

# MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS' TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE E-BULLETIN

DECEMBER-JANUARY 2022-2023

## 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



## INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

### UNION SOLIDARITY FUND SESSION IN UKRAINE

On January 18-20, a session of the Union Solidarity Fund Advisory Board was held in Ukraine to discuss the assistance already implemented, as well as proposals for future projects for 2023. Our international partners from the ITF, ETF, UK, France, Sweden, Poland, and Turkey took part in the gathering. The Ukrainian party was represented by the MTWTU, Ukrainian Free Trade Union of Locomotive Engineers, Trade Union of Railwaymen and Transport Constructors of Ukraine, Welfare Fund of Maritime Transport "MORTRANS", as well as MTWTU member seafarers and dockers.

Recall that the first batch of humanitarian aid from the Union Solidarity Fund was received by the MTWTU in May. It included generators, tourniquets, propane stoves, solar panels, etc.

The second stage of assistance was support for the seafarers' families, active Trade Union members, who were left without work due to the inability to leave the country.

According to international partners, the project will continue in 2023.



### MTWTU & WILSON COOPERATION

As a result of the negotiations between the MTWTU and Wilson, the base wage rate for Ukrainian seafarers working on the company's vessels will increase by 4%; the amount of compensation for death and total disability will also be increased: up to USD 120 thousand and USD 120-190 thousand (depending on the seafarer's position), respectively.



### NORWEGIAN SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION NEGOTIATIONS



The joint work has produced positive results every year, and 2022, despite all its difficulties, was no exception. In early December, the MTWTU held traditional negotiations with the NSA, which provided for the conclusion of a collective bargaining agreement for a two-year period for 2023-2024.

Thus, the parties agreed to increase the wages of Ukrainian seafarers by 3% (1.5% annually) for the 2023-2024 period, as well as to increase the amount of compensation in case of a seafarer's death during work to USD 100 thousand, and the amount of disability compensation from USD 150 to 160 thousand for officers and from USD 110 to 115 thousand for seafarers.

## SEAFARERS' WELFARE

### SUPPORTING UNION MEMBERS IN GERMANY

The MTWTU and the German trade union ver.di continue to implement a charity project to support the families of Ukrainian seafarers and dockers who remain in Germany due to the war.

The project was held in several stages. Within the first stage, more than 200 Ukrainian families received hygiene kits. During the second stage 150 household and children's kits were distributed. In total, more than 500 Ukrainians benefited from the project.



## YOUTH-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES

### FIRST STEPS ON CAREER LADDER

The joint project of the MTWTU, ITF SEAFARERS' TRUST, KSMA and the Lithuanian Maritime Academy continues to implement ambitious plans.

The first study semester of Kherson cadets at the Lithuanian Maritime Academy has come to an end. In half a year, young

people have intermediate results in their work. Thus, three cadets of electric engineering passed their first qualification exams. Upon the results, they received diplomas of the European standard. It means that the cadets will be able to start their work as ready-made specialists of the maritime industry.



## SEAFARERS' SOCIAL LIFE

### NEW YEAR'S MIRACLE FOR SEAFARERS' FAMILIES

Traditionally, the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine organizes a number of events for seafarers and their families on New Year's holidays.

This year, the «Frozen» installation became a place where the kids enjoyed a fairy tale,

received nice gifts, and had a lot of fun along with their parents. For those seafarers' families who could not join the celebration, the Union sent gifts by mail. More than 200 families across Ukraine received holiday presents, including those staying in Kherson and Mykolaiv regions.



### GIFTS FOR ST. NICHOLAS DAY

Maintaining the tradition, on St. Nicholas Day, the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine congratulated its members. Thus, on this day of the patron saint of all seafarers, the Union presented 500 holiday boxes to its members.



FOR MORE DETAILS  
+380482 42 99 01  
mtwtu.org.ua  
office@mtwtu.org.ua

GET IN TOUCH  
facebook.com/MTWTU  
mtwtu\_itf\_ukraine  
t.me/MTWTU  
mtwtu\_itf

