

European Union Maritime Security Strategy

**RESPONDING TOGETHER  
TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES**

A guide for stakeholders



# MARITIME SECURITY IS VITAL

Maritime security is a shared need for the welfare and prosperity of the EU and the world. The seas nurture growth and render key environmental services. Their security is part of the foundation on which our society is built.

The EU has developed a forward-looking Maritime Security Strategy to protect these sea-related interests. It is based on improving cooperation across borders and sectors to enhance stability, rule of law and good governance across the global maritime domain.

## The importance of responding together

Maritime security links internal security matters to external. Threats are transnational and interconnected by nature, and require smart solutions: no single actor can guarantee maritime security on their own.

Maritime security must be streamlined into all strategic policy areas. An integrated approach and joint response are ideal: they generate a better environment for stability and development, improving both effectiveness and efficiency.

## EU maritime interests

### PREVENTION OF CONFLICTS, PEACE AND RULE OF LAW

**90 %** of international trade is maritime

UN Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)

### PROTECTION OF EU PEOPLE, INFRASTRUCTURES AND ACTIVITIES

**50 %** of the EU population and GDP are in maritime regions

**400 million passengers** pass through EU ports and harbours each year

### CONTROL OF THE EU'S MARITIME EXTERNAL BORDERS

**>90,000** external coastal borders

**20 Mkm<sup>2</sup> EEZs** (world's largest)

### ENSURING GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS, SAFETY AND FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION

**30 %** of world vessels and **> 42 %** of value of seaborne trade are managed by EU ship-owners

**> 80,000** EU fishing vessels worldwide

### SUSTAINABILITY AND PREVENTION OF IUU

**> 15 %** of global catches are plundered by pirate fishing

**€46-94 bn** in economic benefit lost from global fisheries due to mismanagement (2012)

## Transnational maritime threats



### TERRITORIAL DISPUTES AND ARMED CONFLICTS

**€4.74** trillion/yr maritime trade affected by disputes in South China Sea



### PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS

**+497%** explosive-precursor liquid chemicals seized in international customs (2011-14)



### PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY

**1690** actual and attempted armed attacks at sea 2010-2014



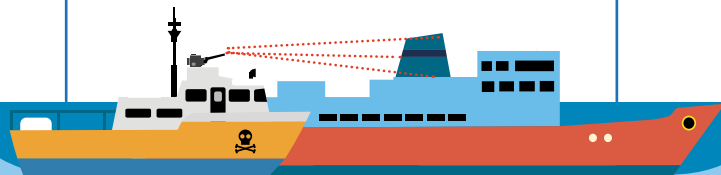
### NATURAL DISASTERS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**50** cm sea-level rise expected by 2100



### POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

**€11.6** billion/yr damage to marine ecosystems from plastic waste



### TERRORISM AND OTHER INTENTIONAL UNLAWFUL ACTS

**201** completed, failed and foiled terrorist attacks in the EU in 2014



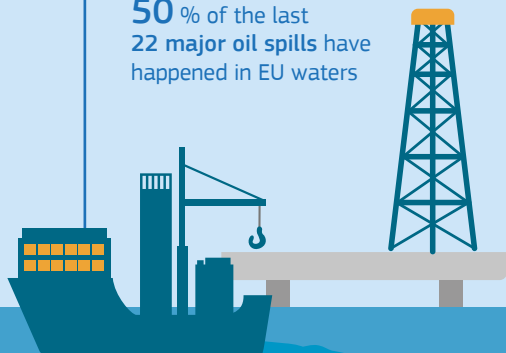
### ORGANISED CRIME AND TRAFFICKING

**€1.9** trillion/yr estimated value of organised crime activities



### CONDITIONS THAT WEAKEN THE POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH

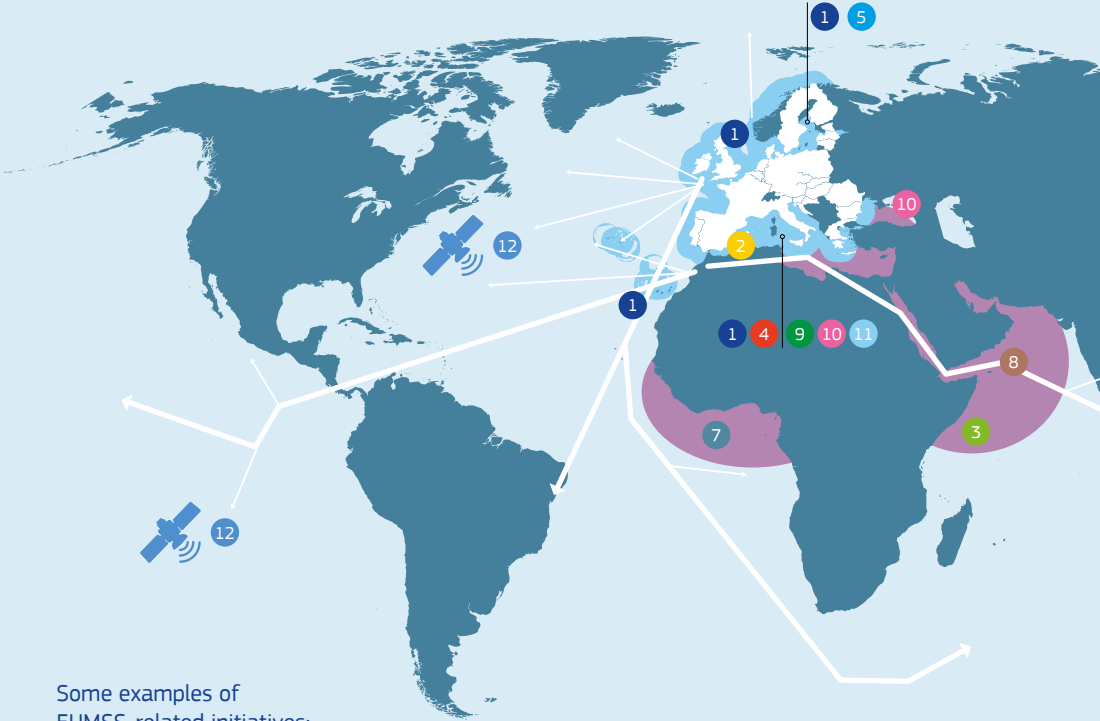
**50** % of the last 22 major oil spills have happened in EU waters



# UNION BUILDS STRENGTH

The EUMSS is a common venture for all EU and Member States' civil and military authorities. It calls all stakeholders to engage and equip the EU with critical capacity, providing a common framework to ensure coherent development and joint response.

In order to fulfil its goals more sustainably, the EUMSS promotes multilateral cooperation with international forums, regional organisations and 3<sup>rd</sup> countries.



Some examples of EUMSS-related initiatives:

- 1EFCA Joint Deployment plans
  - 2European Patrol Network, EPN, led by Frontex
  - 3EUNAVFOR Operation Atalanta and EUCAP NESTOR
  - 4EUNAVFOR Sophia
  - 5The Baltic Sea Maritime Incident Response project (BSMIR)

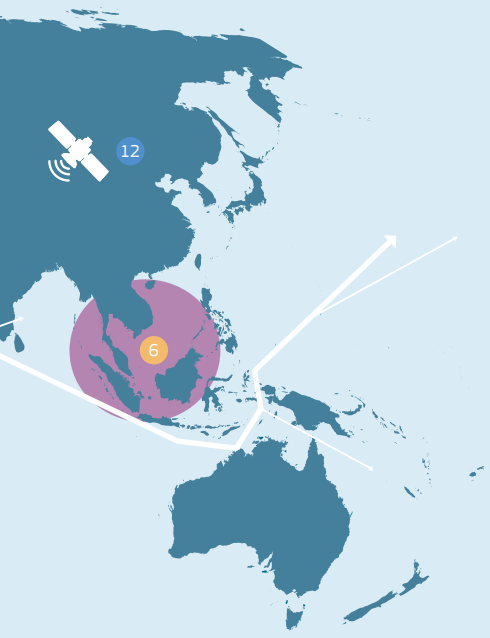
- 6ReCAAP (Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia)
  - 7The Critical Maritime Routes in the Gulf of Guinea Programme (CRIMGO)
  - 8EU MARSIC and EU CRIMARIO
  - 9Operation Triton led by FRONTEX
  - 10PERSEUS FP7 project

## TIME FOR ACTION

To promote a rapid implementation of the EUMSS, an Action Plan lists **130 actions for immediate advance**, with periodic reports provided by the Member States, the European Commission and agencies. An initial objective is the identification and sharing of best practices across the EU.


### Four core principles

- 1 A cross-sectoral approach**  
To improve coordination and deal with challenges from their deep roots to their complex and interconnected expressions, linking their internal and external dimensions and bringing together all relevant actors across military and civilian authorities.
- 2 Functional integrity**  
To build on existing mandates, responsibilities and competences, without changes or additions, focusing on what can be better achieved by working together.
- 3 Maritime multilateralism**  
To promote better cooperation with international organisations, 3<sup>rd</sup> countries and private stakeholders, adopting a coherent and single voice.
- 4 Respect for rules and principles**  
For stability and a better environment based on shared, transparent and rule-based good governance, enshrining UNCLOS and human rights.



