



UNECE Activities Towards Sustainable Inland Water Transport

**ILO Technical meeting on decent work and sustainable work in the inland
waterways sector**

Technical meeting on inland waterways

Geneva, 20 November 2023

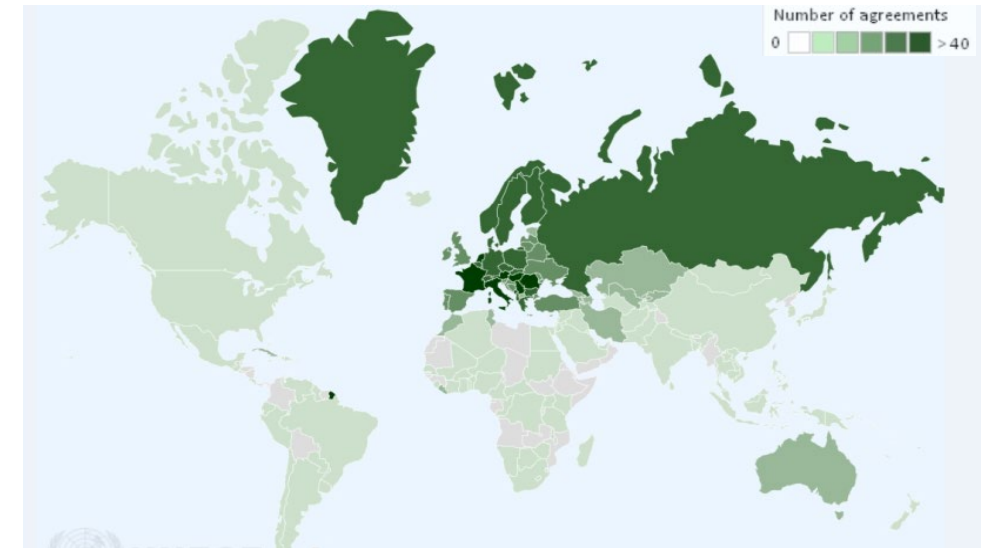
UNECE Inland Transport Committee

Centre of Transport Conventions

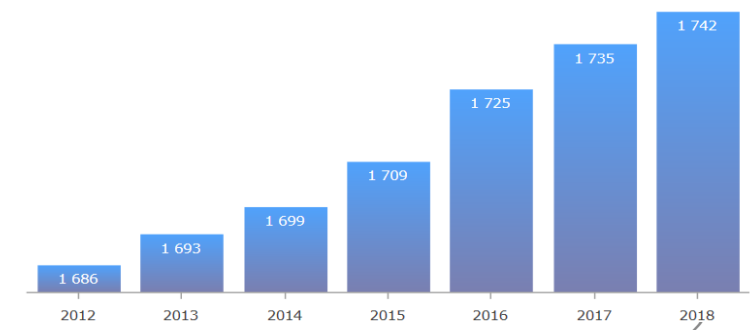
The UNECE Inland Transport Committee (ITC) facilitates the international movement of persons and goods by inland transport modes:

- road transport;
- railways;
- inland waterways;
- intermodal transport;
- transport of dangerous goods.

There are 59 United Nations inland transport-related legal instruments administered by ITC and updated regularly.



Number of Contracting Parties to UN Legal Instruments on Transport



Inland Water Transport in UNECE

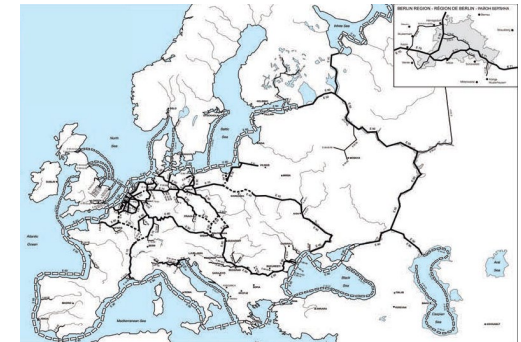
○ Regulating and Promoting Inland Water Transport in Europe

- **E Waterway Network:** length over 29,000 km, 400 E ports
- **Working Party on Inland Water Transport – SC.3 (1956)**
- **Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation – SC.3/WP.3 (1970)**

