

12th International Maritime Congress, 13-14 May 2026

13 May 2026

Venue	Teatr Polski, ul. Swarozycza 5, Szczecin, Poland (entrance from Jana z Kolna Street, lower entrance)
08:30 – 09:30	Registration
9:30 :00 – 11:30	<p>Official Opening Opening address Plenary Session I</p> <p>Striking the right balance in European shipping: IMO and EU regulations, seafarers' social protection, and the strategic importance of the national flag</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) as the cornerstone of social security in shipping</i> • <i>The national flag as an instrument of strategic state autonomy</i> • <i>European ship registers as a driver of EU competitiveness</i> • <i>European shipowners' competitiveness</i> • <i>International Maritime Organisation and the European Union</i> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Dominik Landa, Dominik Landa Consulting <u>Keynote Speaker:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thomas Kazakos, Secretary General, International Chamber of Shipping <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Claudia Vella Casagrande, Secretary General, Malta International Shipowners' Association 2. Francesco Gargiulo, CEO, International Maritime Employers' Council Ltd 3. Thomas Kazakos, Secretary General, International Chamber of Shipping 4. Mikki Koskinen, President, European Shipowners ECSA 5. Marcin Talwik, Secretary General, Polish Shipowners' Association / President of the Management Board, Żegluga Polska S.A.
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 13:30	<p>Plenary Session II</p> <p>Safe and secure Baltic Sea: critical infrastructure, defence, and the resilience of the maritime economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Baltic Sea as strategic theatre: new threats, new responsibilities, and a new dimension of maritime security</i> • <i>Seaports: the state's strategic and defence perspective</i> • <i>The Green transition as a growth opportunity: industrial upgrading, research and innovation in the new maritime economy</i> • <i>Ports and shipping amid ongoing volatility: how to maintain operation and competitiveness in the Baltic Sea Region?</i> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Joanna Krassowska-Piątkowska, Coordinator of the NATO Transport Group (TG), Crisis Management Office, Ministry of Infrastructure <u>Keynote Speakers:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Łukasz Winny, Department of European Union External Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2. Col. Maciej Konopa, Head of Transport and HNS Division, Logistics Directorate (P4), General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces 3. Tero Jokilehto, Chair of the NATO Inland Transport Group (NATO TG IST) <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brig. Gen. (ret.) Dr. Mieczysław Bieniek 2. Tero Jokilehto, Chair of the NATO Inland Transport Group (NATO TG IST) 3. Col. Maciej Konopa, Head of Transport and HNS Division, Logistics Directorate (P4), General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces 4. Łukasz Winny, Department of European Union External Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 5. Wojciech Zdanowicz, Director of the Maritime Office in Szczecin

13:30 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 16:00	<p>Plenary Session III:</p> <p>Supply chains in a turbulent world: opportunities, risks, and challenges ahead to 2030+</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>How global geopolitical, economic and strategic pressures are shaping international transport corridors</i> 2. <i>Supply chain stability: do today's conditions still allow for effective planning and delivery?</i> 3. <i>The role of ports in shortening supply chains</i> 4. <i>The importance of the smart port concept and the deployment of autonomous maritime and inland waterway transport to strengthen supply-chain operational resilience</i> 5. <i>Integrating transport modes to ensure efficient flow across supply chains</i> 6. <i>West Pomerania's competitiveness in the context of supply-chain resilience to an increasingly volatile operating environment</i> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Prof. Stanisław Iwan, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Economics of Transport, Maritime University of Szczecin</p> <p><u>Keynote Speaker:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tim Power, Managing Director, Drewry <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Andrzej Bułka, President of the Management Board, Fracht FWO Polska Sp. z o.o. 2. Dariusz Dorskocz, CEO, Polish Steamship Company 3. Łukasz Januszewski, Vice President of the Management Board, Pekao Bank S.A. 4. Adam Mrozicki, Director of the Corporate Logistics Department, Grupa Azoty Zakłady Chemiczne "Police" S.A. 5. Tim Power, Managing Director, Drewry 6. Prof. Jacek Szołtysek, University of Economics in Katowice, Faculty of Management, Department of Social Logistics 7. Prof. Jarosław Witkowski, University of Economics in Wrocław, Faculty of Management, Department of Strategic Management and Logistics 8. Jacek Wiśniewski, President of the Management Board, Euroafrica Shipping Lines Ltd. CEO Hass Holding Ltd.
