



# MAKING WAVES

*A maritime news brief covering:*

- MARITIME SECURITY
- MARITIME FORCES
- SHIPPING, PORTS AND OCEAN ECONOMY
- MARITIME ENVIRONMENT
- GEOPOLITICS

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# MARITIME SECURITY

## IRAN, OMAN, AND PAKISTAN TO ESTABLISH JOINT MARITIME SECURITY CENTRE

Rear Admiral Shahram Irani, the chief commander of the Iranian Army's navy, announced in a statement that Iran will build a cooperative maritime security centre with Oman and Pakistan. Speaking at the World Navigation Day celebration, Irani expressed satisfaction in the advancements made by his nation's naval sector and mentioned that three destroyers built in Iran were now performing security duties in the Indian Ocean. The combined maritime security centre between Iran, Oman, and Pakistan, will connect with all maritime security centres across the world with a concentration on the Indian Ocean. He stated that Iran will soon chair two committees at the crucial conference that his nation will shortly hold in Chabahar Port in the country's southeast.

Source: [Here](#) 05 October 2022

## ABS CHAIRMAN SAYS MARITIME SECURITY IS PRESSURISING DECARBONIZATION EFFORTS

During the keynote speech at this week's Shipping Insight conference in Connecticut, American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) CEO Christopher J. Wiernicki discussed the importance of Green Shipping Corridors to reducing the industry's carbon footprint but warned that emerging geopolitical security concerns like the Nord Stream pipeline leaks, Colonial Pipeline hack and mines in the Black Sea are competing with carbon initiatives for the attention of shipowners. "If we are to achieve net zero by 2050 our efforts have to be much more than a series of disconnected shipping decarbonization projects," said Wiernicki. "We need collaboration and strategy." Another major problem is that emerging geopolitical and maritime security risks threaten to pull the shipping world's attention away from decarbonisation.

Source: [Here](#) 13 October 2022

## EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND CONDUCTS OFFSHORE SECURITY EXERCISE 'PRASTHAN'

According to the Ministry of Defence, an offshore security exercise called "Prasthan" was carried out in the Krishna Godavari Basin Offshore Development Area (ODA) on 11th and 12th of October 2022, under the auspices of Headquarters, Eastern Naval Command. This exercise, which is held every six months, aims to coordinate the activities of all maritime

players involved in offshore defence and is a crucial component of guaranteeing offshore security. The exercise was conducted onboard Drill rigs Platinum Explorer and DDKG- of ONGC and RIL located about 40 nm south of Kakinada. Contingencies such as terrorist intrusion, bomb explosion, casualty evacuation, search and rescue, man overboard, major fire, oil spill and mass evacuation were exercised. The two-day exercise resulted in refining standard operating procedures (SOPs) and response actions to several contingencies in the Offshore Defence Area off Kakinada

**Source:** [Here](#) 13 October 2022

## **INDIA STANDS FOR RULES-BASED MARITIME BORDERS IN INDO- PACIFIC: RAJNATH SINGH**

Rajnath Singh, the defence minister, stated on Saturday that India supports rules-based maritime borders in the Indo-Pacific where no country, no matter how large, may be permitted to deny others access to its fair usage. This is in response to China's growing aggressiveness in the region. The defence minister encouraged effective cooperation among maritime nations to solve issues affecting maritime safety in his address to the heads of Asian Coast Guard agencies. Singh said that India has always been a peaceful nation that respects the territorial integrity of other nations and treats them as equal partners. India has never invaded any other territory. He emphasised the need for maritime space to be treated with respect as a global common for the benefit of all people in an environmentally friendly manner.

**Source:** [Here](#) 15 October 2022

# **MARITIME FORCES**

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## **COMBINED MARITIME FORCES (CMF) HOSTS MARITIME SECURITY CONFERENCE IN BAHRAIN**

Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) hosted senior military leaders from 38 nations during a four-day maritime security conference in Bahrain, Oct 3-6. Leaders from 40 navies and coast guards attended the annual maritime security conference, hosted by the world's largest naval partnership, to discuss future partnership opportunities and initiatives. The conference served as an opportunity to review initiatives achieved over the last 12 months and coordinate plans to enhance regional maritime security and partnerships in the future.

**Source:** [Here](#) 06 October 2022

## **US AND UK MARITIME FORCES CONDUCT BILATERAL EXERCISE PHANTOM SCOPE**

A one-day bilateral exercise called Phantom Scope was conducted by the US Fifth Fleet and the UK Royal Navy (RN) forces. On October 7, it took place in the ocean off the coast of Bahrain. Phantom Scope was designed to investigate how crewed ships and operators stationed ashore may improve maritime surveillance operations using unmanned and artificial intelligence (AI)-based devices. The Hunt-class mine countermeasures ship HMS Chiddingfold (M37) and the Sandown-class minehunter ship HMS Bangor participated in the drill (M109).