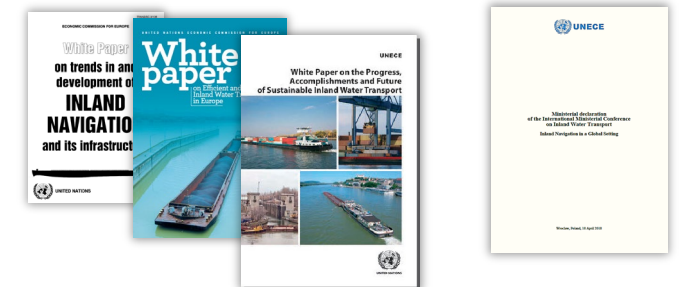


○ Legal instruments and resolutions

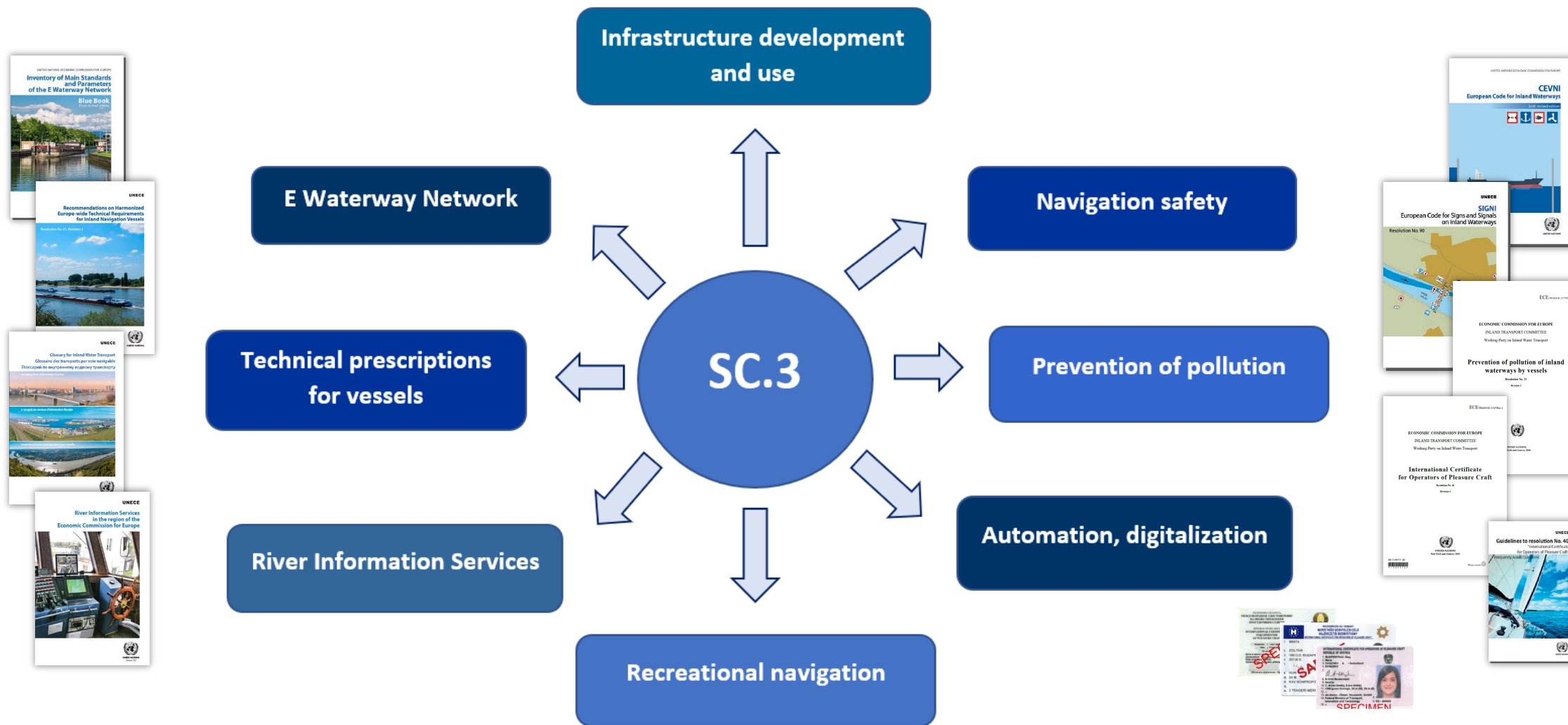
- 10 UN Conventions and Agreements (85 Contracting Parties)
- Budapest Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterway (CMNI)
- Over 100 resolutions



