**JOINT WORKSHOP**
(Piri Reis University and Nicola Vaptsarov Naval Academy)

TITLE            : **VALIDATING MARITIME ENGLISH LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCES**

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**Brief CV's**          **:** **Aydın Şıhmantepe,** born in 1964, in Istanbul/Turkey; he started his maritime career by entering Naval High School/Istanbul in 1978. After graduating from Naval Academy in 1986, he served for the Turkish Navy for 22 years, retiring in 2008. Past 5 years he lectured on Maritime English in TUDEV. He was involved in  MarTEL, MarTEL Plus and CAPTAINS projects. From October 2013 he has been teaching at Piri Reis University. He holds master's degree in International Relations, and is a PhD candidate. Currently he is involved in the SeaTALK Project.

       **Serhan Sernikli,** born in 1964, in Istanbul/Turkey; he started his maritime career by entering Naval High School/Istanbul in 1978. After graduating from Naval Academy in 1986, he served in the Turkish Navy for 20 years. Retiring in 2006, he started to teach Maritime English in TUDEV and he was involved with MarTEL, MarTEL Plus and CAPTAINS projects. From October 2013 on he has been teaching at Piri Reis University. Currently he is involved in the SeaTALK Project.

Associate professor PhD **Sonya Toncheva** graduated from Sofia University – Master's degree in philology. She has been teaching English at the Naval Academy of Varna since 1978. At present she is Head of the language department. Her PhD thesis is on a comparative English-Bulgarian study of the trends in the development of Maritime Terminology. She is the author of several books and a study on the variety of Genres in the maritime domain. She has been involved in Erasmus projects, MarTEL Plus project and the SeaTALK project.

**Daniela Zlateva,** has been teaching English at the Department of Post-graduate training at the Naval Academy in Varna, Bulgaria since 1992. She holds a master's degree in English language and literature from St. St. Cyril and Methodius University in Bulgaria and a master's degree in Language Testing from Lancaster University, UK. She was involved in Peacekeeping English, MarTEL Plus projects and is currently involved in the SeaTALK Project.

**Joint Workshop Activity Abstract:**

SeaTALK Project aims to establish a harmonized comprehensive framework for Maritime English Education and Training where a standard approach to teaching, learning, assessment and transparency of qualifications throughout Europe is established for each type and rank of seafarers. It will seek to establish Maritime English ECVET model for mutual recognition and transparency of learning outcomes and competences.

The framework will take IMO and EU requirements into consideration as well as incorporating the achieved outcomes of recent EU funded Maritime English projects. The SeaTALK Project is also expected to support Maritime English standards developed as part of Eu funded MarTEL and MarTEL plus projects.

An initial research in form of a survey has been conducted to collate information regarding competences and learning outcomes pertaining to Maritime English from European Maritime Education and Training Institutions throughout Europe. The survey tried to identify the existing learning outcomes and competences which vary considerably in number and content, with the view of producing acceptable common learning outcomes.

The workshop intends to focus on the Maritime English competence and the learning outcomes and validating the learning outcomes produced. The workshop will seek to gather definitions and perceptions of the participants on the two concepts. Participants will also be requested to match a set of given statements which are devised from IMO STCW, Model course 3.17 and CEFR to assess the required competence versus language skills and learning outcomes.

The workshop, by participants' input will seek to bring a new sight to  :

1.      Definition of language competence (for the seafarers)

2.      Definition of learning outcomes (related to seafarers' language training)

3.      How the two concepts can be interrelated to meet the need for a common recognition of (Maritime English) qualifications within the EU.

4.      Validate the learning outcomes produced so that a harmonized framework that will enable seafarers to undergo common Maritime English Training is created.

*Keywords: Maritime English, SeaTALK, Competence, Learning outcome, validation, Seafarer language skills,*