



*Malta Maritime Law Association*  
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28<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Mr. Stuart Hetherington  
President Comite Maritime International

Dear Stuart,

**Re: *Putting the maritime sector on the agenda during Malta's Presidency of the EU.***

Malta will have the Presidency of the Council of the European Union in January 2017 and the Maltese government has already identified the maritime sector as an important part of the government's agenda during the Presidency.

Transport Malta which is the government agency which acts as the regulator of the maritime sector in Malta through its various directorates including Merchant Shipping, Yachting and Ports is reaching out to various groups and organisations asking for suggestions on maritime topics and issues which can form the basis of further discussion during the Presidency.

I am a founding member of the Malta Maritime Forum which is a forum made up of private sector maritime services providers and Transport Malta has reached out to the Malta Maritime Forum for ideas.

The purpose of this letter is to ask, through yourself, the European NMLA members of CMI whether they would like to identify topics which have an EU maritime dimension which they believe should be discussed by the EU during Malta's Presidency. These could possibly include issues which are perceived as creating unnecessary bottlenecks and stifle trade between various EU countries or indeed between EU and non EU states.

The Malta Maritime Forum believes this to be a very good opportunity to get a number of maritime issues on the EU agenda. The forum would like to receive any ideas and suggestions by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July so that the matter is discussed at its next committee meeting at the end of July. If any NMLA's are interested in sending their suggestions may they please send them directly to me on [ann.fenech@fenlex.com](mailto:ann.fenech@fenlex.com).

Best regards  
Yours sincerely

Ann Fenech  
President  
Malta Maritime Law Association.