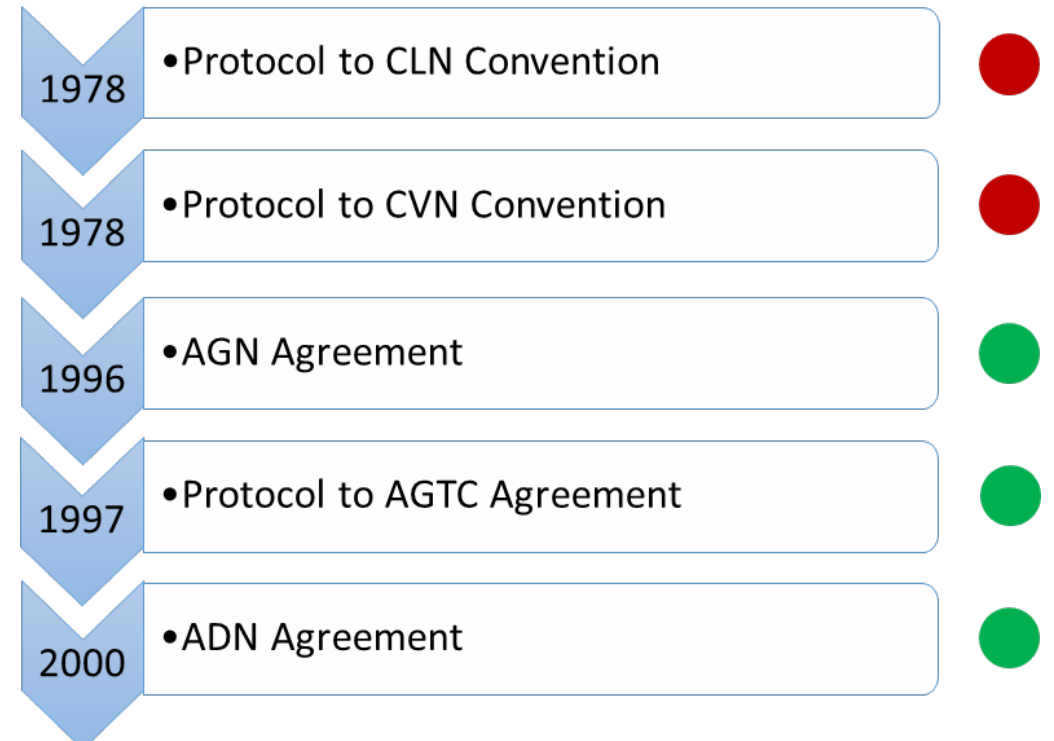
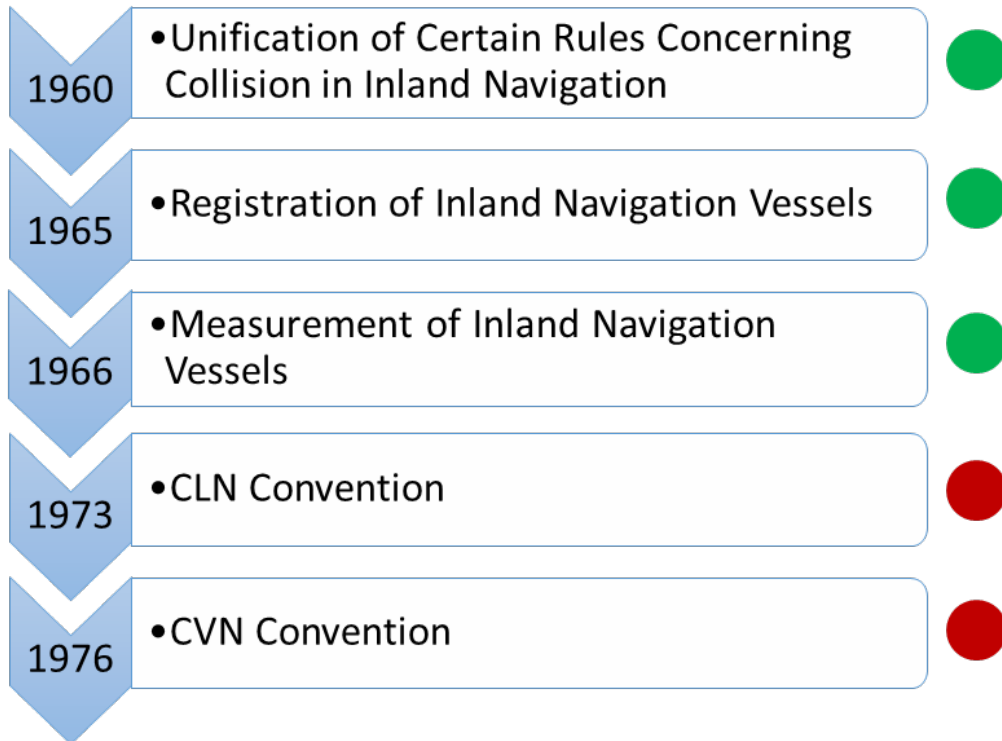
○ Inland Water Transport Policy papers and recommendations