20:00	Evening performance and gala dinner <i>(for all congress participants)</i>

14 May 2026

Venue	Radisson Hotel, Szczecin, Poland			
8:00 – 15:00	Registration			
	Section I Shipping and ports	Section II Security	Section III Maritime industry	Section IV Ports' intermodal hinterland infrastructure
9:00 – 10:30	<p>MARITIME SHIPOWNERS' OPERATION IN A VOLATILE ENVIRONMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Developments on freight markets</i> • <i>The impact of armed conflicts and state protectionism on shipping</i> • <i>The impact of environmental requirements on the competitive position of maritime shipping companies</i> • <i>Maritime education and training for today's shipping industry</i> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Dr. Eng. Agnieszka Deja, Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Maritime University of Szczecin</p> <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p>	<p>THE SYNERGY BETWEEN SEAPORT DEVELOPMENT AND ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE AS A KEY PILLAR OF THE REGION'S GEOPOLITICAL STABILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Seaports as a foundation for economic growth and a strategic component of national security</i> • <i>The pivotal role of access infrastructure in advancing international trade, energy security, and supply-chain resilience</i> • <i>critical infrastructure security: the role of local and regional authorities</i> • <i>Importance for military mobility and crisis response amid geopolitical tensions</i> • <i>Integrating ports with secure inland connections as part of NATO and EU critical infrastructure</i> 	<p>Signing of the production contract for the bow section of the Polish Navy's maritime rescue vessel "Ratownik"</p> <p><i>Participants: President of the Naval Shipyard, Mr Marcin Ryngwelski, President of Szczecin Shipyard Wulkan, Mr Radosław Kowalczyk, Deputy Minister of Infrastructure, Mr Arkadiusz Marchewka</i></p> <p>EUROPE'S SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY AND MARKET CHALLENGES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Market and technological expectations in shipping and offshore, and their impact on the scale and scope of Europe's shipbuilding, including in Poland,</i> 	<p>INLAND WATERWAY TRANSPORT: OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS – INFRASTRUCTURE, FLEET CAPACITY, AND INVESTMENT NEEDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Modernisation of the Oder waterway: plans or a fully-fledged strategy? Development southward and westward</i> • <i>Progress on the German side – the border stretch of Oder, the Oder-Havel Canal, and the Niederfinow boat lift</i> • <i>Building shared understanding of inland navigation's important on both sides of the Oder: practical forms of good-neighbour cooperation</i> • <i>The Oder's economic significance for the river regions on both banks</i>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rafał Czyżyk, Legal Counsel, CMW Legal Port of Szczecin Stakeholders Council 2. Prof. Marek Grzybowski – President, Baltic Maritime and Space Cluster 3. Tomasz Pietruszewski , Director of Fleet Operations Division, Polish Steamship Company 4. Piotr Redmerski, President of the Management Board, Polish Baltic Shipping Company SA 5. Arkadiusz Wójcik, President of the Management Board, Unibaltic Sp.z o.o. 	<p><u>Moderator:</u> Sandra Baniak-Stachowiak, Senior Specialist, Centre for Eastern Studies</p> <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Piotr Gorzeński, President of the Management Board, Port of Gdynia Authority SA 2. Cezary Klimont, President of the Management Board, PKP Cargo Terminale Sp. z o.o. 3. Arkadiusz Mazepa, Deputy Mayor of Świnoujście 4. Michał Przepiera, Deputy Mayor of Szczecin 5. Dariusz Stefański, President of the Management Board, PCC Intermodal 6. Wojciech Szymulewicz, President of the Management Board , BCT – Bałtycki Terminal Kontenerowy Sp. z o.o. 7. Representative, Port of Gdańsk Authority SA (tba) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Development scenarios for the shipbuilding and offshore industry in Europe, including in Poland – drivers of growth and factors contributing to stagnation,</i> • <i>Autonomous maritime platforms, including drones, as an emerging field for shipbuilding in Europe.