

MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS' TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE E-BULLETIN



MAY 2018



Dear seafarers!

Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine takes care of you and your families not only when you are ashore, but when you are at the sea. In order to keep you informed about our activities, we designed this monthly E-BULLETIN which guides you through all our achievements and events provided by our Union. Any suggestions and proposal are welcome. **Stay connected!**

Yours sincerely, Oleg Grygoriuk
First Vice Chairman
MTWTU

EUROPE-ASIA MARITIME SUMMIT: OPPORTUNITIES AND PERSPECTIVES FOR UKRAINIAN SEAFARERS



A significant maritime event took place in Odessa the 9th of May: the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union organized Europe-Asia Maritime Summit, which has gathered together the representatives of ITF Head Office, maritime trade unions of Japan and Singapore, the Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine, crewing agencies, Ukrainian maritime educational institutions, and also the MTWTU members – Ukrainian seafarers.

The main topics for the discussion were the Ukrainian seafarers' training, crewing and work onboard foreign shipowners' vessels, and also the issues which our seafarers are facing with nowadays.

As a result of the Summit, its participants have adopted a Resolution supporting the MTWTU's active efforts aimed to the speedy ratification of MLC, 2006 by

Ukraine, and the MTWTU's work on the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention, 2003 (No. 185) ratification by Ukraine.

“We do hope that the adopted Resolution, among other things, will help to attract attention to the other MTWTU initiatives and current crucial issues, like seafarers' criminalization. Sometimes they can get into troubles not through their own fault, be accused of drugs or illegal immigrants transportation, often without even suspecting that such problems might appear onboard. This Resolution is the starting point for solving all these problems. For us it is a kind of action plan, which we will follow, and which, I hope, will yield concrete results”, - the First Vice-Chairman of MTWTU Oleg Grygoriuk commented.

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MTWTU & JSU: JOINT PROJECT FOR THE BENEFIT OF UKRAINIAN SEAFARERS



The MTWTU cooperates closely with the other ITF affiliates worldwide. Therefore, the MTWTU and the All Japan Seamen's Union (JSU) have launched the first and unique joint educational project, allowing Ukrainian seafarers, working on board the Japanese shipowners' vessels to improve their level of English completely free of charge.

In a solemn atmosphere the official start of the project was given by the JSU President Yasumi Morita and the MTWTU Chairman Michael Kirieiev. MTWTU First Vice Chairman Oleg Grygoriuk spoke about the joint MTWTU & JSU project, as well as about the other Union initiatives that are to be implemented in the nearest future. "We stay open to any ideas coming from our colleagues, partners and seafarers. And we hope that Ukrainian seafarers will take advantage of what we have created for them," he underlined.

ETC-2018: UKRAINE'S LANDMARK MARITIME EVENT



On May 10&11, the Odessa Sea Commercial Port Exhibition Complex hosted the VI International Forum on Seafarers' Education, Training and Crewing (ETC-2018).

This year, the Forum theme was "Partnership for Progress", as this large-scale project is aimed at bringing together the industry's experts and to facilitate partnerships.

"The MTWTU has been among the main sponsors of this event for six years already," said the Union's First Vice Chairman Oleg Grygoriuk. "Each year we not only participate in the Forum, but invite our foreign colleagues to this truly landmark event for Odessa, Ukraine's maritime capital. Nowadays, unfortunately, Ukrainian seafarers do face a range of challenges, but the MTWTU possesses the resources to address the said challenges rapidly and efficiently".

The Forum also hosted panel discussions, conferences, round tables and the large exhibition. The MTWTU exhibition stand traditionally drawn significant attention of the visitors. In addition to the variety of useful publications, memorable gifts and presents, the visitors could consult the Union experts and the only ITF Inspector in Ukraine Nataliya Yefrimenko.

WHEN UNION BRINGS MAGIC



Only the true masters of elements have the force to tame the flame, conquer the force of gravity, manage the lightning and make it sing.

The masters of elements shared their knowledge and secrets with the children of MTWTU members, Ukrainian seafarers, who not only watched the show "The Master of Elements", but took active part in it. It was when the Union again invited seafarers' families to a fascinating event, and this time at the Jewish Cultural Center "Beit Grand".

For participants, the day will for long remain in the memory with lots of positive emotions, smiles and sincere delight.

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