UNECE Working Party on Inland Water Transport



UN Conventions and Agreements relevant to IWT



Inland Water Transport Policy and Labour Market Challenges

- ITC Strategy until 2030
- Ministerial Declaration “Inland Navigation in a Global Setting” (Wroclaw, Poland, 18 April 2018)

To take the necessary steps to promote the attractiveness of the sector to the market and transport workers and increasing its competitiveness and to include these issues in national transport strategies and monitor the progress thereof.

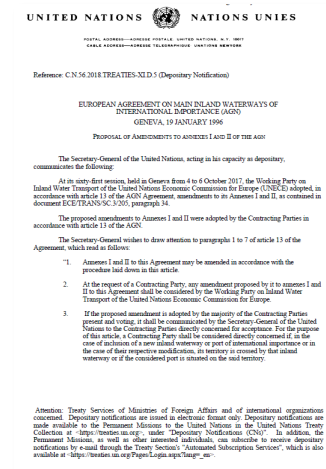
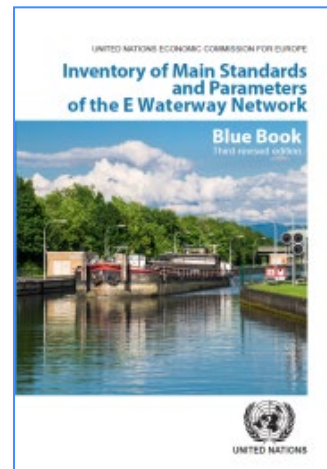
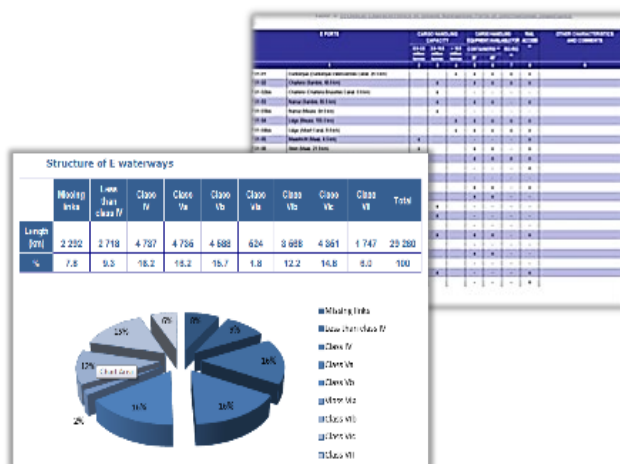
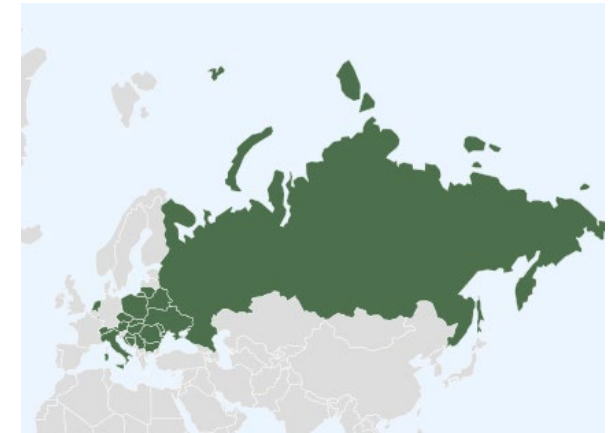
- ITC Resolution No. 265 “Facilitating the Development of Inland Water Transport”
- UNECE White Paper on the Progress, Accomplishments and Future of Sustainable Inland Water Transport (2020)