**Source:** [Here](#) 10 October 2022

## **IN-ICG JOINT EFFORT SUCCESSFULLY LOCATES EJECTED PILOT**

In a latest Tweet by ANI, it was stated that in a display of jointness between the two maritime forces, the ICG Dornier located the pilot who had ejected in a dinghy. Meanwhile, a Navy chopper also reached the location to rescue the pilot. The mission was completed in 40 minutes.

**Source:** [Here](#) 13 October 2022

## **NEPTUNE STRIKE TO TRAIN ALLIED AIR AND MARITIME FORCES**

The Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO (STRIKFORNATO) have organized the multi-domain exercise Neptune Strike (NEST 22-2) from October 14–28 in the Mediterranean Sea. NEST 22-2 demonstrates the logical progression of NATO's capacity to include a carrier strike group's maritime warfare capability to bolster Allied defence. The exercise comes after earlier ones, such as Neptune Shield in May 2022, to carry on STRIKFORNATO and American cooperation. Sixth Fleet is contributing to the gradual improvement of Alliance unity in a challenging environment for both air and sea forces. NEST 22-2 offers a fantastic chance to strengthen our ability to cooperate with Allies in a challenging and increasingly contentious climate, said the Deputy Chief of Staff Operations at NATO's Headquarters Allied Air Command, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

**Source:** [Here](#) 14 October 2022

## **US NAVAL FORCES IN MIDDLE EAST INTERDICT \$29 MILLION IN ILLEGAL DRUGS**

According to a communiqué from Naval Forces Central Command Public Affairs, on October 12, two weeks after another significant seizure, a US Coast Guard rapid reaction cutter patrolling the Gulf of Oman confiscated illegal drugs from a fishing boat valued at an estimated \$29 million. As the fishing boat passed through international seas, the USCGC Charles Moulthrop (WPC 1141) seized 2,980 kilos of opium and 400 kilos of methamphetamine. The Coast Guard cutter was supporting Combined Task Force 150, which oversees Combined Maritime Forces' maritime security operations in the Arabian Sea, Gulf of Oman, and Gulf of Aden.

**Source:** [Here](#) 14 October 2022

## **SHIPPING, PORTS AND OCEAN ECONOMY**

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### **VANQUISHING TRAFFIC AT KEY PORTS SIGNALS DEMAND SLUMPS IN WEST**

In a sign of slowing demand amid geopolitical turmoil, the wait time for berthing of ships at India's largest and busiest port in Kandla has slipped from 7-9 days to less than a day, shippers and exporters said. They also warned there could be more stress on the trade front during the winter, mainly due to the weakening demand from Europe, India's second-largest export market. The Kandla port in Gujarat handles the largest share of traffic among all the major ports in the country. The cargo volume handled at the Kandla port was 127 million tonnes (mt) during the last fiscal. In terms of traffic handled, the Kandla port is followed by the Paradip port in Odisha and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) in Navi Mumbai.

**Source:** [Here](#) 01 October 2022

## **ADANI PORTS RECEIVE NCLT APPROVAL TO ACQUIRE REMAINING 58.1% STAKE IN GANGAVARAM PORT**

On Monday, NCLT Ahmedabad and NCLT Hyderabad gave Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) the go-ahead to use a composite plan of arrangement to purchase the last 58.1% stake in Gangavaram Port. Considering this, GPL moves closer to being a wholly owned subsidiary of the business funded by the Adani Group. GPL is situated close to Vizag Port in Andhra Pradesh's northern region. With a 64 MMT capacity built under a concession from the Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) that lasts until 2059, GPL is the third-largest non-major port in Andhra Pradesh.

Source: [Here](#) 10 October 2022

## **BOOSTING THE BLUE ECONOMY: OCEAN 14 CAPITAL INVESTS IN BRAZILIAN FISH FARMING INDUSTRY**

The whole expansion strategy of Brazilian enterprise Tilabras, which aims to boost employment, continue vertical integration, and expand production, has been funded by an investment of more than €10 million (US\$9.7 million) from UK-based Ocean 14 Capital. The Tilabras' production technique, according to the investors, enables the fish to be fed on a completely sustainable, plant-based diet while reducing their carbon impact. As part of its continuous efforts to identify sustainable solutions to enhance the health of the oceans, the Ocean 14 fund wants to take advantage of the prospects around tilapia as a growing industry.

