online learning activities with a two-day final exercise held at EMSA's premises, in Lisbon. Participants from across Europe took part in the practical exercise, working together in realistic operational scenarios. The online phase of the course also welcomed broad participation from ENP/ IPA countries, enhancing international cooperation and shared preparedness between nearly 70 participants. This training reflects our commitment to supporting a safer maritime environment through high-quality capacity-building for maritime SAR professionals.



*The course brought together nearly 70 maritime professionals from inside and outside the EU, online and in-person at EMSA's headquarters.*

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**VACANCIES:** Officer - Legal Services (AD6) (08/01/2026) See website for more.

**PROCUREMENT:** Provision of enhancement and maintenance of the European Marine Casualty Information Platform (EMCIP) (05/01/2026). See website for more.