

**01.03.2017 – Social Dialogue  
Committee for ports meetings,  
Brussels**



The European Social Dialogue for Ports was established in June 2013 by port employers and employees to identify challenges faced by

the sector, improve health and safety conditions and raise awareness about the essential contribution of port stakeholders to the EU economy and its growth.

No less than 2.2 million ships have called EU Ports in 2012. More than 300.000 workers are directly employed by port employers who are committed to ensuring a high level of efficiency, health and safety.

Since 2013, the social partners have been working on issues that fall within the competence of the Social Dialogue for Ports (i.e. training and qualifications, attractiveness to young workers, health and safety as well as promotion of female employment). Employers' representatives are very much attached to the European dimension of the ongoing European Social Dialogue for Ports because it allows constructive discussions that will help the sector to continue to play its vital role for the EU.

During the Social Dialogue for Ports meeting held on March 1st, 2017 in Brussels, the employees' delegations have decided to leave in reaction to national developments in Spain. The employers' delegations expressed their disappointment about this decision and reminded that the competence of the social partners involved in the Social Dialogue for ports is a European one.

The employers' delegations remain committed to the social dialogue process at European level and believe it is the relevant forum for addressing issues outlined above. For this reason, the employers' representatives decided to resume today's meeting and to proceed with the agenda.

Among others, the employers' delegations expressed their satisfaction about the future launching of a study on *"The*

*Changing Face of Ports: socio-economic impact of market-based and technological developments on EU ports"*. The request for funding of this study has been recently accepted by DG Employment.

Port employers are convinced that the study will contribute to identifying the key challenges that EU ports are facing and how the industry is adapting to change and preparing the future.

The employers' delegations look forward to constructive discussions with the employees' representatives on said issues during the next social dialogue meeting of 29th June.

*"We remain optimistic about the European Social Dialogue for Ports and are looking forward to starting the study about socio-economic impact of market-based and technological developments on EU ports. The study will allow us to better understand the drivers for change in European ports"* says Ms. Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid, Secretary General of FEPORT.

**02.03.2017 – Sea Europe Maritime  
Technology Conference, Brussels**



On March 2nd, SEA Europe held its first Maritime Technology Conference in Brussels.

The conference marked the beginning of the European Maritime Technology Week: a week of various events and activities in EU Member States allow to raise awareness about the career opportunities in the maritime technology sector.

The conference gathered more than 200 participants and allowed real discussions between representatives of EU institutions and maritime industries.

The maritime technology sector includes more than 300 shipyards and more than 22,000 enterprises which produce an annual turnover of € 91 billion, create employment for more than 900,000 people and invest till 9% of their sales in Research, Development and Innovation (one of the highest RDI investments in Europe).

During the conference, a number of speakers underlined the necessity for Europe to support the European maritime technology sector which faces a lot of challenges from global players which are not always respecting the rules of fair competition.



Increased trade protectionism or ongoing massive state aid support are indeed distorting the game and resulting into trade imbalances and overcapacity.

*“Attending SEA Europe’s conference was very stimulating because while listening to the presentations, we better understand the contribution of EU shipyards and marine equipment manufacturers and foresee an enormous potential for Europe to become the “place to be” in terms of maritime high technology and sharp “know how””* comments Ms. Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid, FEPOR Secretary General.

*“SEA Europe has undertaken the crucial mission to raise awareness about the necessity for Europe to fight for its maritime technology sector. Within FEPOR, we also believe that European ports play a strategic role. It is therefore important that EU policy makers provide legal certainty and clarity to attract private investment in ports. European ports must remain among the best in the world thanks to the best technologies, equipment and people and this will definitely benefit to EU economy and its growth”* concludes Ms. Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid.

## **06.03.2017 – ICHCA Packaged Dangerous Goods Seminar, London**



On March 6th, ICHCA Dangerous Goods Seminar was held in London.

The event emphasised that with dangerous goods making up an estimated 10% of all containerised shipments worldwide, it is imperative that all the stakeholders work together to safeguard people, cargo, assets, infrastructure and the environment from the inherent risks as chemicals and other hazardous materials move through the supply chain.

