



Maritime Circular No.23

To:

Ship – Owners / Managers / Operators, Registration Officers (RegOffs), Recognised Organisations (ROs), SLMARAD Departments (All)

Subject:

Banned Ports in the temporarily occupied territory of Autonomous Republic of Crimea and city Sevastopol

Date:

22nd March 2018

References:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Note No. 630/23-300-3716

Article 332-1 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine

UN General Assembly 68/262

UN General Assembly 71/205

UN General Assembly 72/190

UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, Article 94

Purpose

To inform Ship – Owners / Managers / Operators, Registration Officers (RegOffs), Recognised Organisations (ROs), that the Ports of Kerch, Sevastopol, Feodosia, Yalta, Yevpatoria in the temporarily occupied territory of Autonomous Republic of Crimea and city Sevastopol, are closed as of the 15th of July 2014 as per the Note of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine No. 630/23-300-3716 of August 04, 2014.

Application

1. By the Note of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine No. 630/23-300-3716 of August 04, 2014, the attention was drawn to the continuation of the call of ships under foreign flags at closed seaports at the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine. In addition, all States were officially warned regarding the responsibility of ship owners, ship operators and ship captains for the violation of legislation of Ukraine. Those facts are considered by Ukraine as actions containing the elements of a crime under Article 332-1 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine "Violation of the Order of Entry to the Temporarily Occupied Territory of Ukraine and Departure from it". Such a violation, causes damage to the interests of the State and is punished with custodial restraint for up to three years or imprisonment for the same period with confiscation of transport vehicles."
2. In addition, any use or attempt to use an illegal point of entry into or exit from the temporarily occupied territory of Autonomous Republic of Crimea and city Sevastopol constitutes a violation of international law, a violation of the Resolution of UN General Assembly 68/262, 71/205 and 72/190 and is contrary to the Article 94 of UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

3. As such, all vessels, which use ports in the temporarily occupied territory of Autonomous Republic of Crimea and city Sevastopol, are in breach of both national and international laws and are subject to sanctions.
4. In light of the above and to this effect, this Administration hereby **prohibits** all Sierra Leonean vessels from entering the Ports of Kerch, Sevastopol, Feodosia, Yalta and Yevpatoria in the temporarily occupied territory of Autonomous Republic of Crimea and city Sevastopol which were declared closed for all vessels on the 15th of July 2014 as per the Note of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine No. 630/23-300-3716.
5. Should any Sierra Leonean Vessel call the above ports she will be **immediately removed from the Registry** and the owners and/or operators of the vessel shall be held liable and will bear all legal consequences according to Ukrainian Law.
6. The above will enter into effect as of **22nd March 2018**.
7. For additional information please contact SLMARAD at info@slmarad.com

Revision Status

Date	Revision	Comments - Changes
11/01/2017	0	Initial - Adopted
22/03/2018	1	References updated. Amended Paragraphs 4 & 5. Removed Paragraph 6.