Source: [Here](#) 11 October 2022

## **CONTAINER SHIPPING FACES 'CLASSIC BOOM AND BUST' AS RATES PLUMMET TO PRE-PANDEMIC LEVELS**

Leading liners have put a limit on more of their services out of Asia, but they have been unable to stop the sharp decline in freight prices. Just days after announcing the termination of two transpacific routes, AP Moller-Maersk, and Mediterranean Shipping Co (MSC) are prepared to reduce capacity on their Asia to North Europe service. The 16,652-teu MSC Hamburg (built 2015) departure from Ningbo on October 26 has been cancelled by the 2M Alliance partners.

Source: [Here](#) 13 October 2022

# MARINE ENVIRONMENT

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## TRANSPORT SECRETARY SETS OUT MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD AND DECARBONISE UK SHIPPING

Transport Secretary sets out measures to safeguard and decarbonise UK shipping. On September 29, he said at a gathering that shipping still drives the world economy today, just as it has for millennia. Over 95% of all products are transported through the oceans, making them by far the most vital arteries for international trade. Although the maritime sector often operates out of sight of the public, recent events have brought attention to global supply chains... and more specifically, the significance of reliable and safe cargo routes. For the Department of Transportation, this entails protecting the security of all networks that support our way of life and our economy by transporting people, commodities, and information across the world.

**Source:** [Here](#) 03 October 2022

## JSCT, ASSOCIATION OF THAGHER ALORDON FISHERMEN SIGN MOU ON PRESERVING MARINE ENVIRONMENT

The Association of Thagher Alordon Fishermen Agricultural Cooperative and the Jordan Society for the Conservation of Turtles and Tortoises (JSCT) have signed a memorandum of understanding and collaboration. According to a JSCT statement, the MoU intends to strengthen the role performed by fishermen as a crucial component in protecting the maritime environment and ecology, especially endangered marine animals, and species. The agreement, according to JSCT Chairman Abeer Bilbeisi, calls for the sharing of information about the locations of marine turtles, the seasons in which they emerge, as well as the development of fishermen's skills and instruction in environmentally friendly fishing techniques, particularly how to save marine turtles if they are accidentally caught.

**Source:** [Here](#) 07 October 2022



## **ECOSYSTEM-BASED FISHERIES MANAGEMENT NEEDED TO HELP MARINE LIFE THRIVE IN NORTHEAST ATLANTIC OCEAN**

In the past, managing fisheries has mostly been concerned with increasing capture of a target species. In recent decades, efforts by fisheries management throughout the world to curb overfishing have produced varying degrees of success. Large-scale, closely-monitored fisheries that have used science-based management have typically had favourable results. Success in these cases has been defined as groups of individual fish stocks in particular ocean regions gradually recovering from overexploitation—for example, Northeast Pacific groundfish or North Atlantic swordfish. However, even in these success stories, managers have frequently neglected to account for the impact of fishing on ecosystems, such as the depletion of non-target species caught as bycatch, or the imbalance created when too many of an important predator or prey species are removed. Recent research demonstrates that during the past 50 years, commercial fishing has left the biggest human impact on the marine environment, notably through the reduction of target and non-target species and the degradation of their habitats. It will take a significant change in fisheries management to partially undo this harm and reduce the disruption that commercial fishing may bring about to intricate, interdependent ocean ecosystems. The strategy known as ecosystem-based fisheries management provides the answer (EBFM).

**Source:** [Here](#) 10 October 2022

## **CLIMATE CHANGE, HUMAN ACTIVITY'S ALARMING IMPACT ON MARINE ENVIRONMENT LAID BARE**

According to a recent research, sea levels are increasing in New Zealand, seas are growing more acidic, and marine heatwaves are becoming "more frequent and intense." The study *Our Marine Environment 2022*, which was launched on Thursday by the Ministry for the Environment and Stats NZ, describes the pressures on New Zealand's marine environment, its status, and the effects these are having on the coastal communities and the undersea ecology. The report, which is released every three years, provides an overview of our maritime environment by highlighting important environmental indicators and the results of peer-reviewed studies.

