

# 2014-2018 REPORT ON HIV PREVENTION WORK



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The pandemic of **HIV** and **AIDS** that began more than 35 years ago has covered all parts of the world. This condition entails not only human suffering, but also serious economic consequences. It is not a secret that the employees of the transport sphere are at heightened risk due to the specifics of their profession.

The Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine (MTWTU) fully supports the ITF's position on workplace **HIV** prevention and for more than 10 years has been devoting its attention to this problem.



The Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine is the largest national trade union, embracing over 75,000 members: seafarers working on ships of Ukrainian and foreign shipowners, employees of ports, ship repair plants, enterprises of the Ukraine State Hydrographic Service, teachers, cadets and students of maritime educational institutions.



# 325 950

new cases of **HIV** infection

officially registered in Ukraine since 1987

Unfortunately, Ukraine keeps the leading position in Europe in terms of new **HIV** infection cases. Altogether 325,950 new cases of **HIV** infection were officially registered in Ukraine since 1987. Since then 46,829 died from **AIDS** associated diseases in Ukraine.

The Union supports developing of the National Tripartite Cooperation Strategy on **HIV** and **AIDS** and the World of Work in Ukraine for the Period of 2018-2020 under the auspices of the National Tripartite Social and Economic Council.

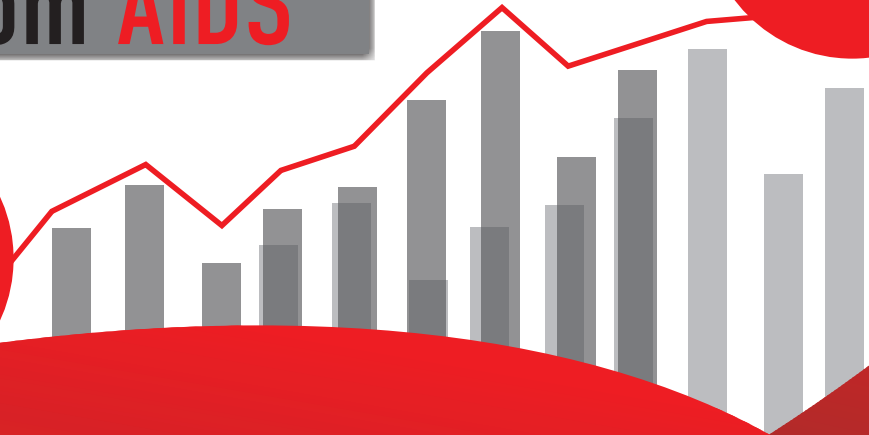


# 46 829

died from **AIDS**

July  
2018

1987



January '2018

July '2018

1,821

deaths from AIDS

5,121

AIDS cases

10,332

cases of HIV infection





In its work on the **HIV/AIDS** prevention among the Union members, the MTWTU has enlisted the support of two social partners – the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF).



# Within the joint project with the ILO, during 2016-2018 the following results were achieved:

- There were conducted 5 trainings and about 40 trainers were prepared for further preventive work at maritime transport enterprises;
- The Youth Forum on reducing social discrimination associated with an **HIV** positive status was held: more than 60 youth leaders participated;
- 20 seafarers took part in a unique training on workplace stress and discrimination;
- As a result of carried out activities, more than 12,000 Union members have raised their awareness on **HIV**;
- More than 500 people underwent free anonymous **HIV** rapid testing.



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HIV/AIDS education for maritime students

## Ukrainian trade unions and ILO join forces to introduce HIV/AIDS prevention training for seafarers

The Maritime Union of Ukraine (MUTU) in collaboration with the ILO is organizing a training course for seafarers in Ukraine. The course is aimed at introducing HIV/AIDS prevention training for seafarers.



## Under the auspices of the ITF, the MTWTU achieved the following results:

- There were organized 3 series of UNION WEEK awareness-raising seminars, which included sessions on HIV issues, as well as the anonymous HIV rapid testing. A total of 800 seafarers and cadets of maritime institutions took part in the seminars. About 120 people learned their HIV status;
- In the Kherson State Maritime Academy, the HIV/AIDS prevention module was introduced as part of 'occupational safety and labor protection'. This year, the first 200 cadets have completed the course.
- Within the first Cruise Seminar in Eastern Europe, held in June 2018 in Ukraine, the cruise industry workers also raised awareness on HIV and were given the opportunity to undergo free anonymous HIV testing;
- A Medical Manual for Seafarers was developed and produced, with a section on HIV in it.





## Actions for the World **AIDS** Day

For the last 10 years, the MTWTU has organized information campaigns timed to the World **AIDS** Day, which is marked on

To this day, the MTWTU:

- Holds meetings with cadets of maritime educational institutions, drawing their attention to the problem;
- Distributes information booklets and contraceptives among seafarers;
- Publishes articles in the Union magazine and posts information in social networks, drawing public attention;
- Organizes free anonymous rapid **HIV** testing.



# WORLD AIDS <sup>1</sup> DECEMBER DAY



**The MTWTU never misses an opportunity to raise awareness of its members about**

**HIV and:**

- Regularly publishes information materials that are distributed among all the MTWTU membership organizations throughout Ukraine, including crewing companies, seafarers' training and certification centers;
- The problem of **HIV** is always on the agenda of each seminar that the Union conducts for seafarers, as well as free anonymous **HIV** testing, which necessarily takes place after consulting with a specialist;
- Over the last 3 years, the MTWTU has regularly organized movie screenings for seafarers and their families. Before each movie, instead of advertising, the informational clip "I Know my **HIV** Status" is necessarily demonstrated.





**МОРСКОЙ**  
№87 март 2018  
ЧИТАЙТЕ В НОМЕРЕ


**МОРСКОЙ**  
№85 январь 2018

**Тестирование на ВИЧ**  
Ты знаешь свой ВИЧ-статус?  
**Пройди тестирование и убедись, что ты здоров!**



**МЕДИЦИНСКОЕ ПОСОБИЕ  
ДЛЯ МОРЯКОВ**

**To study the problem, the MTWTU conducts anonymous questioning of seafarers in order to find out their level of awareness and identify gaps in knowledge with the aim to overcome social discrimination and stigmatization towards **HIV**-positive people.**







**We also raised the problems of discrimination of seafarers for HIV status with representatives of crewing companies and shipowners.**

In 2017, two seafarers, who were diagnosed with **HIV**, addressed the MTWTU. Unfortunately, the seafarers were subjected to psychological pressure from the crewing company when they were employed. The Union provided the seafarers with psychological support, as well as contacts of specialized agencies where **HIV**-positive people may obtain assistance.




Over the past 10 years, the MTWTU has been struggling to raise awareness of the Union members about the potential risks of HIV, the ways of its transmission and the methods of prevention.

We hope that through the joint efforts we will be able to achieve the desired result — maximum reduction of new **HIV** infections, **AIDS** deaths and discrimination.

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