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E-002659/2024

Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas
on behalf of the European Commission
(23.1.2025)

1. The Commission is aware of the French legislation that entered into force in June 2024 (Law No 2023-659) and is in constant communication with the French authorities to discuss legal and practical implications of this legislation for France and other Member States.

2. The Commission recognises the importance of the protection of seafarers' rights. Most of the Maritime Labour Convention¹ has been incorporated in the EU legislation². The EU and its Member States are also actively involved in negotiations on further improving the working and living conditions of seafarers in the context of amendments to the Code of the Maritime Labour Convention.

Moreover, seafarers are covered by several acts of the EU labor legislation which include, among others, protection in the event of insolvency of their employer, and establishment of a general framework for informing and consulting employees in the EU. The Commission is ready to assess ways to further improve working conditions and social protection for seafarers in the EU, also considering the protection of the integrity of the internal market and the competitiveness of the shipping industry. The Commission will hold consultations with maritime administrations of the Member States and stakeholders on the way forward.

¹ https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/%40ed_norm/%40normes/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms_090250.pdf

² *Council Directive 2009/13/EC* of 16 February 2009 implementing the Agreement concluded by the European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA) and the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) on the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, and amending Directive 1999/63/EC (OJ L 124, 20.5.2009, p. 30); *Council Directive (EU) 2018/131* of 23 January 2018 implementing the Agreement concluded by the European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA) and the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) to amend Directive 2009/13/EC in accordance with the amendments of 2014 to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as approved by the International Labour Conference on 11 June 2014 (OJ L 22, 26.1.2018, p. 28); *Directive 2008/94/EC* of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2008 on the protection of employees in the event of the insolvency of their employer (OJ L 283, 28.10.2008, p. 36); *Directive 2002/14/EC* of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2002 establishing a general framework for informing and consulting employees in the European Community (OJ L 80, 23.3.2002, p. 29).