UNECE Policy Recommendation No. 7: Address labour market challenges at the pan-European level, make the sector more attractive and increase the mobility of workers



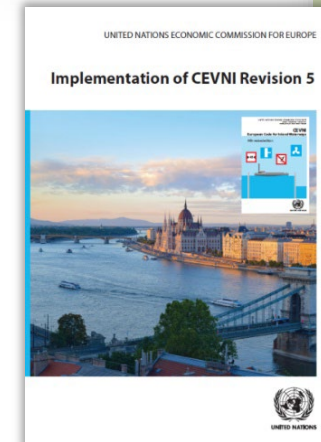
Developing a Coherent E Waterway Network

- European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN), of 19 January 1996: **19 Contracting Parties**
- Inventory of Main Standards and Parameters of the E-waterway network (“Blue Book”) and the Blue Book database
- Harmonizing technical and safety requirements



Core Traffic Rules for Inland Waterways

- European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI)
Resolution No. 24, Revision 6 (2021)
Core uniform rules applicable to traffic on inland waterways, with a view to establishing a common inland navigation regime on European inland waterways
- European Code for Signs and Signals on Inland Waterways (SIGNI) – Resolution No. 90 (2018)
- CEVNI poster and the database of CEVNI signs



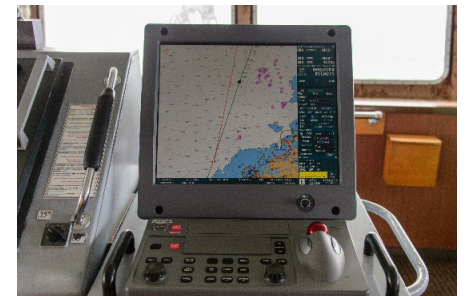
Technical Prescriptions for Vessels and RIS

Harmonization of Technical Prescriptions for inland vessels

- Resolution No. 15, Ship-borne Barges
- Resolution No. 61, Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels

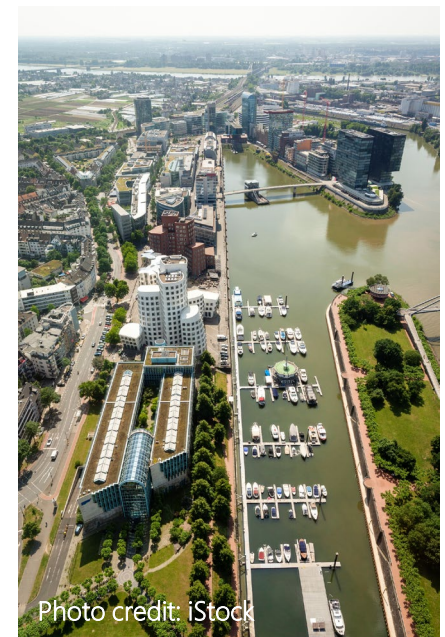
Resolutions on River Information Services (RIS)

- Resolution No. 48 “Recommendation on electronic chart display and information system for inland navigation”
- Resolution No. 57 “Guidelines and Recommendations for River Information Services”
- Resolution No. 58 “Guidelines and Criteria for Vessel Traffic Services on Inland Waterways”
- Resolution No. 63 “International Standard for Tracking and Tracing on Inland Waterways”
- Resolution No. 79 “International Standard for Electronic Ship Reporting in Inland Navigation”
- Resolution No. 80 “International Standard for Notices to Skippers”