</i> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Mateusz Kowalewski, President of the Management Board, Maritime Economy Employers’ Forum</p> <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Radosław Kowalczyk, President of the Management Board, Szczecin Shipyard Wulkan Sp. z o.o. 2. Monika Kozakiewicz, President of the Management Board, Remontowa Shipyard Nauta S.A. 3. Przemysław Mańkowski, President of the Management Board, Net Marine Group 4. Daniel Okrucieński, President of the Management Board of CRIST Offshore, Business Development Director, CRIST SA 5. Marcin Ryngwelski, President of the Management Board, PGZ Naval Shipyard in Gdynia 6. Radosław Sochanowski, Managing Director, Kongsberg Maritime Poland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Oder in TEN-T: do we need it? Prospects and implications</i> • <i>12.5 metre draught and barges: how larger cargo volumes depend on the right barge capacity</i> • <i>Inland fleet management from the perspective of ports and public administration</i> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Monika Niemiec-Butryn, Deputy Director, Department of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation, Ministry of Infrastructure</p> <p><u>Keynote Speakers:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Michał Durka, Director, Polish Waters, Regional Water Management Authority in Szczecin 2. Eng. Steffen Zasada, Federal Waterways and Shipping Administration (WSV) <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rolf Dietrich, Head of WNA Berlin 2. Piotr Durajczyk, Director, Inland Navigation Office in Szczecin 3. Michał Durka, Director, Polish Waters, Regional Water Management Authority in Szczecin 4. Jacek Galiszkiwicz, President of the Management Board, Navigar Trans Sp. z o.o. 5. Martin Panasewicz, President, Rhenus PartnerShip Berlin GmbH 6. Steffen Zasada, WSA Oder-Havel
10:30 – 10:50	Coffee break			
10:50 – 12:20	<p>RAPID CHANGES IN THE SEAPORT ENVIRONMENT: IS IT TIME FOR NEW STRATEGIES?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Volatility as a permanent feature of the port environment: geopolitics, the war in Ukraine, and US policy</i> • <i>EU policy: the EU seaports strategy and military mobility package</i> • <i>Polish ports and today’s macro-level challenges: do we need new port strategies?</i> • <i>Port operators: global strategies versus local development plans</i> 	<p>SECURING CRITICAL RESOURCES IN THE UNCERTAIN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Securing the supply of critical resources in the global uncertain environment</i> • <i>How geopolitics and market volatility affect the availability of critical raw materials</i> • <i>Managing the risks of energy and raw material supply crises</i> • <i>Supply chain management and risk mitigation</i> • <i>Diversifying supply sources and routes</i> • <i>The role of stockpiling and strategic reserves</i> 	<p>OFFSHORE WIND INDUSTRY: EUROPE AND POLAND AS A HUB FOR MANUFACTURING, TRANSPORT, AND LOGISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Net Zero Industry Act as part of EU policy to increase European/local content in offshore wind supply chains,</i> • <i>Key drivers for developing manufacturing within offshore wind supply chains in Europe, including Poland,</i> • <i>Manufacturing, transport, and logistics for the construction and operation of offshore wind farms, including the role of seaports in both construction and O&M stages.</i> 	<p>CALM WATERS AND HIGH-SPEED RAILWAY: TWO FORCES POWERING INTERMODAL LOGISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>CE-59 “The Oder Railway Line”, the Szczecin-Berlin line and the northern rail bypass: what can be delivered before the Świnoujście container terminal is built?</i> • <i>The proximity and interdependence of inland shipping and rail: what links fast rail with slow inland navigation?