



Last ECSA-boardmeeting of 2025

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The farewell of Thomas Rehder

The last ECSA board meeting of 2024 took place this week. Although the actual meeting was yesterday, the board already got together on Monday for a farewell dinner in honour of Thomas Rehder, board member of the German shipowners' association VDR and former ECSA president.

The KVNR would like to thank Thomas Rehder for his invaluable role in strengthening the maritime sector and promoting cooperation between different stakeholders in the industry.

The following day, the board met again to discuss the industry's current affairs, challenges and opportunities, led by ECSA president Karin Orsel. Partly due to the ambitions of the new European Commission as well as turbulent global developments, many topics were discussed. We will be highlighting three topics

EU-ETS



The EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU-ETS) + has been extended to maritime shipping from 1 January 2024. The board discussed the planned review of EU ETS and how the revenues from the trading system can contribute to the further sustainability of maritime shipping.

Labour market



The board also concluded that more people who want to work on board or ashore will be needed in the maritime sector in the coming years. Here, the board stressed the importance of not losing

sight of the current generation of seafarers. The energy transition requires new knowledge and skills from the workforce. Making the right training courses available and deepen the level of knowledge are essential for the survival of the sector.

European Shipping Summit



The board also looked ahead to the European Shipping Summit which will take place in the new year on the 19th and 20th of March in Brussels. The aim of the Summit is to bring together European stakeholders and shipowners to look together at the challenges and opportunities in the maritime sector.



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Author



Marjolein van Noort

HEAD EU REPRESENTATION

+31 (0)6 2392 4513

noort@kvnv.nl



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