**Source:** [Here](#) 13 October 2022

## **TO IMPROVE FISHERIES AND OCEAN HEALTH, NORTHEAST ATLANTIC DECISION-MAKERS SHOULD ADOPT ECOSYSTEM APPROACH**

The status of the Northeast Atlantic Ocean's scientifically assessed fish stocks has recently improved: Since the beginning of the century, fewer stocks have been overfished, which has resulted in some exploited fish populations showing signs of recovery. The Northeast Atlantic Ocean is one of the most heavily fished regions in the world. Even though this is an excellent news, several other signs point to a worrying decline in ocean health. Only nine (17%) of 52 indicators, ranging from the richness of seabed species to the nesting health of seabird populations, are moving favourably, according to a recent evaluation of the status of marine biodiversity in the area. Of the multiple factors driving this decline, poor fisheries management is among the most prominent. For example, vessels net-fishing for cod often inadvertently catch threatened species, such as the harbour porpoise. And the removal of short-lived forage fish such as sandeel or sprat at the base of marine food webs is reducing the food available for predators. In addition, climate change is forcing many species to shift their historical ranges, putting additional strains on ecosystems.

**Source:** [Here](#) 13 October 2022

## **DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ECONOMIC RISKS OF MARINE HEAT WAVES**

One of the world's largest EEZs, which supports remarkable biodiversity and benefits the national economy of New Zealand, providing billions of dollars, is in New Zealand. Despite this, the country is still having trouble minimising or mitigating many of the effects of human activity on the significant marine ecosystems. There is an urgent need for climate action, as evidenced by the recent occurrence of marine heat waves in New Zealand seas and NIWA's forecasts of heat waves this spring and summer. These catastrophic effects are already being felt, and they can harm and destabilise marine ecosystems and the businesses of the country.

**Source:** [Here](#) 15 October 2022

# GEOPOLITICS

## ISRAEL-LEBANON MARITIME ‘DEAL’ RUNS INTO GEOPOLITICAL REALITY

Israel has rejected 11th hour revisions made by Lebanon to a maritime border deal between the two countries derailing two years of intensive negotiations. A proposed US-brokered maritime border deal between Israel and Lebanon is teetering on the brink, just days after a final draft was presented to both countries’ leaderships and with hopes growing that an agreement was near. Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid on 6<sup>th</sup> October rejected amendments made by Beirut to what was supposedly the final agreed draft of the deal that was to be approved by each country’s cabinet. This is a blow for US Special Energy Envoy Amos Hochstein who has shuttled between the two capitals to mediate the talks which restarted in 2020.

Source: [Here](#) 07 October 2022

## INDIAN NAVAL ACADEMY EZHIMALA ORGANISES ‘DILLI SERIES’ SEMINAR WITH FOCUS ON SEA GEOPOLITICS

With focus on harnessing the geopolitical impact of sea power, the Indian Naval Academy Ezhimala, has conducted the ninth edition of ‘Dilli Series’ Sea Power webinar on 10th and 11th Oct 22 in the online webinar format.

The two-day flag ship by Asia’s largest naval academy aims at exposing young trainees and the participants to issues pertaining to maritime dimension and geopolitical impact of sea potential. The 9th edition of ‘Dilli Series’ Sea Power Webinar highlighted aspects of furthering national security objectives in the contemporary geopolitical environment, examining the impact of seapower in shaping regional cooperation alliances and shed light on emerging maritime security challenges and its implications for India.

Source: [Here](#) 11 October 2022

## SEAFARER MENTAL HEALTH AND GEOPOLITICS

The IUMI 2022 Policy Forum Workshop in Chicago focused on the war in Ukraine and its impact on marine and war risk insurance. At the workshop, Gard’s global head of People claims, Lene-Camilla Nordlie, turned her attention to seafarers and the challenges they face, not just due to the current geopolitical situation, but also generally due to the stresses and strains of their occupation. Challenges to seafarer mental health and well-being include concerns for family and friends whilst away at sea and, in the case of the current situation in Ukraine, even whether there will be a home to return to. Some crew members wish to end contracts early while others wish to extend their time aboard. Access to medical treatment may be compromised and payment of wages and settlement of

disability and death benefits is difficult due to sanctions with respect to Russian crew or crew resident in Russian occupied/annexed territories, and the displacement with respect to crew resident in Ukraine.

**Source:** [Here](#) 12 October 2022

## **TACKLING FOOD AND ENERGY CRISES: HOW TRADE AND LOGISTICS CAN HELP**

According to Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, of Costa Rica who is the eighth Secretary-General of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Black Sea Grain Initiative, funded by the UN, which was signed in July 2022 and aims to recommence the sale of Ukrainian grain across the Black Sea despite the current conflict, has demonstrated the importance of trade during trying times. The campaign had resulted in the shipment of more than 7 million metric tonnes of grain and other goods as of October 12."The opening of the Black Sea grain corridor, as well as the effort to bring food and fertilisers from Russia to the international markets, has presided over a six-month consecutive decline in the FAO Food Price Index," she added. She added that the initiative's impact started before it was signed because of the expectation that it would be signed.

**Source:** [Here](#) 13 October 2022