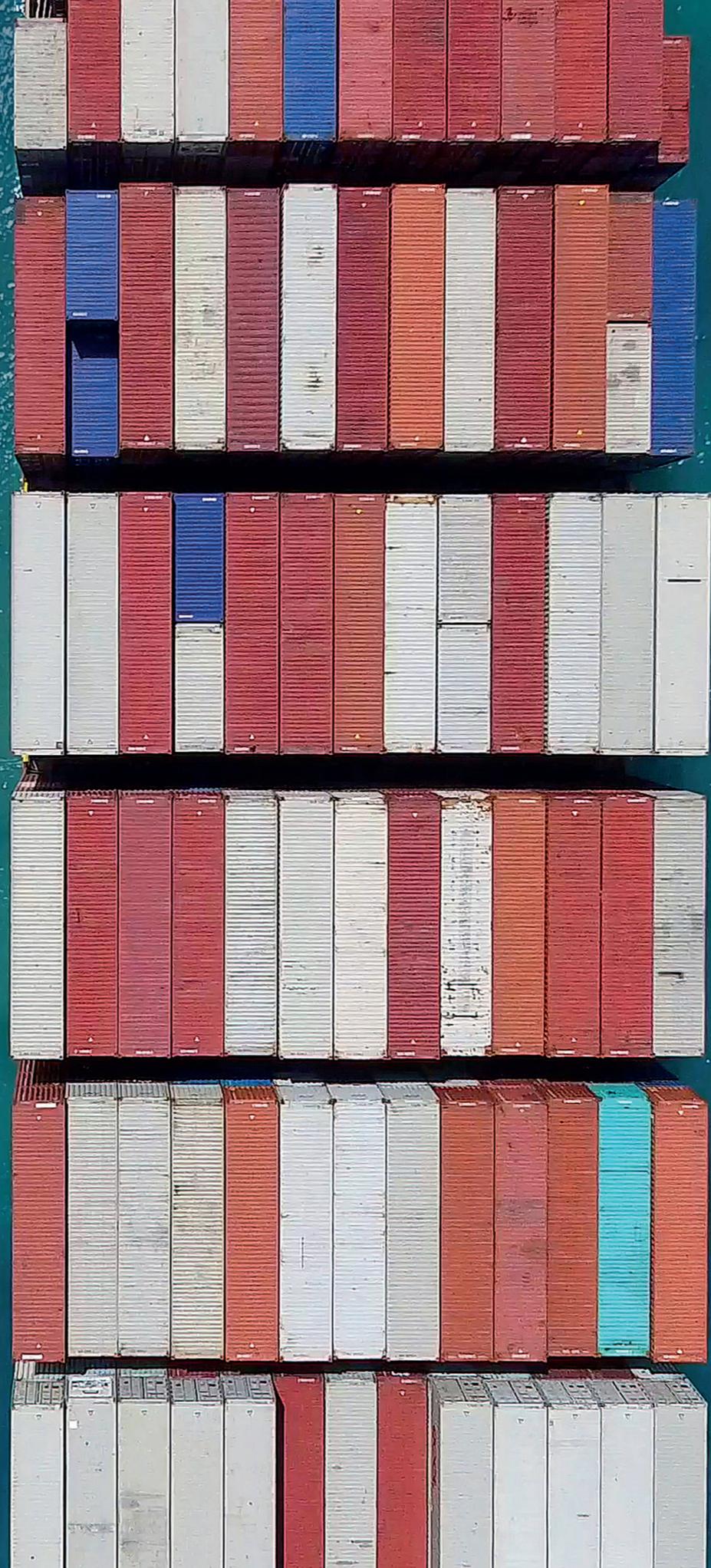


PRIORITIES OF EUROPEAN PORTS FOR 2019 – 2024

*Memorandum of the European
Sea Ports Organisation for
the new Commission and
European Parliament*



THE DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EUROPEAN PORTS

Gateways to the world

Essential nodes of the multimodal transport chain

Hotspots for Europe's industrial activity

Nodes of energy

Safe and secure shelters

Hubs of innovation and digitalisation

Linking Europe's peripheral regions and islands to the mainland

Key players in the transport of passengers

Essential part of an emergency supply chain and facilitators of military mobility

Clusters of blue growth

PORTS ARE MULTITASKERS

WHAT PORTS DO
FOR EUROPE

WHAT EUROPE
CAN DO FOR PORTS

ESPO's priorities



EUROPEAN PORT AUTHORITIES ARE FACILITATORS OF THE PORT ECOSYSTEM

Ports are facilitators of a real port ecosystem at the service of their customers: much wider interests, larger port community and wider range of stakeholders involved

A solid but flexible legislative framework is now available

Let's implement new rules (PSR and GBER) and reap the benefits!