On 12th August 2015, a series of huge chemical explosions at a container storage facility in the Port of Tianjin, China killed over 170 people, injured several hundreds and caused an estimated \$9 billion in damages, claims and global supply chain costs. The official investigation concluded that an overheated container of nitrocellulose, a film-forming polymer commonly used in lacquers and explosives, was the cause of the initial explosion, leading to a second much larger blast when around 800 tons of ammonium nitrate – a fertiliser and commercial explosives component – detonated.

Tianjin disaster served as a tragic demonstration of the potential deadly consequences when packaged dangerous goods are not handled, shipped and stored correctly, whether through criminal negligence or blind ignorance. It also highlighted the increased risks posed by greater scale, concentration and complexity in today’s international supply chains, both at sea on larger ships and ashore as port facilities and logistics operations deal with ever increasing cargo peaks.

During the meeting, Mr. Conor Feighan, Policy Advisor at FEPOR was requested to explain how the European Commission is dealing with the topic of dangerous goods.



He referred to initiatives such as the Digital Transport and Logistics Forum and the review of the Reporting Formalities Directive which represent real opportunities to make such communication standardized and systematic in view of preventing the occurrence of tragic accidents such as Tianjin disaster.

## 07.03.2017 - ICHCA 77th meeting of the ISP, London

FEPORT participated as an observer in the 77th meeting of ICHCA's International Safety Panel (ISP). ICHCA's ISP Technical Panel represents a body of expertise in cargo handling safety, legislation and operational best practice which looks to provide guidance on the pressing safety issues within the cargo handling sector.

The Technical Panel discussion consisted of presentations by operators on terminal safety and workshops on recommendations for how the ISP can play a productive role in assisting terminals in increasing terminal safety.

## 07-09.03.2017 - Transport Week, Sopot, Poland



On March 7th-9th, FEPORT attended the Transport Week Conference held in Sopot, Poland.

Transport Week allowed discussions relating to the transport and logistics sector in Central Europe and gathered participants from a variety of industries, among them port and terminal authorities, rail and logistic operators, forwarders, shipping lines representatives, consulting companies, government officials and policymakers. This year's conference was dedicated to the theme of profitable sustainability.

During conference, Mr. Conor Feighan, Policy Advisor at FEPORT presented the innovative steps being taken by terminals to ensure terminal sustainability, be it environmental or operational sustainability, as well as social sustainability. He stressed the need for long term thinking when ports and terminals are developing guidance documents and that emissions need to be tackled at their source.

## 15-16.03.2017 - Porto Transport Seminar, Portugal



Last March 16th, FEPORT participated at Porto Transport Seminar. The objective of the event was to bring together professionals from the maritime and port sectors to debate about the present and future of shipping in particular and the transport sector in general.

The event consisted of three panels, shortsea shipping & co-modality, changing times in shipping & ports and strategies for increasing port competitiveness.

Reacting to a number of presentations about Short Sea Shipping, FEPORT Secretary General stated that successful short sea shipping stories are in many respect best practices that should probably be replicated and systematized by all maritime stakeholders be it for short sea or deep sea shipping. This would allow a more balanced relationship between actors of the logistics chain.

*"Behind each SSS long lasting positive story, there are two essential success factors: the existence of a market and a real cooperation between the parties of the logistics chain ie shippers, shipping lines, port authorities, terminals, road hauliers, agents etc... If these two conditions are not fulfilled, no sustainable modal shift takes place"* commented Ms. Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid, Secretary General of FEPORT.



Responding to FEPORT Secretary General's question about the reinforcement of regionalized flows in parallel of the globalized ones and the opportunities that such



an evolution could create for SS shipping operators, members of panel 1 indicated that this trend is indeed taking shape but there is no clear idea yet on the potential it represents in terms of additional flows for SSS.



Panel 2 was chaired by ECASBA's President, António Belmar da Costa who requested participants to comment a number of

current developments in the maritime sector.

