

“Vision and philosophy first then technology”

For the third time, representatives of the main industries of the maritime logistics chain have accepted the invitation of the International Transport Forum (ITF) to meet and continue dialogue about current challenges. Interest and commitment from all parties to exchange views confirms that ITF’s initiative of May 2017, aimed to establishing the Global Maritime Logistics Dialogue, is a good idea.

This time, dialogue concerned the topic of digitalization and data sharing between different parties of the logistics chain. It involved both industry representatives and officials from governments and the European Commission.

All agree that data is the new “oil”. Therefore, many actors of the logistics chain are investing in solutions to collect and treat data.

Whatever is the technology or the system, digitalization will bring benefits to its promoters in terms of efficiency and performance. But what is more important is that the use of digital tools enhances the overall movement of cargo upstream and downstream the maritime leg. It should also allow a reduction of greenhouse emissions in ports and on roads and most importantly improve the reliability of the service to customers.

What is needed now is a discussion about the rules of governance for digital platforms that will guarantee and preserve a real level playing field between different parties of the logistics chain.

As it was mentioned by several participants in Leipzig, time has come for industry to have a “common agenda”.

The recent proposal from the European Commission regarding maximum data sets to be communicated by ships entering European ports goes in the right direction but industry should be more ambitious by agreeing on a common “philosophy” regarding data sharing and open systems. If this does not happen soon, we shall not be entitled to blame regulators for taking up the lead and imposing priorities from their perspective.

03-05.05.2018 – European Shipping Industry Stakeholders Forum, Varna, Bulgaria

FEPORT participated in the European Shipping Industry Stakeholder Forum which was organized as part of the Bulgarian presidency of the European Union. The forum focused on establishing stakeholder’s views ahead of the next European Maritime Strategy 2019-2020.

During the Forum, Mr. Conor Feighan, Policy Advisor, discussed FEPORT’s views on competitiveness of shipping and the revision of the Motorways of the Sea programme.

He stressed that Europe can only improve the competitiveness of shipping by adopting a logistics chain approach, with the objective being on increasing the efficiency and reliability of the entire maritime logistics chain as opposed to focusing on just the sea leg.

Mr. Feighan mentioned that the European year of Multimodality was setting a good precedent in this regard which should be continued.

On Motorways of the Sea, Mr. Feighan stressed that we need to ensure that funding moves from assisting regulatory compliance to assisting “first movers” in innovation. Across all industries, it is more attractive to be a “second mover” given the significant costs of researching and deploying new technologies. Mr. Feighan concluded saying that the Motorways of the Sea programme can play a crucial role in offsetting these costs.

07-05-2018 – Launch of the evaluation process of the Consortia Regulation by DG Competition

The European Commission, DG Comp, has started the evaluation process of the Consortia Regulation by on May 7th, 2018 adopting its roadmap¹ and by calling for feedback from interested parties between May 7th and June 4th, 2018.

The purpose of the evaluation process that has been launched yesterday is to assess whether in view of the general policy of harmonising competition rules and considering the major developments in the liner shipping industry in recent years, the Consortia BER is still relevant and delivering on its objectives, and whether it is doing so in a coherent, effective and efficient manner, creating EU added value.

¹ (https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2018-2422025_en#initiative-details)

This evaluation will inform the decision of whether to let it expire or prolong it and if so, under which conditions. Allowing the Consortia BER to expire would not mean that consortia agreements would become unlawful, but that they would be examined under the general rules on competition just as cooperation agreements in other sectors.

The criteria that the Commission will apply in its evaluation of the current Consortia Block Exemption Regulation are: Effectiveness, Efficiency, Relevance, Coherence and EU added value.

The main stakeholders identified by DG Comp are the carriers, their clients and service providers. Member States’ competition authorities’ feedbacks will also be sought and collected.

16-05-2018 – Digital Transport and Logistics Forum - Sub Group 2

FEPORT participated in the final Digital Transport and Logistics (DTLF) sub group meeting on “corridor cargo flow optimization” on May. The DTLF is a group of experts that brings together stakeholders from different transport and logistics communities from both the private and the public sector.

