

ПРОФЕСІЙНА СПІЛКА РОБІТНИКІВ  
МОРСЬКОГО ТРАНСПОРТУ УКРАЇНИ

MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS'  
TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE



29 July, 2025

№ 103-36

Odesa, Ukraine

To: International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)

CC: To whom it may concern

**Sub: Request for safe deployment of Ukrainian Seafarers in global shipping**

Dear Sir / Madame,

We are writing to express our concern regarding the growing exposure of multinational crews to danger while serving on vessels that transit through warlike or high-risk areas, particularly amid ongoing regional conflicts that significantly threaten the safety and well-being of maritime crew.

Recent discussions across the maritime sector have emphasized the importance of protecting seafarers' rights in light of evolving global risks. In this context, as a national union and ITF affiliate in Ukraine representing the rights of Ukrainian seafarers, we respectfully urge all members of ICS to ensure that Ukrainian seafarers are not subject to unreasonable risks or forced to serve in areas of heightened danger against their will.

We specifically appeal for the following considerations:

- Respect the right of Ukrainian seafarers to refuse sailing into declared warlike or high-risk areas, as provided under applicable ITF Approved CBAs, the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC, 2006), as amended, and individual employment contracts.
- Carefully review vessel trading patterns when assigning crew, ensuring that seafarers are not deployed on ships scheduled to transit routes where military or piracy-related threats are active or escalating.
- Refrain from applying any form of pressure or negative consequence to seafarers who legitimately exercise their right to decline sailing through such areas due to safety and security concerns.
- In cases where trading in these zones cannot be avoided, ensure transparent communication, proper informed consent, enhanced insurance coverage, war risk compensation, and all other entitlements as per international standards.

The safety of seafarers must remain a top priority. As Ukrainian nationals continue to contribute significantly to the global maritime workforce, we urge all shipowners and shipmanagers to take appropriate measures to protect them, act in accordance with international obligations, and uphold fair labour practices.



+380482 42 99 01  
+380482 42 99 02

65062, м.Одеса,  
Аркадійське плато, 5-Б,  
приміщення 1

mtwtu.org.ua  
office@mtwtu.org.ua

IBAN UA 51 300614 0000026003500315201  
у АТ "КРЕДІ АГРІКОЛЬ БАНК"  
код ЄДРПОУ 02659447

The Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine is always ready to support any initiatives, projects, and campaigns aimed at protecting crews and promoting equal treatment for all seafarers.

We trust in your cooperation and commitment to seafarers' welfare and thank you in advance for your responsible and timely response to this pressing matter.

*Kind regards,*

***Oleg Grygoriuk***

***Chairman of the MTWTU***



+380482 42 99 01  
+380482 42 99 02

65062, м.Одеса,  
Аркадійське плато, 5-Б,  
приміщення 1

mtwtu.org.ua  
office@mtwtu.org.ua

IBAN UA 51 300614 0000026003500315201  
у АТ "КРЕДІ АГРІКОЛЬ БАНК"  
код ЄДРПОУ 02659447