Replying to a question about the environmental challenges ahead in the maritime sector, FEPORT Secretary General, Ms. Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid said *"FEPORT members' environmental friendly commitments materialize through three concrete actions: first: investment, millions euros (of private money) are spent to green the business, decarbonize and decrease greenhouse emissions, second: support to environmental legislation (for example the [Non Road Mobile Machinery Regulation](#)) and third: engagement with all stakeholders such as cities, NGOs to better understand each other's expectations"*.

Participants to panel 3 had the opportunity to comment about national and european port related developments.

### 16.03.2017 - DTLF - Corridor cargo flow optimisation sub-group, Brussels

The DTLF (Digital Transport and Logistics) Sub-Group 2 "Corridor cargo flow optimisation" meet on 16th March to work towards a generic concept for for an innovative approach to interoperability in supply and logistics chains.

The DTLF focuses on two aspects, the digitalisation and acceptance of transport documents, and the establishment of digital corridor information systems. The focus of Sub-Group 2 is the latter. FEPORT supports the Commission initiative given its clear objective to improve interoperability in logistics and freight transport across Europe.

The sub-group meeting focused on how the Commission and industry actors can proceed within the Forum to assist in ensuring greater interoperability of systems, with the ultimate objective of reducing duplication and fragmentation of reporting and communication within the European Union.

### 17.03.2017 - "I AM" members agree on priority topics for 2017 and announce next plenary meeting at TOC Europe



During the first 2017 meeting, the 22 members of the newly-born I AM Industry Alliance of transport chain stakeholders have agreed upon their common vision regarding multimodality, connectivity, logistics and growth and will start to work on the following issues:

- **Reduction of air pollution:** Decarbonisation, NOx and sulphur emissions;
- **Intermodality:** Combined Transport Directive, interoperability and Inland Waterways connections;
- **Digitalization:** E-transport documents and the Reporting Formalities Directive.

The next plenary meeting of the Alliance will take place during the TOC Europe conferences to be held in Amsterdam from 27-29 June 2017. The meeting will be dedicated to a first evaluation of the work done by the members of the Alliance as well as to the adoption of the 2018 roadmap in view of the multimodal year.

### Why Multimodality?

For the members of the Alliance, policy makers should give more attention to multimodality.

No cargoes reach consumers while using a single mode of transport. Efforts should therefore be mobilized to facilitate seamless and sustainable operations involving different modes of transport.

### Why Connectivity?

If cargo reaches a port and cannot continue its journey then this is most probably due to the fact that multimodal connections linking ports to the hinterland are not optimal or sufficient. Members of the Alliance will focus on those measures allowing modes, nodes and industrial clusters to be better connected.

### Why Logistics?

Logistics is the cement that links operations aiming at ensuring that cargo reaches its point of destination as requested by customers. It is a key enabler sector for the European Economy. A 10- 30% improvement in efficiency in the EU logistics sector would potentially equal a 100 – 300 billion € cost relief for European industry.

Efficiency in logistics will remain an important topic of the Alliance agenda given its crucial role for the further growth of an economically, socially, environmental, and socially sustainable industrial activity.

### Why Growth?

Growth is the only way to reconcile the EU with long term recovery and should therefore be a priority for all EU institutions and businesses. All signing organizations believe that multimodality, connectivity and logistics are enablers which can play key roles to restore growth in Europe.

*"FEPORT is glad that work starts within I AM. It is a good indication that industry actors believe in "stronger together". We hope that EU institutions will be receptive to industry priorities and will encourage cooperation within the logistics chain"* says Ms. Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid, Secretary General of FEPORT.

*"This is particularly important for a number of industries which are getting rid of the "silo thinking" and engaging in "change management" to face the current economic, environmental and social challenges. All actors of the supply chain and logistics sector deserve the support of EU institutions. Time has come for a positive impetus through inclusive European policy-making"* concludes FEPORT Secretary General.

## 21.03.2017 – ECG 20th anniversary, Brussels



On March 21st, FEPORT has been invited to join several hundred guests for the celebration of ECG's 20th Anniversary at Autoworld Museum in Brussels.