Cooperation agreements in the shipping sector must be closer monitored and assessed

PORT MANAGING BODIES CONTINUE TO BE HYBRID

Ports combine greater financial autonomy with increasing general interest objectives:
This highlights a conundrum at the heart of port development and management plans

Europe must embrace the development of ports towards becoming financially
more autonomous

Port authorities fulfil more than ever wider societal responsibilities

(Green) rebates must remain voluntary

Port managing bodies cannot turn into convenient tax collectors

INVESTING IN EUROPE'S PORTS IS INVESTING IN EUROPE'S COMPETITIVENESS

Strong CEF budget is needed to complete TEN-T network and deliver on digitalisation and decarbonisation

Ports deserve more than the 4% share of the CEF budget

Ports and MoS projects must be considered as cross border

Return on port investments is often low and slow, certainly for projects which meet wider societal imperatives

CEF synergy proposals (transport, energy and digital) can boost ports' investments in carbon free solutions

Review of the TEN-T guidelines is an opportunity to “update” the TEN-T network with new market developments and needs

Foreign investments into ports must be welcomed as long as EU competition rules are respected

MULTIMODAL PORT HINTERLAND CONNECTIONS ARE KEY

1 in 5 aim port projects aims at enhancing the transport connectivity to the hinterland

As multimodal nodes, European ports should be closely involved in the development of relevant IWT, rail and road legislation

Better cooperation between the port rail network and the national rail network is needed

DIGITALISATION ENHANCES THE ROLE OF PORTS AS FACILITATORS OF THE SUPPLY CHAIN

Digitalisation enhances efficiency, safety, security and environmental performance of the supply chain

Ports can be real hubs of digitalisation where all stakeholders bring together data into digital platforms

All stakeholders, public and private, must dare to share information

Keeping the smaller ports on board

European Maritime Single Window environment must be implemented in close cooperation with ports

Better cooperation between maritime and customs authorities at all levels is needed

Policy must protect against cyber-attacks without curtailing the rapid pace of digital innovation

DECARBONISATION: ALL HANDS ON DECK

Europe must support investments that implement the decarbonisation and climate adaptation strategy of the port

Ports can be the spider in the web for guiding Europe's economy through the energy transition

Europe must monitor the implementation of the IMO CO2 target for shipping: 2023 is a milestone

Avoid legislation that prevents the port sector to adapt to the continuous technological innovation

Strategies must be reviewed in the light of the EU 2050 long term strategy for a Climate Neutral Economy

AIR QUALITY AT THE HEART OF THE PORT-CITY RELATIONS

A gradual but mandatory transition plan to cleaner fuels must be developed: plan must deliver on both air quality and decarbonisation

Start the discussion on the implementation of an EU Emission Control Area (ECA) in close cooperation with all relevant stakeholders

Chicken/egg: policy measures on the port side should be accompanied by corresponding measures for the users

Tax exemption for onshore power supply for vessels is needed

Prompt and harmonised approach on liquid discharges from scrubbers is needed

EUROPE'S PORTS ARE AT THEIR BEST IN AN OPEN TRADE ENVIRONMENT

Ports support EU initiatives to preserve an open trade environment

Europe should take the lead in updating WTO rules in view of preserving a level playing field between trade partners

A strong and united Europe is needed to cope with the volatile global trade and geopolitical trade environment

An open trade environment is only sustainable if there is a global level playing field

The 2019 EU-China Strategic Outlook needs to be implemented

In case of Brexit: the TEN-T network must be ensured for the trade within EU-27

PORTS AND CITIZENS: SAFEGUARDING THE LICENCE TO OPERATE

Ports must be transparent about their externalities, environmental performance and about their role and contribution to meeting today's challenges

More and more ports are openly showing their environmental track record and transparency of action: independent, third party review and audit are gaining in popularity

114 ports are Ecoports members and 34 are PERS certified

THE MAKING OF EU POLICY

European ports are a strategic partner in building a sustainable, competitive and smart Europe

Need for coherence and coordination between transport policy and other policies at EU level

Need for strong EU competition authorities to safeguard the role of European ports as strategic assets in an open trade environment

Stakeholder platforms are to be welcomed but do not replace a proper consultation in the legislative process

Better Regulation and proper impact assessments remain important

ESPO looks forward to work with the Commission, the European Parliament and the Member States on making and supporting European policy that allows ports to further develop and respond to today's challenges

Thank you,

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