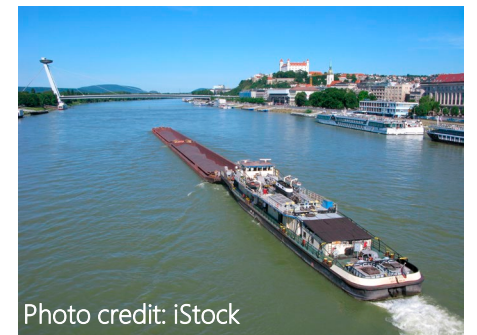
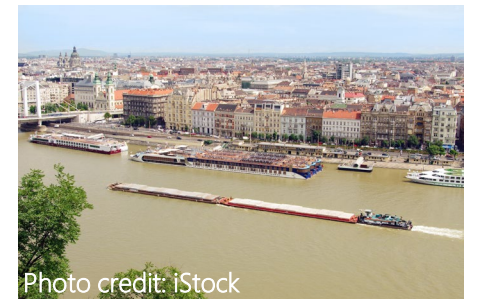
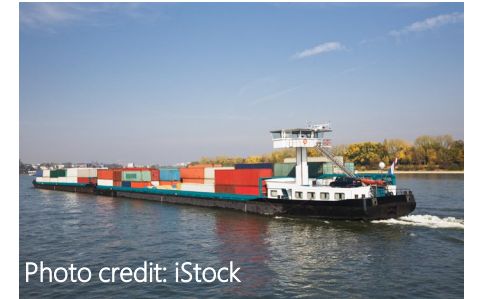
Challenges and Priorities for IWT

- Increasing resilience to pandemics based on lessons learned during COVID 19
- Transition to a Zero Emission Transport Mode
- Modernization and greening of the sector
- Automation and smart shipping
- Resilience to climate change and extreme water situation on European waterways
- Digitalization
- Circular economy



Prevention of Pollution and Greening of the IWT Sector

- Resolution No. 21, Prevention of Pollution of inland Waterways by vessels
- Greening of the IWT sector
 - Transition to alternative fuels and renewable energy sources, including e-fuels and biofuels, LNG, hydrogen, electricity and solar power
 - New and improved vessel designs aimed at shifting from fossil fuels to other fuels
 - Deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure
 - Innovative technologies for reducing pollutants from internal combustion engines
 - Improved energy efficiency of vessels
 - Design and construction of new vessel types
 - Greening of inland ports



Automation and Smart Shipping

- Element of the ITC Road map on ITS
- Resolution No. 95, Enhancing international cooperation to support the development of automation in inland navigation
 - Harmonizing the ECE legal framework and policy areas for fostering innovations in inland navigation
 - Sharing best practices
 - Work on the definitions



Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Inland Navigation

- Suspension of passenger traffic and river cruises
- Reduction of cargo volumes transported by inland waterways
- Impact on cargo operations in ports and the operation of bridges and locks
- Validity of vessels' documents, certificates, attestations and other documents of crews
- Replacement of crew members on board vessels
- Safety and the health protection of the staff

Lessons learned

Efficient cross-border consultation on introducing practical measures in order to ensure the continuity of cross-border navigation

Increasing resilience of existing practices in order to be able to respond more effectively in case of emergency / pandemics situations and better prevent their spread, impact and consequences

The establishment of communication platforms to bring together the stakeholders from the economy, the infrastructure services, transport users and other key players.