The event was attended by Commissioner for Transport Violeta Bulc who delivered a speech. Mr. Wolfgang Göbel, ECG President and Mr. Erik Jonnaert, Secretary-General of ACEA also evoked the long lasting fruitful cooperation between ECG's and ACEA's members.

## 23-24.03.2017 – Regional Transport Investment Conference in Sofia



On March 23rd and 24th, the European Commission (INEA) has organized a Regional Transport Investment Conference in Sofia (Bulgaria) to discuss new initiatives aiming at boosting infrastructure financing in Europe and facilitating the transition into an efficient, safe and sustainable mobility.

The Conference has brought together High level representatives from the EU Commission including Transport Commissioner Violeta Bulc, Ministers and high level personalities involved in transport financing and planning from the EU Cohesion Member

States, the Western Balkans and Eastern Partnership countries, the European Investment Bank, the International Financial Institutions, European TEN-T Coordinators, project promoters, investors and national promotional Banks.

The Conference, which was attended by FEPORT members, was an opportunity to present innovative financing mechanisms of the Investment Plan for Europe such as the Cleaner Transport Facility and €1 billion from the Connecting Europe Facility available for blending with funds of the European Investment Bank or other private sector financing.

## 28.03.2017 - High Level Ministerial Stakeholder Conference, La Valletta, Malta



MALTA EU2017

Following the High Level Ministerial Stakeholder Conference organized in Malta on 28th March 2017 by the Maltese Presidency,

EU Transport Ministers have adopted a declaration “**Valletta Ministerial Declaration**” expressing the common vision of Member States about the priorities for the EU maritime transport policy until 2020.

FEPORT welcomes the inclusive approach of the Transport Ministers who have reaffirmed their support to a policy enhancing the competitiveness of maritime industries, including ports, while ensuring that those interdependent sectors have the means to remain a world class maritime cluster.

All industries embracing the era of digitalization deserve support to overcome obstacles in relation to data sharing, cross border cooperation and EU wide recognition of e-transport documents.

EU funding should also be accessible to all maritime stakeholders, including port operators, who are engaged in greening their businesses and the decrease of emissions resulting from their activities.

*“Valletta Ministerial Declaration” includes the main terms of reference of what should be our main priority areas in the coming years and refers to crucial objectives such as the necessity to support the long term competitiveness of European industries towards a growing non EU competition” says Ms. Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid, Secretary General of FEPORT.*

*“Competition is fierce and “glocal”\* in the case of port stakeholders, and the only way to remain competitive is to have good port infrastructure and an efficient connectivity into the hinterland to offer the best logistics services in the world. We hope that the European Commission who is currently finalizing the last version of the GBER will adopt a text that will bring real legal certainty and facilitate the development of EU’s transport infrastructure. It is essential to clarify a number of provisions that, if not done, may jeopardize and slow down the construction and maintenance of highways, railways and waterways” continues FEPORT Secretary General.*

*“Last but not least, we can’t but agree with the content of the ministerial declaration regarding the need to boost the creation of multimodal transport corridors and all initiatives which aims at facilitating the circulation of information between the different parties of the logistics chain” concludes Ms. Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid.*

---

\* Competition is both global (with non EU ports) and local/regional (EU inter port competition).

## EVENTS SUPPORTED BY FEPORT

### 28-30.03.2017 – STOCEXPO EUROPE 2017, Rotterdam



StocExpo (Storage Terminal Operators Conference & Exhibition) took place last March 28th-30th in Rotterdam. StockExpo is the leading international conference and exhibition for companies linked to the oil, chemistry and gas storage sector.

The conference attracts terminal operators from many countries allowing them to debate issues concerning terminal operations as well as the latest advances in technology.

The concurrent exhibition will be an excellent opportunity for equipment & service suppliers to display their products to decision makers in this sector.

### 19-20.04.2017 – Second Annual Terminal Automation & Training C-Level Networking Conference, London, UK



Industry-leading port industry resource for news and technical content follows up success of 2016 event.