Sub-group 2 focuses on how cargo flows along TEN-T core network corridors can be improved and how bottlenecks can be removed.

The meeting focused on the finalization of the sub-groups report to the DTLF Plenary which will

meet on 14 June. The report will provide an overview of the work carried out by sub-group 2 since the establishment of the DTLF in June 2015.

16-05-2018 - Multimodal freight conference organized by the European Commission, the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA) and the International Union for Road-Rail Combined Transport (UIRR)



On May 16th, 2018, FEPORT Secretary General has been invited to take part to the multimodal conference co-organized by the **European Commission**, the **European Union Agency for Railways (ERA)** and the **International Union for Road-Rail Combined Transport (UIRR)**.

After a keynote by Mr Matthew Baldwin, Deputy Director General of DG MOVE, the first session is exclusively related to the revision of the Combined Transport Directive, with an impulse speech by MEP Daniela Aiuto, and a discussion with others MEPs, the Bulgarian Presidency and transport attachés from MS.

The second session was a one-hour panel discussion, moderated by Mr Matthew Baldwin, on Multimodal Freight, with representatives of various organisations including FEPORT representing different modes of transport.

Before giving the floor to the panellists, Mr Baldwin referred to the Multimodality Year and some of the conclusions reached in previous events (Sofia Conference – TEN-T Days in Ljubljana), in terms of priorities, role of incentives in the business models, or innovation/digitalisation.

He then asked panellists to give their views, each from its modal or multimodal viewpoint and to comment on several questions related to multimodal freight such as infrastructure bottlenecks, the lack of level playing field in freight transport, or the required investments and funding, and the necessary incentives.

Another poll/question submitted to stakeholders concerned infrastructure itself and the main bottlenecks facing the development of multimodal freight infrastructure.

FEPORT Secretary General, Ms Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid reiterated the need to finalize the European Transport network and more particularly to finance the completion of the hinterland connections between the different nodes.

"Physical and digital connectivity will be crucial in the coming years" said FEPORT SG." It is important for the EU to keep the competitive advantage of its network and to accelerate the path with respect to digitalization" she added.

Replying to a question regarding the role of maritime stakeholders with respect to digitalization, Ms Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid concluded by saying "Sharing data will be an essential success factor and we need industry to agree on governance rules soon so as to improve efficiency and optimize operations within logistics chains".

17-05-2018 – European Tug owners Annual meeting in Antwerp



On May 17th, FEPORT has been invited to attend to the European Tug Owners Annual Meeting and gala dinner in Antwerp. The annual meeting featured a number of speakers who touched upon issues of interest for the maritime sector in general and for the towage industry in particular.

Among others, Wolfgang Lehmacher (World Economic Forum) and Jorik Rombouts (Rombit) tackled the topics of the 4th industrial revolution and the impact of digital technologies.

The Annual meeting was followed by a gala dinner in the very nice Brasschaat Castle and was attended by more than 200 guests.

17-05-2018 – ACI European Environmental Ports Conference 2018

ACI's European Environmental Ports Conference 2018 has examined the most pressing matters within the port industry such as: air quality, waste management, keeping up with compliance, improving relationships with the local area, onshore power supply and water quality.

There was also a discussion between stakeholders focusing on cooperation from all areas of the port industry, assessing what can be done to improve the environment within ports in the long term.

Mr. Conor Feighan, Policy Advisor, participated in a panel discussion on "Environmental Strategies and Implementation across all sectors to improve the environment in ports".

He stressed that it will be crucial to avoid that discussions on 2050 emission targets are based solely on existing technologies, and we should be optimistic that new, greener fuels will emerge.

Mr. Feighan also mentioned that this should be taken into consideration when discussing alternative fuel infrastructure. For instance, it is still

unknown whether LNG will be a long-term alternative for ship propulsion. Dialogue is needed on future technologies.

When looking to 2050, Mr. Feighan concluded the logistics industry should be ambitious and aim towards the total removal of carbon emissions from logistics operations.

