

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Norway and the Department for Transport of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on maritime transport and related industries

Recognizing the importance and significant contribution of maritime transport and related industries to the social and economic development of the Participants;

Considering the strong historical maritime ties and heritage as well as the geographical close links between the Participants;

Taking into account the provisions of the Free Trade Agreement between Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland signed on 8 July 2021 comprising Chapter 3 on Services and Investments, and in particular;

- art 3.3 (Committee on Services and Investment) on consultations on maritime transport services,
- subsection 3.5.5 (International Maritime Transport Services),
- annexed schedules of non-conforming measures relating to Maritime Transport Services;

Recalling the exchange of notes of 4 September 1854 between Norway and the United Kingdom concerning coastal navigation;

Reiterating the strong political commitment to the principles of free and fair market access for maritime transport services by recalling the OECD Common Shipping Principles including the OECD CLIO Note 1 Commitments;

Acknowledging the mutual desire to strengthen and reinforce and expand the existing cooperation and relationship in the field of maritime transport;

Desiring to establish an adequate framework to manage cooperation initiatives between the Participants towards the development/by promotion of an efficient, safe, competitive and sustainable maritime transport industry,

Have decided as follows:

Paragraph 1 Objectives

The Participants confirm their intention to enhance and promote close cooperation and exchanges between the Participants on maritime transport issues and relations and will implement activities to this end.

Paragraph 2 Scope

The cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding will include, but are not limited to, the following areas:



1. Promotion of cooperation between the Norwegian and UK maritime sectors, including in the areas of decarbonisation, digitalisation, automation and trade.
2. Cooperation bilaterally and internationally to promote free and fair market access for maritime transport services, based on a safe and sustainable maritime transport industry.
3. Ensuring of predictability regarding continued freedom to provide domestic maritime services in Norwegian and UK waters on a reciprocal basis to vessels registered in the UK and Norway.
4. Discussion of issues related to:
 - market developments and government measures to promote the shipping industry.
 - green shipping such as reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the development of a Green Shipping Corridor between the UK and Norway, and the use and development of green technologies.
 - automated and remotely operated ships such as the development of international regulations and the safe development and use of their associated technologies both at sea and onshore.
5. Promotion of cooperation on:
 - maritime competencies and digitalisation.
 - the employment of their seafarers as well as for the improvement of working and living conditions on board their ships and the welfare of the seafarers employed on their ships.

Paragraph 3 Methods of cooperation

The cooperation between the Participants under this Memorandum of Understanding may take the following forms:

1. Yearly bilateral meetings between the relevant authorities, with the possibility of setting up additional working groups to include representatives from the industry and seafarers as appropriate.
2. Consultations and cooperation as appropriate related to bilateral issues and international meetings and processes.
3. Promotion of maritime cooperation activities in areas of common interest, including green and/or autonomous maritime technology and digital solutions.
4. Exchange of information, best practices and expertise.
5. Any other forms of cooperation that may be jointly decided upon by the Participants.

Paragraph 4 General provision and consultations

This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to create any legally binding obligations and will be carried out in accordance with the respective laws and regulations of the two Participants.



Each Participant will be responsible for its own costs related to the cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding unless the Participants decide otherwise.

Any issue with regard to the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled through consultations and negotiations between the Participants.

Paragraph 5 Duration and modifications

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect upon the signature by the Participants. Modifications to this Memorandum of Understanding may be made at any time in writing by mutual consent of both Participants.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either Participant at any time by notification in writing six months in advance.

SIGNED in London on 28 February 2024.

For the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Norway



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ole Martin', written over a horizontal dashed line.

For the Department for Transport of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Dennis J. Gower', written over a horizontal dashed line.