</i> • <i>Fleet and information management and its impact on timely delivery</i> • <i>Modern approach and the future of ferry shipping in connection with rail-based intermodal transport</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financing port development: port budgets, Private Public Partnerships, and the EU 2028-2034 financial perspective <p><u>Moderator:</u> Bogdan Ołdakowski, Secretary General, Baltic Ports Organisation</p> <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> dr hab. inż. Ludmiła Filina-Dawidowicz, prof. of West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin Maciej Grabowicz, Chief Operating Officer, Alfa Terminal Szczecin Sp. z o.o. Adam Hoppe, Director of Strategy and Market Analysis Office, Port of Gdynia Authority SA Marcin Kamola, Senior Commercial Manager, Baltic Hub Gdańsk Piotr Krahel, Head of Strategy and Port Development Office, Szczecin and Świnoujście Seaports Authority SA Daniel Saar, President of the Management Board, DB Port Szczecin Sp. z o.o. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International cooperation as a pillar of raw materials security <p><u>Moderator:</u> Rafał Machowiak, Secretary General, Polish Chamber of Maritime Economy</p> <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Betke, President of the Management Board, Naftoport Sp. z o.o. Michał Drzazga, Head of Dębogórze Department / Fuel Base No. 21 Coordinator, PERN Adam Czarnul, President of the Management Board, Bulk Cargo Ports Szczecin Sp. z o.o. Mateusz Herbot, Head of Marine Fuels Department, Polish Steamship Company Ewelina Ziajka, Strategy and Market Analysis Office, Port of Gdynia Authority SA 	<p><u>Moderator:</u> Attorney at Law Patryk Zbroja, Wind & Water Legal Zbroja Law Firm</p> <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Janusz Bil, President of Board, Orlen Neptun Sp. z o.o. Jakub Budzyński, President, Polish Offshore Wind Energy Chamber Janusz Gajowiecki, President, Polish Wind Energy Association Daniel Kisała, President of the Management Board, Wind Offshore Cluster President, Slipform Sp. z o.o. Grzegorz Pettke, President of the Management Board, Polish Register of Shipping S.A. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The fundamental importance of rail for seaport development: why do we need to ensure long-term operation and rapid deployment? The network linking rail with water transport: rail and shipping, including ferry, ro-ro and container services <p><u>Moderator:</u> Rafał Zahorski, Plenipotentiary for Port Development, Szczecin and Świnoujście Seaports Authority S.A.</p> <p><u>Keynote Speaker:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rafał Banaszekiewicz, Director and Proxy for Investment Preparation, PKP Polskie Linie Kolejowe S.A. Łukasz Lendner, Director of the GDDKiA Szczecin Branch, General Directorate of National Roads and Motorways (concluding speech) <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rafał Banaszekiewicz, PKP Polskie Linie Kolejowe S.A. Tomasz Górnikiewicz, Key Account Manager, TT-Line Polska Sp. z o.o. Jan Jarmakowski, Managing Director, Hutchison Ports Gdynia GCT Sp. z o.o. Jakub Lasota, Member of Board, POLSCA SA Paweł Moder, Country Manager Logistics, DFDS Polska Sp. z o.o. Capt. Józef Węgrzyn
12:20 – 12:40	Coffee break			
12:40 – 14:10	<p>INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION DELIVERS TANGIBLE RESULTS FOR THE MARITIME INDUSTRY</p> <p><i>Cooperative projects that reflect the specific nature of maritime borders and sea-basin cooperation often extend well beyond a traditional understanding of the blue economy. As a result, they contribute to broader socio-economic development – not only in coastal areas but also inland.</i></p> <p><i>This session will present examples of major blue-economy projects in which partners work across borders to promote sustainable use of ocean, sea and coastal resources, support UN-led global initiatives, and drive the transformation of maritime-related sectors. These projects aim to strengthen the maritime sector's resilience to climate change and to stimulate innovation.