Photo credit: iStock

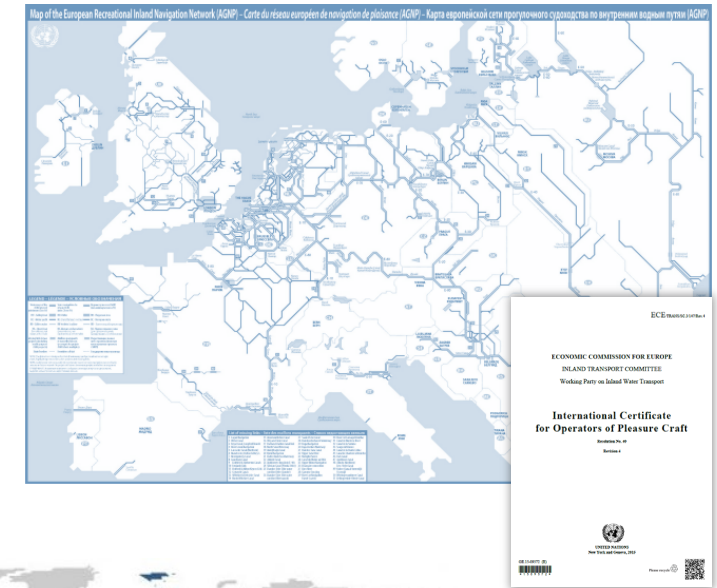
Addressing Labour Market Challenges

- Professional requirements, training and qualification standards and recognition of certificates
- **Workshop “Addressing Labour Market Challenges and Making the Sector More Attractive” (3 July 2023)**
 - Main challenges and conclusions
 - Social Security
 - Level Playing Field
 - Training and education
 - Digital Tools and Enforcement
 - Digitalization and Automation
- **Informal working group to address labour market challenges**



Promotion of Recreational Navigation

- Resolution No. 13, International Certificate (international card) for Pleasure Craft
- Resolution No.14, International Certificate (international card) concerning the Competence of Pleasure Craft Operators
- Resolution No. 40, International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Craft
- Resolution No. 41, Small Craft Used Exclusively for Pleasure Navigation
- Resolution No. 52, European Recreational Inland Navigation Network
- Guidelines to Resolution No. 40 (2023)
- Database of ICC samples