17-05-2018 – Regulation on European Maritime Single Window Environment

On May 17th, the European Commission proposed a revision of the Reporting Formalities Directive which will regulate all ship reporting formalities in the European Union. The proposal introduces a harmonized maximum data set for ship reporting at European level and maintains national single windows as the entry points for ship reporting.

Under the Commission proposal, Member States are responsible for the development, availability, maintenance, security and operation of their National Single Windows. Member States may allow declarants to continue to provide the information through other reporting channels, such as port community systems, so long as these systems are voluntary for declarants.

FEPORT has called for a revision of the Directive with a focus on the creation of a harmonized data set at European level. Information on FEPORT's position can be accessed [here](#). FEPORT is currently in the process of assessing the Commission proposal.

25-05-2018 - International Transport Forum - Global Maritime Logistics Dialogue in Leipzig



Together with other industry representatives, FEPORT has been invited to attend and participate to the discussions taking place in the framework of ITF Global Maritime Logistics Dialogue, taking place during the ITF Annual Summit 23-25 May in Leipzig.

“Towards holistic governance of the maritime logistics chain” was the main topic of the session which aimed to build on the last discussion which took place in Brussels on December 1st, 2017 on data sharing in the maritime logistics chain.

Discussions concentrated on good practices and successful collaborative approaches between private and public sectors in the area of data sharing.

The session has been followed by a roundtable on “Decarbonising Maritime Transport” and exchanges concerned the implications of the



recently agreed IMO Initial GHG Strategy as well as recent ITF work in this area².

FEPORT is fully supportive of ITF Global Maritime Logistics Dialogue and will certainly continue to feed the discussions regarding data sharing and analytics as this is a crucial issue for its members.

Meetings of the month

16.05.2018 – FEPORT Social Affairs Committee, Brussels

24.05.2018 – FEPORT Environment, Safety and Security Committee, Brussels

Upcoming meetings

| <u>FEPORT meetings</u> | |
|---|----------------|
| FEPORT General Assembly, Lisbon | 01.06.2018 |
| FEPORT Customs and Logistics Committee, Brussels | 20.06.2018 |
| <u>Industry meetings</u> | |
| TOC Europe, Rotterdam | 12.-14.06.2018 |
| European Mobility Week, across Europe | 16.-22.09.2018 |
| <u>EU 2018 Institutional meetings</u> | |
| EP TC meeting, Brussels | 07.06.2018 |
| Council of the European Union, Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council meeting, Luxembourg | 07.-08.06.2018 |
| EP Plenary Session | 11.-14.06.2018 |
| EP TC meeting, Brussels | 21.-22.06.2018 |
| EP Plenary Session | 02.-05.07.2018 |
| EP TC meeting, Brussels | 09.-10.07.2018 |
| EP TC meeting, Brussels | 29.-30.08.2018 |
| EP TC meeting, Brussels | 06.09.2018 |
| EP Plenary Session | 10.-13.09.2018 |
| EP TC meeting, Brussels | 24.09.2018 |
| EP Plenary Session | 01.-04.10.2018 |
| EP TC meeting, Brussels | 08.-09.10.2018 |
| EP Plenary Session | 22.-25.10.2018 |
| EP TC meeting, Brussels | 08.11.2018 |
| EP Plenary Session | 12.-15.11.2018 |
| EP TC meeting, Brussels | 21.-22.11.2018 |
| EP Plenary Session | 28.-29.11.2018 |
| EP TC meeting, Brussels | 03.12.2018 |
| EP Plenary Session | 10-13.12.2018 |

EP = European Parliament, TC = Transport Committee

² <https://www.itf-oecd.org/sites/default/files/docs/decarbonising-maritime-transport.pdf>
<https://www.itf-oecd.org/sites/default/files/docs/decarbonising-maritime-transport-sweden.pdf>

<https://www.itf-oecd.org/sites/default/files/docs/reducing-shipping-greenhouse-gas-emissions.pdf>

