

EMSA SUPPORTS POLEX26 RESPONSE EXERCISE IN VIGO, SPAIN

EMSA joined the Spanish Directorate General of the Merchant Marine, the Spanish Search & Rescue Agency, Salvamento Marítimo, the Port Authority of Vigo, the Galician Coastguard Services, and other Spanish and international maritime stakeholders in the POLEX26 response exercise, taking place in Vigo, Spain from 29 September-1 October. The exercise simulated a fire on board a Ro-Ro vessel carrying electric vehicles, which then escalates into a marine pollution incident, testing coordination and response capabilities across multiple authorities. The three-day event also incorporated training and information-sharing between experts from the different participating authorities. As part of its support to EU Member States, EMSA contributed to the exercise with the deployment of the chartered oil spill response vessel Ría de Vigo, a workboat and a floating storage barge from its Equipment Assistance Service, as well as with satellite images and a light RPAS for spill detection and monitoring.



EMSA joined Spanish and international stakeholders in a major exercise in Vigo, Spain.

8TH WORKSHOP ON THE USE OF SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS FOR MARINE POLLUTION AND ASSESSMENT TAKES PLACE IN IRELAND

50 delegates from 16 countries across Europe have met in Dublin to discuss and exchange on surveillance systems for marine pollution and detection with a focus on aerial surveillance. Hosted by the Irish Coastguard in the framework of the the Consultative Technical Group for Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response (CTG MPPR) and organised by EMSA, the workshop covered the enforcement chain for ship-source pollution and explored the operational and legal aspects of using surveillance systems to detect pollution. It also analysed how aerial surveillance systems can help identify polluters and support the collection of evidence for prosecutions. Delegates from EU Member States involved in aerial surveillance, as well as those with legal and enforcement backgrounds, shared knowledge and good practice regarding marine pollution detection and assessment. The workshop also included practical tabletop exercises and discussion sessions, as well as a visit to the Irish Air Corps to view both the military and Coast Guard aircraft and surveillance equipment used in Ireland.



These regular technical workshops aim to facilitate the exchange of expertise among Member States and strengthen networks among EU experts.

OIL POLLUTION RESPONSE EXERCISE IN MONTENEGRO

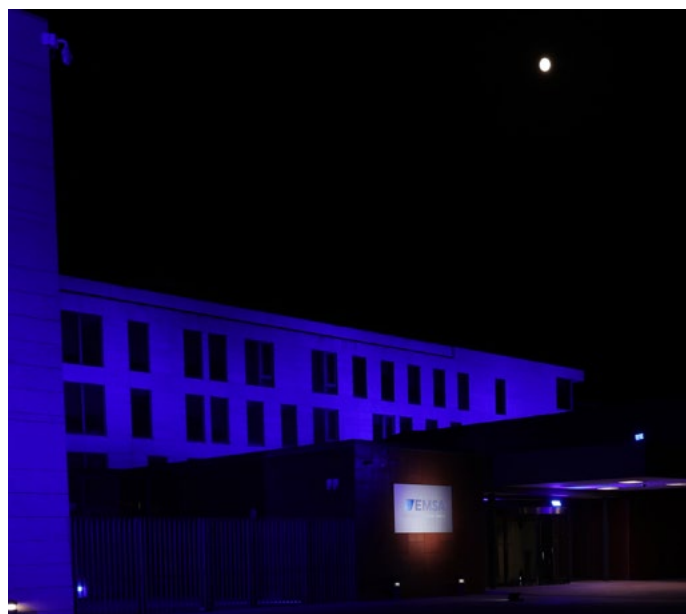
In September, EMSA organised an oil pollution response exercise in Kotor, Montenegro, with participants from the BCSEA II, SAFEMED V and IPA III projects implemented by EMSA. EMSA's oil spill response vessel Kijac took part in the exercise, and equipment from the EMSA Equipment Assistance Stockpile in Varna, Bulgaria, was also deployed. The exercise aimed to familiarise participants with the theoretical and practical aspects of an oil pollution response scenario, including the use of response equipment, and to enhance cooperation between EMSA and national oil pollution response means.



The exercise gathered delegates from the three different projects implemented by EMSA in Kotor, Montenegro from 15-17 September 2026.

EMSA'S PREMISES LIGHT UP IN BLUE FOR WORLD MARITIME DAY 2026

This year, for the first time, EMSA's headquarters in Lisbon were bathed in blue light on World Maritime Day, 24 September 2026. Each year, International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Member States, intergovernmental organizations in cooperation with IMO, and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with IMO join together to light up landmarks across the world to celebrate World Maritime Day.



EMSA's premises in blue for World Maritime Day on 24 September 2026

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VACANCIES: Head of Unit, Maritime Digital Solutions (15/10/2026); Officer, Strategic Support (28/10/2026); Officer, Ship Safety and Accident Investigation (SNE) (30/10/2026)

PROCUREMENT: Meeting room equipment, maintenance and support (16/10/2026), Furniture Supply (11/11/2026); Provision of brokering services in training (16/11/2026); Sale of Assets, Oil pollution response equipment (19/11/2026); Nuclear technologies for ships (07/12/2026) See website for more.