</i></p>	<p>GLOBAL SHIPPING UNDER GEOPOLITICAL PRESSURE: THE VIEW FROM SHIPOWNERS, PORTS, AND TERMINALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of geopolitical tensions on global shipping and supply chains How shipowners, ports and terminal operators assess today's market-related challenges Operational consequences of international conflicts and sanctions for the maritime sector Shifts in trade routes and their impact on port competitiveness Growing security risks in maritime transport How geopolitical uncertainty affects infrastructure investment 	<p>OFFSHORE BEGINS AND ENDS ON LAND: SEAPORTS AS OFFSHORE PORTALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of seaports and their immediate hinterland in the offshore industry, Seaports' experience in developing manufacturing, transport, and logistics for offshore operations, Development scenarios for the offshore support potential of European ports, Trends in locating offshore manufacturing and distribution centres in seaports and port-city regions <p><u>Moderator & Keynote Speaker:</u> Dr. Eng. Andrzej Montwiłł, President, West Pomeranian Maritime Cluster Plenipotentiary of the Marshal for RES</p>	<p>FISCAL COMPETITIVENESS AND BORDER-CONTROL AMONG SEAPORTS: A COMPARATIVE VIEW OF POLAND AND SELECTED EU MEMBER STATES</p> <p><i>The aim of the session is to present, from a practical perspective, the challenges faced by the Polish importers and reasons why cargo clearance is still often carried out outside Poland. Goods are then brought into Poland by road or via intermodal rail, bypassing Polish ports and, in customs terms, the Polish budget. Decision-making by cargo owners and customers: clearing goods in Poland or another EU Member State?</i></p> <p><u>Moderator & Keynote Speaker:</u> Sandra Baniak-Stachowiak, Senior Specialist, Centre for Eastern Studies</p> <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p>

	<p><u>Moderator:</u> Krzysztof Żarna, Head of Development Projects Office, Marshal's Office of the West Pomeranian Voivodeship</p> <p><u>Keynote Speaker:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Mustafa Taner Albayrak, Maritime Business Management Department, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Piri Reis University SUDEMAR – Sustainable Development of the European Maritime Sector <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Stefan Gewies, German Aerospace Center (DLR), Institute of Communications and Navigation 2. Dr. Monika Klein, Professor, Berlin School of Business and Innovation Head of European Projects 3. Prof. Maciej Matczak, Gdynia Maritime University, DeColnter Project 4. mgr Magdalena Matczak, Uniwersytet Morski Gdynia, SEABAS Project 5. Heidi Tuominen, Turku University of Applied Sciences (tbc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Adaptation strategies and building operational resilience</i> • <i>The importance of maritime-sector cooperation in rapidly changing global environment</i> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Sebastian Wróbel, President of the Management Board, FreightTech.org</p> <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Michał Czubko, Chartering Broker, Polish Steamship Company 2. Adam Hoppe, Director of Strategy and Market Analysis Office, Port of Gdynia Authority S.A. 3. Jan Jarmakowski, Managing Director, Hutchison Ports Gdynia GCT Sp. z o.o. 4. Rafał Kwapisz, Managing Director, Finnlines Polska Sp. z o.o. 5. Rafał Pilch, General Manager, Ellerman City Liners 6. Representative, Port of Gdańsk Authority S.A. (tba) 	<p>and Hydrogen Assistant Professor, Maritime University of Szczecin</p> <p><u>Panel Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Michał Gronert, Offshore Business Lead, DNV 2. Artur Lijewski, President of the Management Board, Kołobrzeg Seaport Authority Sp. z o.o. 3. Arkadiusz Ryż, Managing Director, Fairplay Towage Polska Sp. z o.o. 4. Michał Śmigielski, President of the Management Board, Morska Agencja Gdynia Sp. z o.o. 5. Dominika Taranko, Vice President & Managing Director, Wind Industry Hub 6. Sebastian Wionczek, Managing Director, Offshore Terminal Świnoujście (ORLEN Group) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Insp. Ryszard Bednarek, Deputy Head, West Pomeranian Customs and Tax Office 2. Cmdr. Marta Figlak-Lekszycka, Project Manager PUESC.P4.2, Tax Administration Chamber in Szczecin 3. Maciej Kisiel, President of the Management Board, Coldstore Gdańsk 4. Joanna Porath, President of the Management Board, AC Porath 5. Monika Żaboklicka, Port of Szczecin Stakeholders Council Director of Logistics Initiatives, DB Port Szczecin Sp. z o.o. 6. Piotr Żak, Head of Division, Customs Department, Ministry of Finance
14:10 – 15:00	Lunch			