



ONLINE

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STANDARDS

# Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 and Case Law SYMPOSIUM

29 – 30 June 2022

## Information Note

## BACKGROUND

Working and living conditions of seafarers have always been of special concern to the ILO.

In February 2006, the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC,2006) was adopted by government, employer and worker representatives at a special ILO International Labour Conference. It is the consolidation of a number of ILO conventions and recommendations and novel provisions and enforcement mechanisms. As of April 2022, the MLC,2006 had been ratified by 101 countries representing over 96.6 per cent of the world's gross tonnage. This instrument was adopted to provide international standards for the world's first global industry. Widely known as the "seafarers' bill of rights" it is unique in its effect on both seafarers and quality ship owners. It was designed to be applicable at global level, easy to understand, updatable and enforced. The MLC is the "fourth pillar" of the international regulatory regime for quality shipping, complementing the key Conventions of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). It also contains important compliance and enforcement components based on flag State inspection and for port State control.

Despite the MLC, 2006 considerable ratification and, positive impact on decent work, seafarers continue to encounter substantial challenges to ensure the protection of their labour rights. In the context of the Covid 19 pandemic, apart from cases of non-payment of wages, poor provisions for food and catering, denial of right to repatriation and abandonment, other critical issues are affecting the working and living conditions of seafarers, such as: crew changes, denied access to medical facilities, chronic cases of fatigue, social isolation and mental health issues.

More than ever before, seafarers are seeking advice from lawyers and adequate legal assistance in the event of labour disputes.

Seafarers' rights is a complex area since labour rights can exist at different levels (Flag State law, Port State law) and they can be overlapping. The work of the ILO supervisory bodies and the MLC, 2006 Special Tripartite Committee can provide valuable inputs for a comparative analysis of these implications in different areas of the world.

The exchange of experiences and the mutual learning between, lawyers and legal practitioners from different countries on MLC, 2006 contribution in safeguarding seafarers labour rights and guiding the future decisions represent a source of inspiration at national level for strengthening the crucial judicial role in a changing world of work.

## WHO IS THE TARGET AUDIENCE?

Lawyers, legal practitioners and academics.

## OBJECTIVE AND CONTENTS OF THE EVENT

The workshop aims to provide a good understanding of the MLC, 2006, its provisions and amendments, and a peer review of labour dispute jurisprudence on key issues such as, working conditions, health and safety, recruitment and placement, discrimination, grievances and complaints procedures.

Drawing on the guidance of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, the Symposium opens a dialogue focusing on issues arising in the context of labour disputes involving seafarers and facilitates a comparative analysis of current case law at national level.

In addition, the event aims to support an international debate among practitioners and labour law practitioners on the effective implementation of the MLC 2006 in a challenging context related to the preservation of minimum rights and protections for all workers in the maritime industry.

## WHAT WILL I GAIN FROM THE EVENT?

The event intends to facilitate an international debate amongst labour law professionals and practitioners on the guiding role and effective implementation of the MLC, 2006 in a fragmented and challenging context related to the safeguard of minimum rights and protections for all seafarers.

## WHAT TOPICS DOES THIS EVENT COVER?

During the two-day event participants will have the opportunity to update knowledge and share experiences & case studies on the following topics:

- Recent comparative studies at international level on the challenges in the maritime industry;
- Effective implementation of the MLC,2006 ;
- Analysis of Case Law;
- Comparative analysis of the trends worldwide.

## HOW IS THE EVENT ORGANIZED?

The programme is designed to engage participants in immersive debate to discuss the tough challenges. The programme will be interactive and participatory and will be structured as follows:

- Live webinars on the above mentioned topics with the involvement of International experts ,
- interactive discussions on case studies,
- Presentation of key findings.

The online knowledge-sharing event is structured in two main components:

- 1. Asynchronous phase:** in the ECampus dedicated to the Symposium participants will have the opportunity to consult and share the following resources :
  - Virtual library,
  - Results of thematic discussions,

- Collection of case studies and practices.
- 2. Synchronous phase:** during n. 2 live webinars participants will be actively involved in thematic review, peer-to-peer learning, - discussions in plenary sessions.

## WHO ARE THE RESOURCE PERSONS?

The online discussion will offer a well-structured update on technical issues and an interactive platform facilitated by international experts.

## WHAT IS THE LANGUAGE OF THE EVENT?

The course is offered in English. A good command of the working language is required.

## HOW MUCH DOES THE EVENT COST?

The tuition fee for the course is 200 Euros.

## ARE THERE ANY FELLOWSHIPS?

A limited number of fellowships are available to qualified candidates coming from eligible countries.

As an Organization dedicated to promoting social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights, the ILO is taking a leading role in international efforts to foster gender equality. In line with this ILO focus, women are particularly encouraged to apply to ITCILO courses.

## WITHDRAWAL, CANCELLATION POLICY, AND REFUNDS FOR OPEN COURSES

If an enrolled participant wishes or must withdraw from a course, they may choose to apply to a different course or be substituted by another candidate. The participant must notify the Centre, in writing, of their decision at least 14 days prior to the start date of the course. Cancellation of participation in regular courses will result in the following penalties:

- 14 days or more prior to the start date of the course: No penalty, 100% refund of amount paid less applicable bank charges
- 8 to 13 days prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 50% of course price, refund of residual amount paid (if any) less applicable bank charges
- 7 days or less prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 100% of course price.

## INFO

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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