

MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS' TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE E-BULLETIN

APRIL 2023

DEAR ALL!

Ruthless events have befallen our country, shattering the fate of its citizens. The unjustified war started by Russia inflicted a significant blow on all aspects of the nation's life, forcing many of our citizens to flee in search of a safe place and adapt to new realities.

Ukrainian seafarers also suffered significant damage, losing their jobs - due to the introduced martial law, they lost the opportunity to leave Ukraine and start working on foreign-flagged ships.

Despite the constant threat of rocket attacks, power outages, and other infrastructure failures, the MTWTU team continues to work for the benefit of the Union members. We fight for the well-being of their families by providing them with financial assistance, humanitarian aid and legal support on various issues and organizing social events. Regularly, the leadership of the MTWTU takes part in conferences drawing attention to the need for providing seafarers with the right to leave the country during martial law and informing about the problems faced by our Trade Union members during these tough times.

We express huge gratitude to all those who support our organization and the people of Ukraine in word and deed. We will be glad to hear any feedback on our activities and are grateful for any help you are kindly willing to provide.

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



SEAFARERS' WELFARE

EASTER CAMPAIGN

This year, Ukrainians are once again meeting Easter in a time of war. For us, this holiday is a symbol of the unbreakable faith living in our hearts.

On the eve of the holiday, the MTWTU and the Welfare Fund «MORTTRANS», with the support of ITF Seafarers' Trust, held an

Easter campaign for seafarers. More than 200 MTWTU members and their families received a basket with Easter cake and goodies.

It is important for us to maintain the traditions established in the Union because life goes on even in the darkest times.



UNION DENT PROJECT IN PROGRESS

For more than a year, the joint project of the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine and the German trade union ver.di has been successfully conducting its mission - treating and helping. More than 60 seafarers have benefited from the Project and received free-of-charge dental treatment at the modern clinic. The Project is available for seafarers working on ships of German shipowners covered by ver.di agreements.



YOUTH-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES

STUDIES OF UKRAINIAN CADETS AT LMA

Let us recall that as part of the ITF Seafarers' Trust Project, 50 cadets of the Kherson State Maritime Academy obtained an opportunity to study in Klaipeda.

«Lithuanian Maritime Academy provides high-quality education. We realized this when having a chance to study on ship's bridge simulators and virtual GMDSS devices. All technologies are maximum close to reality. I express my gratitude to MTWTU. You not only gave me the opportunity to get a good education but also helped me get into the Anglo-Eastern cadet program,» said Kateryna Goyman, KSMA and LMA cadet.

«I enjoy studying at the Lithuanian Maritime Academy. It requires a lot of concentration but provides exceptional skills. Tutors are always ready to help: they answer all questions and explain everything several times if needed. In addition, during practical classes, we use simulators of different immersiveness levels, from virtual GMDSS devices to full-size

ship's bridges with everything necessary to keep a safe navigation watch and perform navigation tasks,» said Roman Ryabov, KSMA and LMA cadet.

Also, recently, the Lithuanian Maritime Academy hosted a workshop for supporting maritime students of Ukraine, which was attended by various maritime organizations from over the globe. The maritime educational institutions were represented by Kherson State Maritime Academy, National University «Odesa Maritime Academy», Lithuanian Maritime Academy, Constanta Maritime University, and Mircea cel Bătrân Naval Academy.

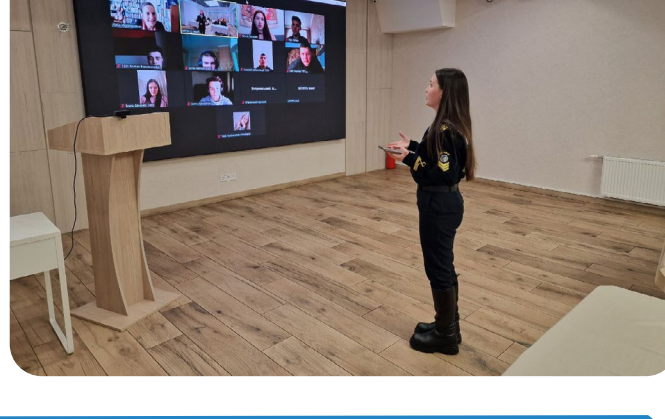
KSMA cadets participating in the ITF SEAFARERS' TRUST-funded project, Viktor Kutila, and Yevhen Kravchenko, shared their experience of studying and working and told about the financial assistance that enabled them to continue their studies at both KSMA and LMA.



ITF SEAFARERS' TRUST MEETS NU «OMA» CADETS

The NU «OMA» cadets visited the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine to share their impressions of the academic year. Let us recall that last autumn, the ITF SEAFARERS' TRUST, the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine, and the NU «OMA» launched a project to support Ukrainian cadets during the war. The MTWTU Chairman, Oleg Grygoriuk, and ITF SEAFARERS' TRUST Head, Katie

Higginbottom, had a conversation with the youth. The cadets shared their latest achievements and told about the conditions for education during the war. In her turn, Katie Higginbottom noted that ITF SEAFARERS' TRUST would continue searching for new opportunities to help Ukrainian seafarers and cadets, as they are the future of the maritime industry in Ukraine.



JOINING OPEN DAY AT UNIVERSITY

The MTWTU joined the Open Day at the NU «OMA» to meet with young people and present the MTWTU activities.

The program offered live communication with the rector, institute directors, and professors, as well as tours around the university's

institutes, laboratories, and training facilities. The event was attended by cadets of the university, applicants, and their parents. Thus, the MTWTU had a great chance to get acquainted with future maritime transport workers and share the information on the work, which is carried out for them.



KSMA CADETS VISIT MTWTU OFFICE

To prepare senior cadets of the Kherson State Maritime Academy, the MTWTU organized a meeting with young people, where Trade Union representatives informed future seafarers about the Union and told them how to prepare for the voyage: what to do before signing an employment contract and what to take with them on board.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

A delegation from the General Italian Confederation of Labour (CGIL) paid a visit to Ukraine. The meeting with the foreign guests was held at the office of the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine.

The event was also attended by the leadership of the Welfare Fund «MORTTRANS». The main goal was to support Ukraine and confirm the solidarity of international partners. Thus, the CGIL delivered 5 generators to the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine.

«We are sincerely pleased to host the honored guests in Odesa. From the very

beginning of the aggression, Italian fraternal trade unions have been supporting our country and our Union members. Today they have once again proved: together we can overcome anything,» said Michael Kirieleiev, MTWTU First Vice Chairman.

«We support Ukraine's membership in the EU because it is a space where peace and order prevail. We hope that the war in your country will end as soon as possible, and in the future, we will take all measures together to prevent a repeat of such events,» said Sergio Bassoli, CGIL representative.



The MTWTU, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and the Embassy of Ukraine to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, prepared and submitted a document with proposals for the prompt resolution of the criminalization issue to the Committee. The document was co-authored by Georgia, the International Federation of Shipmasters' Associations (IFSMA), the International Ship Managers' Association (InterManager), and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF).

The proposals of the MTWTU and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

were supported by speeches of delegates from 35 IMO member states, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations that hold the status of consultative organizations in the IMO.



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