

MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS' TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE E-BULLETIN

JULY-AUGUST 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 foreignflagged 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



INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL COOPERATION

INSPIRING MARITIME EXPERIENCE

From June 23rd to 25th, the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), with the generous support of local affiliates AMOSUP, APSU, and PWUP and with the welcomed presence of ITF seafarers' unions JSU (Japan), NSU (Norway), and ver.di (Germany) hosted a unique event highly appreciated by seafarers — the ITF Seafarers' Expo 2023 in Manila. This marked the second time in the history of the International Transport Workers' Federation that such a major maritime event has been organized, reinforcing its steadfast commitment as the voice of seafarers worldwide.

Ukraine was represented by ITF Inspector Nataliya Yefrimenko who is working at MTWTU.



ESTABLISHING COOPERATION WITH MARITIME SCHOOLS

The MTWTU and Odesa National Maritime University have joined forces to ensure a high level of training for future specialists. This cooperation will not only strengthen the educational process and improve the working conditions of future seafarers but will also contribute to the development of Ukraine's maritime industry and its representation at the international level.



«We are confident that together we will be able to implement educational and practical initiatives that will help students realize their potential and improve the quality and

competitiveness of university graduates in the national and international labor market,» said Oleg Grygoriuk, MTWTU Chairman and IMO Maritime Ambassador.

SEAFARERS' EDUCATION

MEETING SEAFARERS AT THE OFFICE

On 14 July, the MTWTU met with seafarers and union members, to discuss topical issues related to the issuance of seafarers' qualification documents and, at their request, the income tax system.

The MTWTU Chairman Oleg Grygoriuk talked about the urgent problems faced by seafarers in the modern realities, using

real cases from the MTWTU's personal practice, and reported on the projects planned and already implemented by the Trade Union.

The MTWTU experts answered seafarers' questions regarding the procedure for the preparation, issuance, and exchange of qualification documents.



SEAFARERS' WELFARE

JOINT ASSISTANCE IN TOUGH TIMES

Because of the war in Ukraine, many seafarers are stranded at home without the opportunity to go on a voyage. Some manage to find work ashore, while others are forced to ask for help from people who care. To support the families of the Trade Union members, the MTWTU and the WF «MORTTRANS», together with the ITF Seafarers' Trust, have organized a charity event. Hundreds of food sets were distributed at the MTWTU office and sent by delivery to the regions.



HAPPY CHILDREN'S SMILES

On 31 August, on the eve of the Day of Knowledge, the MTWTU Local Trade Union Organisation of Mykolaiv Sea Port Administration delighted the children of the Trade Union members: as part of the festive event, they received certificates for the purchase of stationery for school. Also, kids enjoyed sweet gifts, soft toys, drawing albums, and plasticine.

The children, in turn, did not arrive with empty hands - they presented their drawings to the Trade Union.

The smiles of children and their parents are the best reward for us. We continue to work for the benefit of the Trade Union members and to approach the Victory.



YOUTH-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES

ADDRESSING YOUNG TRADE UNION LEADERS

On 3 August, Christer Norfall, coordinator of the Nordic Transport Workers' Federation (NTF), a friendly and partner organization of the MTWTU, which has repeatedly expressed its unwavering support for our country and its citizens, visited Ukraine.

Christer Norfall visited the MTWTU office and, together with MTWTU Chairman Oleg Grygoriuk, met with young people and greeted the participants of the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine Summer Leadership Camp.



FOR MORE DETAILS

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