

# MARPOL Annex V and the Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships

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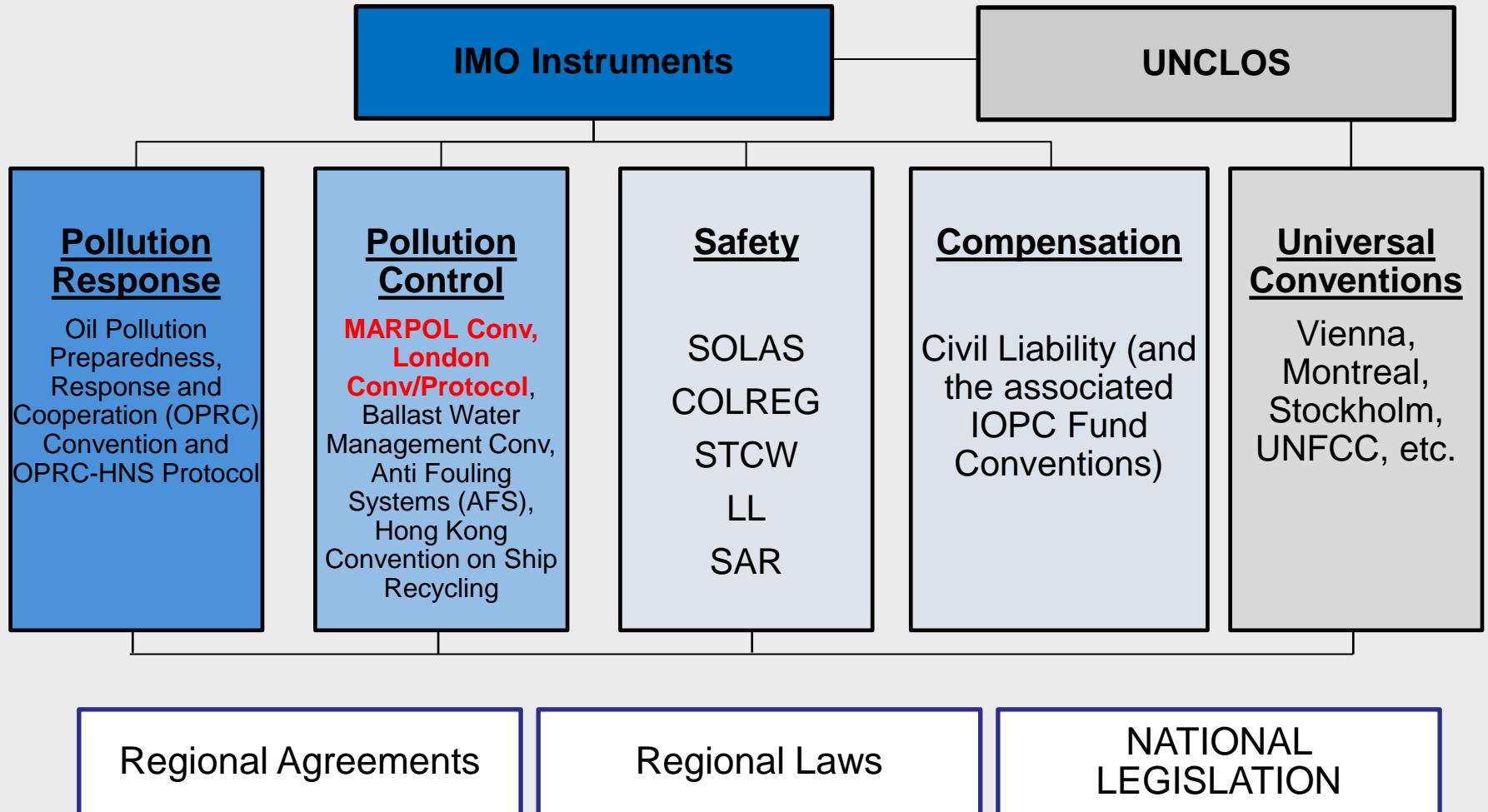
Loukas Kontogiannis  
Marine Environment Division



INTERNATIONAL  
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# IMO legislative map – main instruments



# Sources of pollution from ships

Exhaust Gases (SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, GHG, etc.) from

- main and auxiliary engines
- boilers
- incinerators

Emissions of Freon/Halon gases

Evaporation from cargo (VOCs)



Oil spills

Loss by accidents – ship cargoes & life

Emissions from paint solutions

Sewage & Garbage

Loss of cargo

Bilge-water disposal/ tank washing

Ballast water discharge

© Damen shipyards

# International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)

- **MARPOL Convention** = main international convention covering prevention of operational or accidental pollution of the marine environment by ships

