



**MariFuture: European Platform for Maritime Education, Research, and Innovation**

**Foreword**

The European Union has introduced a number of regulations and recommendations aimed at improving port operations and maritime security in its member states. These regulations are based on, and complement, the requirements of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). These are documented in the 'International Management Standards' (ISM), the International Treaty for the Safety of Lives at Sea (SOLAS), the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code (Regulation XI-2/3, 2004 and EU Regulation (EC) 725/2004).

MariFuture has developed a new system for port operations in Europe and intends to form a consortium to take the proposal further. A copy of the proposal summary has been forwarded to DG MOVE and EMSA for their information. The proposal, as well as focusing on port operations, will advocate the importance of effective communication between ships and ports for safe shipping near and within ports to help avoid collisions when ships approach or leave ports. To this end, the new project will be supported by the partnership's EU funded projects viz., SeaTALK and ACTS as well as the on-going MarTEL Project.

It is also encouraging to note that the EU intends to integrate transport networks into what is called the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) through specialized TEN-T funding awarded for specific national or cross-border projects, including Motorways of the Sea projects. Please refer to the January 2014 News to read about the latest developments regarding MariFuture's TEN-T proposals.

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**Introduction**

The following paragraphs report on the progress being made by the MariFuture partners in December 2013 concerning the SeaTALK, ACTs and MarTEL projects.

**SeaTALK (Creation of a Qualification Framework for Effective Communication at Sea)**

The SeaTALK project is progressing well.



## Progress Report

The possibility of an additional meeting with the project development team was discussed with EACEA. The team was informed of the EACEA's approval recently and this meeting is being planned to take place in Istanbul, Turkey.

One novel development is that the MarTEL standards are being linked to the SeaTALK course for the assessment component of the SeaTALK learning outcomes. It is expected that each learning outcome has its own set of performance criteria.

A number of learning materials to support the training modules for each type of seafarer are being developed with input from all partners.

Several dissemination and exploitation activities are being conducted by the partnership across Europe.

More information on the progress of this project is available in January 2014.

### **ACTs (Avoiding Collisions At Sea)**

ACTs project is progressing well.

The partners are working hard to carry out the tasks as assigned in the first partner meeting.

A new project website is being developed and will be launched in March 2014.

A questionnaire identifying the knowledge gaps and deficiencies in the application of Colregs is now ready. If you are a seafarer, teacher, student or expert in the area, we invite you to contribute to our questionnaire which is available at [www.ecolregs.com](http://www.ecolregs.com).

An ACTS workshop will be held in each partner country to validate the results/findings of the questionnaire. The list of the partners that will be hosting an ACTS workshop is as below:

1. **University of Rijeka (UoR)**, Croatia (Contact: Djani Mahovic: [dmohovic@pfri.hr](mailto:dmohovic@pfri.hr))
2. **Piri Reis University (PRU)**, Turkey (Contact: Prof. Dr. Reza Ziarati-[rziarati@pirireis.edu.tr](mailto:rziarati@pirireis.edu.tr))
3. **Centre for Factories of the Future (C4FF)**, United Kingdom (Contact: Mr. Ugurcan Acar [ugurcan.acar@c4ff.co.uk](mailto:ugurcan.acar@c4ff.co.uk))
4. **Nicola Vaptsarov Naval Academy (NVNA)**, Bulgaria, (Nikolai Velikov - [velikovn@yahoo.com](mailto:velikovn@yahoo.com))
5. **Seateach, Spain**, (Contact: Mrs. Silja Teege- [email@sea-teach.com](mailto:email@sea-teach.com))
6. **Spinaker d.o.o. (SPIN)**, Slovenia, (Contact M.sc. Tomaž Gregorič - [tomaz.gregoric@spinaker.si](mailto:tomaz.gregoric@spinaker.si))

If you are an expert in the subject, a master mariner, have experience in teaching Colregs, are a seafarer or a student, please contact the ACTs partners to join our workshops.

The findings of the questionnaire, accident reviews and workshop results will be presented in a report identifying the training needs regarding Colregs within the overall MET programmes of the partner countries.



## Progress Report

More information on the ACTs project will be available in January 2014 Progress report.

**MarTEL (Maritime Tests of English Language) – [www.martel.pro](http://www.martel.pro)**

The MarTEL tests will be launched by mid-April 2014. The MarTEL Team is currently in contact with several interested institutions, companies and individuals who are looking to launch MarTEL around the world in 2014.

The MarTEL team is working to update the supporting materials for the MarTEL Centres who will be running the MarTEL Tests and/or Training Courses. They are also working on updating the MarTEL website for their customers' ease of use.

The MarTEL partnership welcomes contact from all interested parties, including seafarers of all types and ranks, maritime industry experts, professionals and organisations, and those institutions or companies who have an interest in becoming an Approved MarTEL Centre.

For more information, please visit the project website - [www.plus.martel.pro](http://www.plus.martel.pro).

More updates about MarTEL will be included in the January 2014 progress report.

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