11    CLOSEYE FP7 project

12    Copernicus Earth monitoring system

 High Risk Areas

# FIVE KEY AREAS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION



## External action

The EUMSS is a truly comprehensive strategy. The success of EUNAVFOR Operation Atalanta, complemented with sustained and comprehensive initiatives at regional level, has demonstrated the value of international cooperation to fight insecurity and improve the living conditions in High Risk Areas.

Adopt a <b>COORDINATED APPROACH</b> towards international relations	Enhance <b>EU VISIBILITY</b> in the global maritime domain	Strengthen and support <b>EU REGIONAL RESPONSES</b>
Support <b>CAPACITY BUILDING</b> in 3 <sup>rd</sup> countries and regional organisations	Reinforce <b>EU PREPAREDNESS</b> for future contingencies	Promote <b>UNCLOS</b> dispute-settling mechanisms



## Maritime awareness, surveillance and information sharing

Timely and accurate information are crucial. Inefficient cooperation leads to duplicated efforts and fragmented awareness. Sharing information on a “need to know, responsibility to share” basis will benefit all. Building on existing systems from national and EU level, the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) aims to provide all authorities with the information they need, connecting:

 <b>Defence</b> MARSUR (EDA)	 <b>Law enforcement</b> SIENA (EUROPOL)	 <b>Customs</b> E-Customs (MS and TAXUD)	 <b>Borders</b> EUROSUR(FRONTEX)
 <b>Maritime transport</b> SafeSeaNet and IMDatE (EMSA)	 <b>Fisheries</b> VMS and FLUX (EFCA)	 <b>Environment</b> CECIS (ECHO)	 <b>Earth observation</b> Copernicus (EC and ESA)

- Further implement CISE
- Improve cross-border cooperation and information exchange
- Ensure adequate coordination of EU maritime surveillance activities



## Capability development and capacity building

Available capabilities must match the scale, complexity and potential impact of maritime risks. Pooling and sharing is the solution for the EU as a whole, in an efficient, sustainable and united way.

The improved capacity responsiveness against terrorism as developed by the ATLAS Network of special police from Member States is an inspiring example of capacity building.

- Define key capability areas and technologies
- Explore dual-use and multipurpose capabilities
- Increase sharing of best practices, risk analysis and threat information



## Risk management, protection of critical maritime infrastructure and crisis response

Prevention is the foundation of protection. A higher degree of preparation, anticipation and responsiveness can be achieved if all actors adopt the duty of sincere cooperation, assessing risk and resilience to develop precautionary measures, common risk management procedures and joint contingency plans.

The Common Integrated Risk Analysis Model developed by Frontex, is a good example of how to achieve faster identification and responses.

- Conduct common risk analyses
- Enhance cross-sectoral and cross-border cooperation for crisis response and contingency planning
- Assess the resilience of infrastructures to man-made, natural disasters and climate change
- Promote mutual understanding and interoperability



## Maritime security research and innovation, education and training

Research and innovation can help reduce situations leading to conflicts and maritime crime. The EU's FP7 and H2020 programmes have already yielded extensive results, ready for policy and market uptake. Common training modules and joint operations improve the knowledge and skills of maritime security professionals, as does capacity building in partner countries.

A good example is the European Coast Guard Functions Academy Network (ECGFA NET) and the core training curricula developed by EFCA and FRONTEX.

- Bring together available training courses into Common Maritime Training Modules
- Establish a civil-military agenda for research and innovation
- Engage in inter-agency joint exercises

## Making it a reality

Improving EU maritime security cooperation is an enormous, yet vitally important undertaking. This is a long-term process, and involves many and diverse partners at all levels. For the EUMSS to work, the thorough commitment of authorities and individuals is necessary. This will play an invaluable service to people, businesses and ecosystems.

Mainstreaming maritime security into all areas of action is crucial for turning the EUMSS objectives into achievements. If your work is related to maritime security, or you deal with issues affected by it, there is certainly some insight you can use, some project you could participate in, some goal you could help to achieve.

You can learn more by contacting your sectoral or local authority, or by consulting the European Commission's website (Maritime and Fisheries section).



### Links

DG MARE Maritime Security

[http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/maritime-security/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/maritime-security/index_en.htm)

EEAS Maritime Security

[http://eeas.europa.eu/maritime\\_security/](http://eeas.europa.eu/maritime_security/)

Maritime Forum "Implementing the EUMSS Action Plan"

### References

EU Maritime Security Strategy JOIN/2014/09

EUMSS Action Plan, European Council doc. 15658/14

UNCLOS 10/12/1982