Annexes I & II	Annex III	Annex IV	Annex V	Annex VI
Oil and Noxious Liquid Substances	Harmful Substances Carried at Sea in Packaged Form	Sewage from Ships	Garbage from Ships	Air Pollution from Ships
In Force	In Force	In Force	In force since 31 December 1988	In Force
158 Parties	148 Parties	143 Parties	<b>153 Parties</b>	95 Parties
99% of World Tonnage	98% of World Tonnage	96% of World Tonnage	<b>99% of World Tonnage</b>	97% of World Tonnage

# MARPOL Annex V

## MARPOL Annex V: Prevention of Pollution by Garbage from Ships

- Prohibits the discharge of all types of **garbage** from ships into the sea except in cases explicitly permitted
- Unless, expressly provided otherwise, **Annex V applies to all ships**
- Garbage includes all kinds of food, domestic and operational waste, **all plastics**, cargo residues, incinerator ashes, cooking oil, **fishing gear**, and animal carcasses generated during the normal operation of the ship ('operational discharges')
- **Contains a complete ban imposed on the disposal into the sea of all forms of plastics**



# Implementation and enforcement of MARPOL (Annex V): who is responsible for what?

## Flag States

- Ensuring that **ships flying the flag of that State** are in compliance with the MARPOL regulations (flag State control)

## Port States

- **Inspection of ships calling their ports** (port State control), and provide for sanctions in case of violations
- Putting in place adequate **port reception facilities** for the delivery of ship generated waste

## Coastal States

- Prohibit violations of MARPOL's discharge requirements ('illegal discharges'), and establish sanctions for any **violation that occurs in the country's territorial sea and Exclusive Economic Zone**
- **Surveillance at sea** to control illegal discharges



*Credit: Francisco Blaha*



*Credit: FAO*



# Port reception facilities for the delivery of ship generated waste

## Parties' obligations

- Ensure the provision of reception facilities adequate to meet the needs of **ships using their ports and terminals** (incl. fishing vessels)
- Government to require port authorities / terminal operators to provide waste reception facilities
- Most ports need reception facilities for garbage (Annex V), and oily residues
- Fishing ports may need additional **facilities to receive fishing gear**
- Inspect and license port reception facilities, as appropriate



# IMO Action Plan on Marine Plastic Litter

## IMO plays a key role in tackling the ocean plastic challenge:

- To further enhance its commitment to reducing marine plastic litter from ships, IMO adopted in October 2018 the **IMO Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships** (Resolution MEPC.310(73))

### IMO action plan addresses marine plastic litter from ships



Recognizing that more needs to be done, the Marine Environment Protection Committee's recent meeting adopted a multifaceted action plan

The International Maritime Organization adopted an action plan to address the significant problem posed by plastic litter entering the marine environment from ships.

#### Dumping plastics is already prohibited

Dumping plastics into the sea is already prohibited under regulations for the prevention of pollution by garbage from ships in the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), which also obliges governments to ensure adequate port reception facilities to receive ship waste.

Under the London Convention and Protocol on the dumping of wastes at sea, only permitted materials can be dumped and this waste—such as from dredging—has to be fully assessed to ensure it does not contain harmful materials like plastics.

#### More needs to be done

Recognizing that more needs to be done to address the environmental and health problems posed by marine plastic litter, IMO member states meeting in the recent Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 73) agreed actions to be completed by 2025, which relate to all ships, including fishing vessels. The action plan supports IMO's commitment to meeting the targets set in the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goal 14 on the oceans.

Source: [seatrade-cruise.com](http://seatrade-cruise.com)

### IMO Adopts Plan for Addressing Marine Plastic



BY [THE MARITIME EXECUTIVE](#) 2018-10-30 19:29:05

The IMO has pledged to address the significant problem posed by plastics to the marine environment, with the adoption of an action plan which aims to enhance existing regulations and introduce new supporting measures to reduce marine plastic litter from ships.

The plan was adopted on October 26 by IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC).



# Resolution MEPC.310(73) – Action plan to address marine plastic litter from ships

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The Action Plan aims to enhance existing policy and regulatory frameworks and introduce new supporting measures.

It is divided into the following eight sections:

- 1. Reduction of marine plastic litter generated from, and retrieved by, fishing vessels (8 actions)**
- 2. Reduction of shipping's contribution to marine plastic litter (5 actions)**
- 3. Improvement of the effectiveness of port reception and facilities and treatment in reducing marine plastic litter (4 actions)**
- 4. Enhanced public awareness, education and seafarer training (3 actions)**
- 5. Improved understanding of the contribution of ships to marine plastic litter (4 actions)**
- 6. Improved understanding of the regulatory framework associated with marine plastic litter from ships (1 action)**
- 7. Strengthened international cooperation (2 actions)**
- 8. Targeted technical cooperation and capacity-building (2 actions)**

## International Maritime Organization

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4 Albert Embankment  
London  
SE1 7SR  
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 7735 7611  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210  
Email: [info@imo.org](mailto:info@imo.org)  
[www.imo.org](http://www.imo.org)



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