



Issue 2 | July 2023

Featured:

HOT SEAT

Ports in the Mediterranean - the MEDports strategy



Mr. Jordi Torrent, the General Secretary of the MEDports Association, sat down with us this month to discuss the challenges and opportunities that the Mediterranean ports may face in the coming months.

Check it out:

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Member and Industry News

Tanger Med Continues to Hold Prominent Position Among Mediterranean and African Ports

For many years, the port has held a significant position within the North African and Mediterranean region, being recognised as one of the most crucial. Its exceptional performance in 2022 resulted in a global container port ranking of 6th, solidifying its status as the most efficient port in Europe and North Africa.

Source: Morocco World News

[Read more](#)

East Port Said Expansion

The East Port Said Port undergoes an expansion of existing container terminal involving a 955-meter container berth and a 510,000 sqm container handling yard which will have an annual capacity of 2 mn TEU. This will significantly boost the port's current capacity. The port handled 3.78 mn TEUs in 2022

Another project is being established involves the construction of the multi-purpose terminal at the East Port Said Port under a commitment contract which will feature a 900-meter container berth and a 380,000 sqm handling yard expected to handle 7 to 8 M Tons of general cargo and is expected to be at service in 2024.

"The multi-purpose terminal comes within the framework of SCZONE's keenness to maximize the benefit from the East Port Said port, which is located at the northern entrance to the Suez Canal. This project will provide 400 direct and indirect job opportunities," Mr. Waleid Gamal Eldein, stated.

PLIKA: Transforming Port Communities through Innovative Training and Collaboration



Welcome to the PLIKA world!

MEDports - a founding member of PLIKA

The birth of the Port Logistics International Knowledge Academy (PLIKA) can be attributed to the imperative of adapting and innovating in the face of the challenges brought about by the global pandemic in 2020. Amidst these unprecedented circumstances, the YEP MED project emerged, shedding light on the demand for novel methodologies and solutions to provide remote training within an international framework. It was within this backdrop that the Port Virtual Lab was conceived, which then paved the way for the rise of the Academy.

[Read more](#)

**Cooperation Agreement
between the Port Training
Institute and the Free
Zone in Misurata**



This agreement aims to organize the first North Africa Maritime Transport & Logistics Conference PFZC entitled “Enhancing Ports and Free Zones Competitiveness in Libya” accompanied by an international exhibition. The conference is scheduled to take place from 18th to 20th November, 2023, at Seaside Hall, Misurata Free Zone, Libya.

This initiative is a reflection of the Free Zone's dedication to the growth and reinforcement of the ports and free zones sector, with the goal of leveraging Libya's advantageous geographic position to attain lasting development and advance the national economy. Moreover, it seeks to capitalize on the extensive knowledge and resources of the Ports Training Institute (PTI), renowned in the Middle East and North Africa region for its expertise in ports and maritime transport. PTI has specialized human resources and outstanding international links with prominent international entities in the field of ports and maritime transport.

For more information about the conference & the exhibition, please contact us at dean@ir.pti-aast.org.



YEP MED in Egypt celebrates success to empower young Mediterranean people in the port sector

The YEP MED project, an innovative initiative aimed at empowering young people, particularly NEETs (Not in Education, Employment, or Training) and women, in the Mediterranean port and logistics sectors, successfully concluded its journey with the YEP MED final conference & Steering Committee held on July 24th - 25th, 2023, at the Steigenberger Hotel El Lessan in Damietta, Egypt.

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Port of Barcelona and Tech Barcelona launch BlueTechPort - the blue economy innovation hub

BlueTechPort is integrated into

the Tech Barcelona ecosystem and will host companies interested in innovating in the blue economy, using the Port of Barcelona as a sandbox.

The project is the embryo of the future space that the Port of Barcelona will open in the sheds on Sant Bertran wharf to host initiatives related to innovation and recruiting and training talent.

