



MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS' TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE E - BULLETIN

Dear All!

JUNE 2021

The Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine is always there to take care about its members – seafarers and their families. The Union extends its social coverage to seafarers, both when they are at sea and ashore. In order to keep you informed of our activities, we have developed this monthly E-BULLETIN, aimed to guide you through our most recent and significant achievements and activities, provided by our Union. Any suggestions and proposal are very welcome. Stay tuned for more information!

The MTWTU team works every day, striving to do its best for the Ukrainian seafarers and their families. Significant efforts are still focused on keeping them abreast of the most crucial industry developments concerning the Ukrainian seafarers and their employment onboard the foreign-flagged ships worldwide during COVID-19 crisis.

Furthermore, all Ukrainian seafarers-MTWTU members, are entitled to apply for financial assistance from the Union, if they are unable to get employment onboard the ship for more than 6 months from the end of last contract, as well as if they are facing employment delays due to COVID-19 quarantine measures and travel restrictions.

Your sincerely, Oleg Grygoriuk
First Vice Chairman MTWTU
Vice President IFSMA,
Goodwill Maritime Ambassador IMO



DAY OF THE SEAFARER 2021

On 25th June, celebrating the Day of the Seafarer, a holiday established by the IMO, the MTWTU started a campaign to deliver gifts to the Trade Union members. The large-scale action took more than one day - 1000 gift sets with memorable souvenirs and information booklets were handled to the seafarers of Odessa, Izmail, Kherson, Nikolaev and other cities of Ukraine.



www.mtwtu.org.ua
office@mtwtu.org.ua
+380482429901
www.facebook.com/MTWTU

SEAFARERS' DAYS ODESSA 2021

From 22 to 24 June, on the eve of the Day of the Seafarer, the «Seafarers' Days Odessa 2021» Conference was organized by the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Maritime Development Center. The event was arranged to discuss the protection of labour and social rights of Ukrainian seafarers and their employment, as well as the national training and certification system.

Vivek Menon, Head of Collective Action and Partnerships of the Maritime Anti-Corruption Network (MACN), and Sergey Kazantsev, Head of the Ukrainian Maritime Development Center, spoke about MACN's activities in Ukraine and internationally. In turn, Sergey Kazantsev presented the results of a survey among seafarers regarding manifestations of corruption.



MTWTU & MACN Memorandum

Thus, MTWTU and MACN concluded the Memorandum of Cooperation, implying that Parties shall not in any way authorize the corruption, and, moreover, take preventive measures, increase the level of awareness in this matter among seafarers and other members of the shipping industry.

Then, the Conference discussed the opportunities for obtaining maritime education in the regions. Representatives of maritime schools and training centers from Izmail, Kherson and Mariupol talked about the informational base, technical equipment, and training of seafarers in the regions.

Let us remind that the MTWTU regularly attracts investments to the maritime educational institutions, negotiates with shipowners to provide Ukrainian cadets with jobs on foreign ships, and conducts training and information seminars and various social events.



One of the major points discussed was the need for ratification of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006) by Ukraine and its consequent advantages. Sergiy Savchuk, National Coordinator of the International Labour Organization in Ukraine acted as a moderator of the discussion. “The matter of Ukraine’s ratification of the MLC, 2006 is top one of my priority list that I strive to approach as an ILO coordinator,” Sergiy Savchuk noted.

On the final day of the Conference, the participants considered the crew change problems triggered by the coronavirus pandemic, as well as matters of vaccination of Ukrainian seafarers.

Representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine took part in the Conference. In particular, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Yevheniy Yenin emphasized that cooperation between the Ministry and the MTWTU has been bringing positive results for several years already in addressing issues of providing assistance to Ukrainian seafarers in distress abroad.



MTWTU & MFA Memorandum

Thus, within the framework of the Conference, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and the Marine Transport Workers’ Trade Union of Ukraine.

The purpose of the MoC is the cooperation of the parties on providing assistance to citizens of Ukraine - seafarers in crises abroad, as well as the organization, implementation and conduction of measures aimed at outreach work for Ukrainian seafarers.

One more course of cooperation between the MTWTU and the Ministry is the implementation of a joint project aimed at preventing seafarers’ involvement in illegal activities at sea, as well as at ensuring the protection of their right to fair treatment during criminal proceedings, pre-trial detention and in penitentiary institutions.

The result of the three-day Conference was the adoption of a Resolution.



EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

ILO Seminar

On June 24, as part of the long-term cooperation, the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine and the International Labour Organization (ILO) held a seminar at the Maritime Union Center to coincide with the entry into force the ILO Convention No. 190 and ILO Recommendations No. 206 on the elimination of violence and harassment in the world of work.

“For the first time in international law, the Convention includes the specific recognition of the right of everyone to a world of work free from violence and harassment and sets out the obligation to respect, promote and realize this right,” said the ILO National Coordinator in Ukraine Sergiy Savchuk.



Engineer's Duties on the Ship

Igor Tabulinskiy, an engineer with 35 years of experience, told the seafarers and cadets what ship engineers must know for successful work performance. The seminar included such topics as the engineer's duties on watch, bunkering operations, actions in crises, central legislative acts and preparation for ship inspection.



Onboard Medicine

The joint workshop of the Trade Union and the EdMarine project dedicated to 'Onboard Medicine' drew a lot of attention from seafarers. After a successful seminar in Odessa, the training was also held in Kherson. A medical officer, a surgeon with 15 years of experience, Aleksandr Shcherbina, shared his knowledge with the participants.



First-Aid Kit on Ship

To continue studying medical issues on the vessel, one more seminar was held in Odessa. Together with the practicing doctor, Yurii Potapchuk, the participants discussed what the first-aid kit on the ship must include.

“This topic is not very popular, but it is really necessary, as there is a huge amount of drugs on each ship but no qualified doctor,” project manager Dmitry Parkhomenko says. “At the seminar, the seafarers were provided with brief and structured information on which drugs are most effective in particular cases.”



COLORFUL JUNE WITH THE UNION

- On June 11, the families of seafarers-MTWTU members were invited to watch the premiere movie screening of the popular ‘Fast and Furious 9’ blockbuster. Over 200 people enjoyed the action movie.

- From the very first days of summer vacation, the Union brought joy to the children of the MTWTU-registered seafarers by organizing an interactive walking quest through significant sites of Odessa by two different routes. Younger children got acquainted with the mysterious stories of the Shevchenko park alleys. And teenagers discovered bright, rich, spiritualized and sometimes even forgotten by time and people diverse Odessa.

- Also, traditionally, the seafarers’ families attended the grand performance ‘United Planet’ in Odessa ‘Nemo’ dolphinarium. A spectacular show program, special effects and, of course, friendly dolphins and funny seals have undoubtedly made everyone deeply excited.