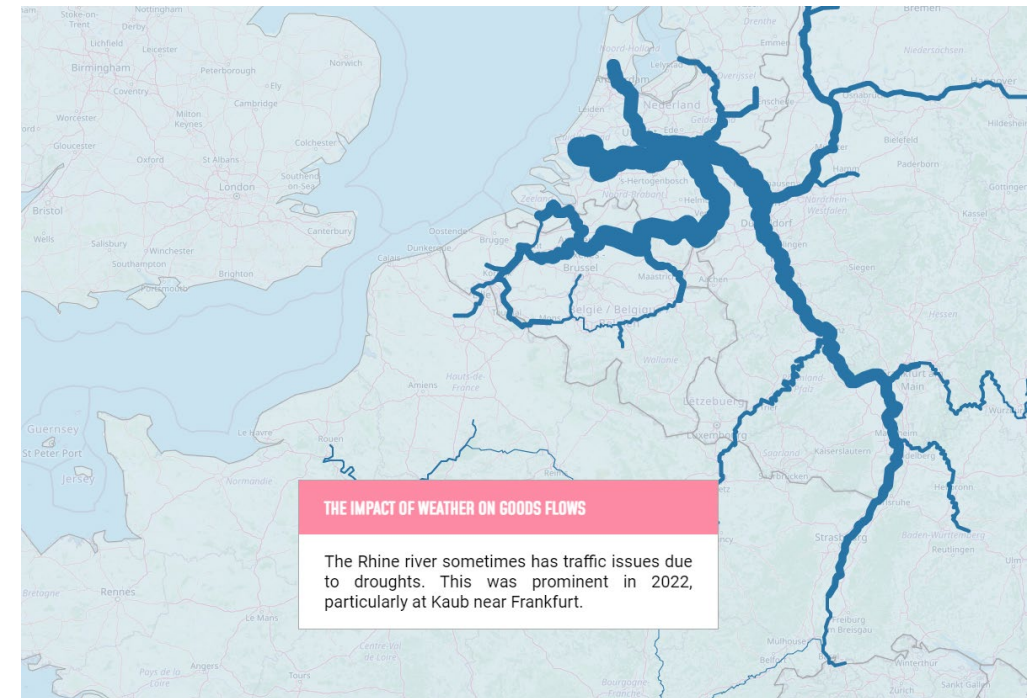
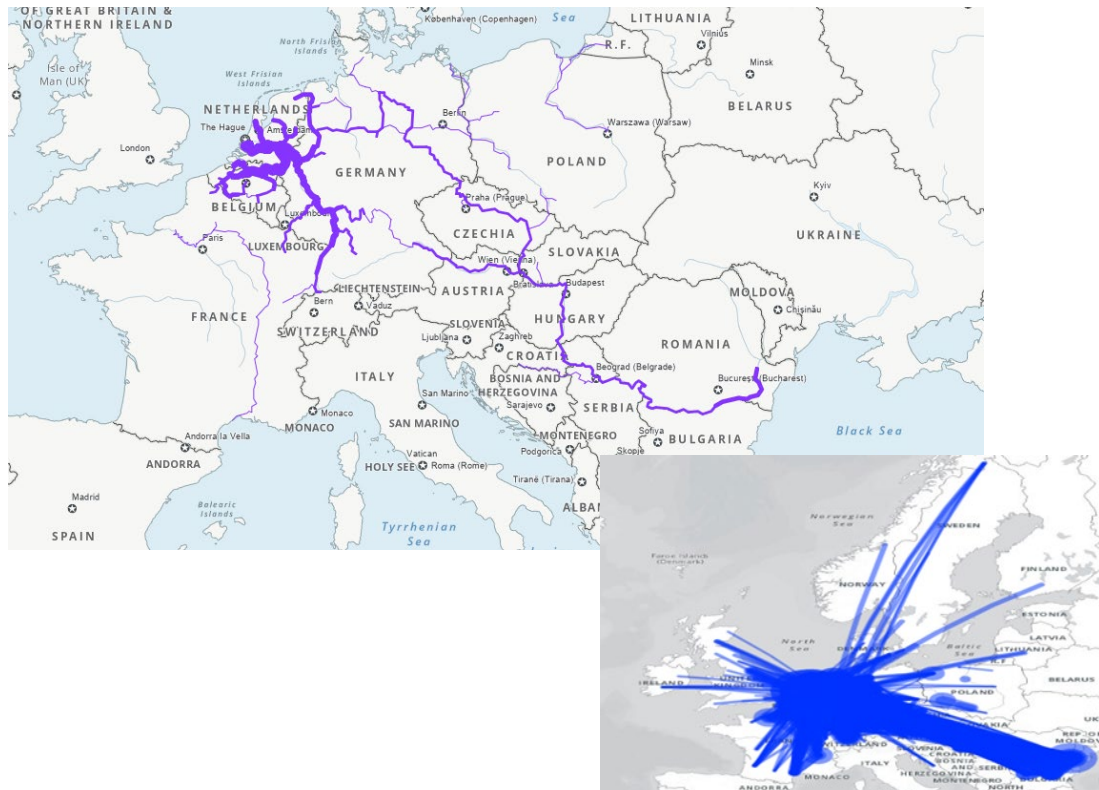
Visualizing Transport Volumes on Inland Waterways

Activities on E IWW Census

<https://gis.unece.org/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=56e9186ac6e8400f8e3177957a72b9ab>

Data story on IWW: exploring European inland water freight with maps

https://w3.unece.org/Stories/2023/01/inland_waterway_freight/



Capacity Building: LearnITC project

Goals

- To provide **training** on the UN inland transport legal instruments, policy recommendations, standards and other tools
- Promote **sustainable transport and trade connectivity policies** by increasing the capacity, knowledge base and skills of institutional and sectoral stakeholders

learnitc.unece.org



Currently, 10 courses are available:



INTRODUCTION TO INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

- Introduction to Sustainable Inland Transport



VEHICLE REGULATIONS, INNOVATION AND ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY

- Introducing WP.29 for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations
- Establishing and Enhancing the National Road Safety system (NRSS)
- Intelligent Transport System (ITS)



TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

- Agreement on the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)



TRANSPORT NETWORKS AND LOGISTICS

- How to Develop Freight Transport and Logistics in a Sustainable Way
- International Certificate of Competence for Operators of Pleasure Craft



TRANSPORT FACILITATION AND ECONOMICS

- An introductory course to the International Road Transport System (TIR)
- An Introductory course to eTIR
- Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity Indicators (SITCIN)

Thank you for your attention!

Victoria Ivanova, Secretary of SC.3

victoria.ivanova@un.org