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MEDports News

MEDports welcomes new chair of the Cooperation and Partnership Committee

July 2023

At the last MEDPORTS General Assembly held in Barcelona, the Port Authority of Valencia has been appointed to chair the MEDports CCF for the next two years.

We assume the presidency of this Committee with the aim to contribute to increase MEDports' visibility within the international landscape.

In general, and in line with the objectives pursued by the Association, the following will define the goals of the Committee for this period:

- **PROMOTION:** Increase the visibility of member ports, based on either the organisation or presence of MEDports in events such as forums, seminars, exhibitions, conferences.
- **COOPERATION:** Promote collaboration between member ports and between them and third parties, including collaboration with other international organizations such as the IMO, IAPH, ESPO, to name just a few. These lines of collaboration will be framed in the development of joint initiatives on present and future port matters.
- **TRAINING:** Continue with the continuing education programmes organised by the entities associated with MEDports, aiming to improve the readiness level of MEDports staff members.

We are sure that we can count on all MEDports members on our way to achieve success.

An Observatory of Mediterranean Multimodal Connectivity

July 2023

Last March, Medports Association and CETMO (Centre for Transportation Studies for the Western Mediterranean) signed a

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), whose purpose is to establish a framework for regular collaboration with the objective of improving transport connectivity in the Mediterranean Region.

The first initiative to be implemented under this MoU is the setting up of an **Observatory of Mediterranean Multimodal Connectivity**. Multimodality has become a key issue in order to improve the maritime connectivity between the territories of the Mediterranean shores. In spite of this importance, a clear view of multimodality facilities and evolution in the Mediterranean is still lacking. The observatory is set up with the aim of overcoming this gap.

The Observatory of multimodality will provide a comprehensive vision of infrastructures and services devoted to multimodality in the Mediterranean basin, with special attention paid to the partners of MEDports Association. The information collected by the Observatory, and its continuity over time, will help gain a clear overview of the current situation as well as provide insight into monitoring of tendencies.

The first phase of this activity is currently under way: the compilation of information, the creation of databases and the analysis of data. This will provide a first look into multimodal services, flows and infrastructures within the Mediterranean. Further steps will enable the online display and dissemination of this information.

Anchor for your calendar



November
2023
Tunisia

5th MEDports Training Programme

Stay tuned...

11-12 December
2023
Casablanca, Morocco

Cooperation and Partnership Committee

A meeting of the Cooperation and Partnership Committee will take place in Casablanca.

11-12 December
2023
Casablanca, Morocco

MEDports Seminar dedicated to Small/Medium MED Ports

The action plan of the Association is in continuous development according to the rapid changes from year to year,

both in terms of activities and goals. The Association is organizing a seminar dedicated to small ports on 11-12 December 2023 in Casablanca, Morocco, on the sidelines of the Cooperation & Partnership Committee meeting, in honor of seeking for the integration of more small ports into the Association.

**Mid-March
2024**
Athens,
Greece

MEDports Seminar on Island Ports and Sea Shore Shipping

This seminar will be organised by the Hellenic Ports Association.

**Mid-March
2024**
Athens,
Greece

Promotion Committee Meeting

The Promotion Committee will be organised on the sidelines of the MEDports Seminar on Island Ports and Sea Shore Shipping.

The MEDports Association

Created in 2018, MEDports is the Association representing the interests of Mediterranean ports. Its membership represents about 70% of freight and 90% of passenger traffic in the Mediterranean- Algeciras, Arzew, Barcelona, Bastia, Bejaia, Beirut, Cartagena, Civitavecchia, Durrès, Hellenic Ports Association, Igoumenitsa, La Spezia, Luka Koper, Malta Freeport, Marseille Fos, Moroccan Ports Agency (ANP), Office of the Merchant Navy and Ports (OMMP), Serport Group, Sète, Skikda, Tanger Med, Taranto, Toulon, Valencia and Venice. The Association has also several training institutions from the region as associate member.

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