



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

One Sea Association

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The One Sea Association is a high-profile, non-profit global alliance of leading commercial manufacturers, integrators and operators of maritime technology, digital solutions, and automated and autonomous systems.

The association works towards the implementation and establishment of a necessary environment for an automated and autonomous maritime transport system. It plays an active role in the development of the international legal framework and is involved in standardization efforts.

### **Summary of 2022**

During the review period, One Sea (OS) focused on implementing its updated strategy by prioritizing international regulatory work and expanding its membership base. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, OS was still able to meet its key operational goals.

The association strengthened its position as a recognised expert group and continued to build its role as a thought leader. Its focus on strategic objectives and effective management enabled this progress. The extensive and versatile but selective networking played its part and supported the positive development.

The Board of Directors continued to serve as the Management Board for DIMECC's autonomous maritime ecosystem project, which is co-funded by Business Finland and several association members.

### **IMO and EU**

During the review period, OS participated in the meetings of three different IMO committees connected to developing the MASS code (MSC, FAL and LEG). In addition to meeting participation, OS presented the challenges of maritime automation at the IMO MASS seminar in the fall as an invited speaker.

In November, the OS hosted a discussion event for IMO member states in London. The event was attended by three members who gave presentations highlighting their views on why and how a ship should be considered as a system when creating a legislative framework. The event attracted not only IMO member states but also key stakeholders such as the International Transport Workers' Federation and the Nautical Institute. This can be seen as a positive sign as the association also wishes to have an open dialogue with the groups representing the seafarers.

As planned, OS will apply for consultative status at the IMO in 2023. The secretariat began the preparation process by creating a preliminary promotion plan and evaluating options for responding to different sections of the IMO's application form.

To increase its visibility and recognition in the EU, OS intensified its cooperation with the Waterborne Technology Platform and established contacts with organizations such as the Rhine Commission and the European Inland Waterway Transport Platform. OS also promoted its presence at the EU level through its participation in the Connecting Europe Days event in June.

In October, OS held meetings with the EU Commission and discussed the development of maritime automation in both sea areas and inland waterways with a representative from DG MOVE. OS was also invited to participate as a speaker in EMSA's newly established MASS expert working group, where it presented the industry's views.

OS increased its Nordic cooperation by participating in the "Nordic MASS" group, which is still in the early stages of development and seeks its way of operation. OS also participated in the Swedish-led collaboration groups "SweSMART" and "Smarta Fartyg".

## **Membership**

In 2022, OS achieved its annual goal of acquiring 2-5 new international members. Sea Machines Robotics from the USA joined the association in the spring, followed by Avikus from South Korea and Orca AI from Israel who signed their membership agreements at latter part of end of the year. Despite the uncertainties in the global economy, the membership acquisition of OS was not significantly affected.

Discussions with various companies indicated that OS membership is a highly attractive and valuable networking and influence model. The association has expanded its membership base both in terms of geographic reach and the diversity of organizations represented, and a positive outlook is held for the next period."

## **Communication and event participation**

The Association continued to build its position as a strong influencer and respected thought leader. To support its efforts, it published the industry whitepaper, "Autonomous Ships: Terms of Reference for Rule Development." The publication received widespread international recognition and several key stakeholders referenced its definitions. Finland submitted the document to the IMO to support the development of MASS regulations.

Throughout the year, the association gained media coverage through articles in international publications and online magazines such as Baltic Transport Journal, Maritime Executive, and TradeWinds, among others. The Association's views were also effectively conveyed through interviews, podcasts, and speeches at various events attended by both the secretariat and members.

In 2022, the OS systematically increased its use of social media, particularly LinkedIn, as a means of communication. The association's LinkedIn profile saw a steady increase in visitors and followers, demonstrating its value as an effective tool for reaching a large, diverse audience.

OS continued to participate in international conferences and fairs that were carefully selected based on the guidance given by the Board, with a focus on events that would positively impact the association's goals. Some of the notable events included the SMM fair in Hamburg, the Posidonia exhibition in Athens, and the Team Finland trip to California. Additionally, members of the secretariat participated as invited speakers or panellists in various relevant industry events.

In December, OS began updating its presentation materials and web pages to ensure that they accurately reflect its strategy and goals and contain up-to-date information. The secretariat also switched to using one-sea.org email addresses in October, as part of the ongoing efforts to improve the association's external image.

## **Organisation of the activities**

The operation of the association remained largely unchanged from previous years. As per the association's bylaws, the Annual Meeting was held in April. The Board of Directors, consisting of eight members, held regular meetings to oversee progress and direct the association's activities. The association held two strategy meetings to establish short- and long-term goals. In the spring, the focus was on guiding the IMO advocacy work, and in the autumn, the association's strategy and roadmap were clarified.

The number of working groups was reduced from five to two as resources were directed towards regulation and communications. The Regulations working group was highly active and continued to formulate unified views on issues such as automation levels and remote control. They also drafted regulations for automated lookout at the request of the EU Commission and provided comments on the IMO MASS Code and various EU initiatives related to digitalization. The Communications working group continued its work with the same operating model and content as before. The working group planned OS's communication activities and shared information about industry-related events.

The Board of Directors discussed the composition of the Advisory Board in several meetings, but ultimately decided to postpone the establishment of the renewed Advisory Board until the outcome of the application for IMO consultative status was known.

## **Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors of One Sea is composed of individuals with a diverse range of skills, experiences, and backgrounds. The composition of the Board is carefully considered to ensure a balance of perspectives and commitment to improve gender balance. The Board's term of office is the period between the Annual Meetings. The following composition was adopted in spring 2021:

Eero Lehtovaara (ABB), Chairperson

Tommi Pettersson (Cargotec)

Sanna Sonninen (Finnpilot)

Anton Westerlund (Kongsberg), Vice Chairperson

Matti Vakkuri (Haltian)

Drew Orvieto (Sea Machines) until 31.10.2022, replaced by Lauren Lamm

Christian Sundell (Tietoevry)

Michael Christiansen (Wärtsilä)

## **Secretariat**

The personnel required to run the OS office was acquired from DIMECC Ltd., in accordance with the existing agreement. During the reporting period, there were changes in personnel as both members of the secretariat were changed. Päivi Haikkola stepped down from her role as Secretary General in June, and was succeeded by Sinikka Hartonen in October. Jukka Merenluoto left his position in January, and Marko Rahikainen was brought onboard as the Director of Regulatory Affairs that same month.