Hosted by Port Technology and held in London at the Grange City Hotel, London, UK on April 19-20th, 2017, [the Terminal Automation & Training C-Level Networking Conference 2017](#) will bring thought leaders in the automation and training sectors of the port industry to debate, challenge and articulate their ideas. As with last year's conference, all sessions will be truly interactive, with audience members able to put their questions to our panel digitally or personally in real time.

This year will carry over the energy of the sessions from 2016, with free debate reigning between delegates and speakers. Using the experience gained from the last edition, 2017 will streamline speaker presentations even more, and in turn maximise audience participation, debate and real-time interactive voting. To find out more and secure your place at this must-attend C-level event, [visit the event's website](#).

### 16.05.2017 – Joint CoR/Maltese Presidency Workshop on: “Regeneration of Port Cities and Port Areas”, Brussels



MALTA EU 2017

As a follow up to the opinion on “Regeneration of Port Cities and Port Areas” led by [Mr. Stanislaw Szwabski](#), Member of Gdynia

City Council, the European Committee of the Regions and the Maltese Presidency have decided to organize a joint workshop about the “**Regeneration of Port Cities and Port Areas**” on May 16th, 2017.

For centuries, ports and their cities developed hand in hand, the port generating prosperity for the city. Relationships between ports and cities have also evolved.

Globalisation and consolidation of the terminal industry, port concentration and the growth of cities have intensified this challenging relationship between ports and urban authorities. Whilst ports can play a role in urban logistics and the smart city concept, the impact of port industrial activities is one of the most sensitive issues in the relationship between ports and cities.

This workshop will include **testimonials from cities, port authorities and terminal operators** on what kind of **challenges and opportunities have to be faced to revitalize port cities and areas**. Representatives of the European Commission will explain how the Union can support these projects from different angles.

Finally, participants will have the opportunity to know more on best practices related to the promotion of ports and cities synergies to achieve integrated territorial development.

This workshop is co-organized in closed cooperation with AIVP, ECSA, EFIP, ESPO and FEPORT whose representatives will enrich the discussion.

Registration will be opened by mid-April. Agenda of the event may be found [here](#).

## 07-08.06.2017 - European Environmental Ports Conference 2017, Antwerp, Belgium



European Environmental Ports Conference 2017 taking place on 7th & 8th June in Antwerp, Belgium will bring together senior representatives from the global port community and shipping companies, as well as environmental policy-makers, academic experts, consultants and technology providers.

Given the increasing focus on environmental regulations from the IMO and policy makers in the maritime sector, there is a growing responsibility and requirement for ports to reduce their environmental impact. It is an important time to share best practices, and explore new technologies and methodologies in order to advance port operations with minimal ecological consequences.

The two-day event will feature informative presentations on the very latest challenges, solutions and developments in reducing emissions, pollution and energy consumption, as well as engaging discussion around the exciting potential of co-operation and symbiosis for a greener future.

To find more details about the event, please go [here](#).

## Coming meetings

<b>Plenary Session of the European Parliament, Strasbourg</b>	<b>03-06.04.2017</b>
LEARN Workshop - Carbon Emissions, Brussels	<b>04-05.04.2017</b>
SFC workshop, Brussels	<b>05-06.04.2017</b>
<b>Transport and Tourism Committee meeting, European Parliament, Brussels</b>	<b>10-11.04.2017</b>
PFI conference, Amsterdam	<b>11-12.04.2017</b>
Second Annual Terminal Automation & Training C-Level Networking Conference, London	<b>19-20.04.2017</b>
GLEC Meeting, Antwerp	<b>25.04.2017</b>
DTLF Plenary meeting, Brussels	<b>26.04.2017</b>
FEPORT Board of Directors meeting, Brussels	<b>27.04.2017</b>
Joint CoR/MT Presidency Workshop on: "Regeneration of Port Cities and Port Areas", Brussels	<b>16.05.2017</b>
<b>Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council meeting, Council of the European Union, Malta</b>	<b>18-19.05.2017</b>
European Environmental Ports Conference 2017, Antwerp	<b>07-08.06.2017</b>
<b>Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council meeting, Council of the European Union, Luxembourg</b>	<b>08-09.06.2017</b>