

GDYNIA MARITIME ECONOMIC FORUM 2024

CHRISTOPHE TYTGAT SEA EUROPE SECRETARY GENERAL

SEA Europe asbl Rue de la Loi 67 • 1000 Brussels, Belgium Tel.: +32 2 230 27 91

• <u>info@seaeurope.eu</u> • <u>www.seaeurope.eu</u> • Registration n° 0508.622.072 • RPR Brussels

A short introduction

WHAT IS SEA EUROPE?



Shipyards' & Maritime Equipment Manufacturers' Association of Europe

Voice of European maritime technology sector

A European and international association (unique in "maritime" Brussels)

Based at the heart of EU Institutions in Brussels

A recognised **social partner** in the **Shipbuilding Social Dialogue Committee**

An NGO observer at International Maritime Organization (IMO) through CESA



European presence

17 Member-associations:

EU/Norway/Turkey/Ukraine/Uk

- ✤ Poland: Forum Okretowe
- **9 Corporate members**





THE EUROPEAN MARITIME TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY





maritime equipment manufacturers and technology providers

£128 billiom

of annual production value

1.1 million

mainly highly skilled jobs



of annual turnover invested in research, development and innovation



The situation of EU shipbuilding versus global shipbuilding

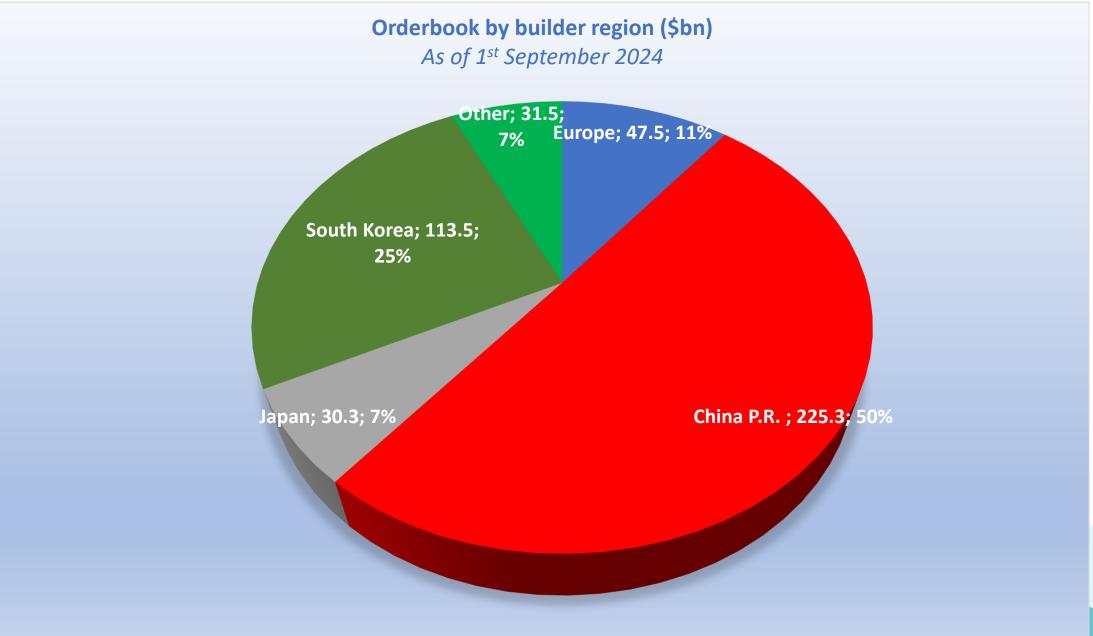
A SAD STORY



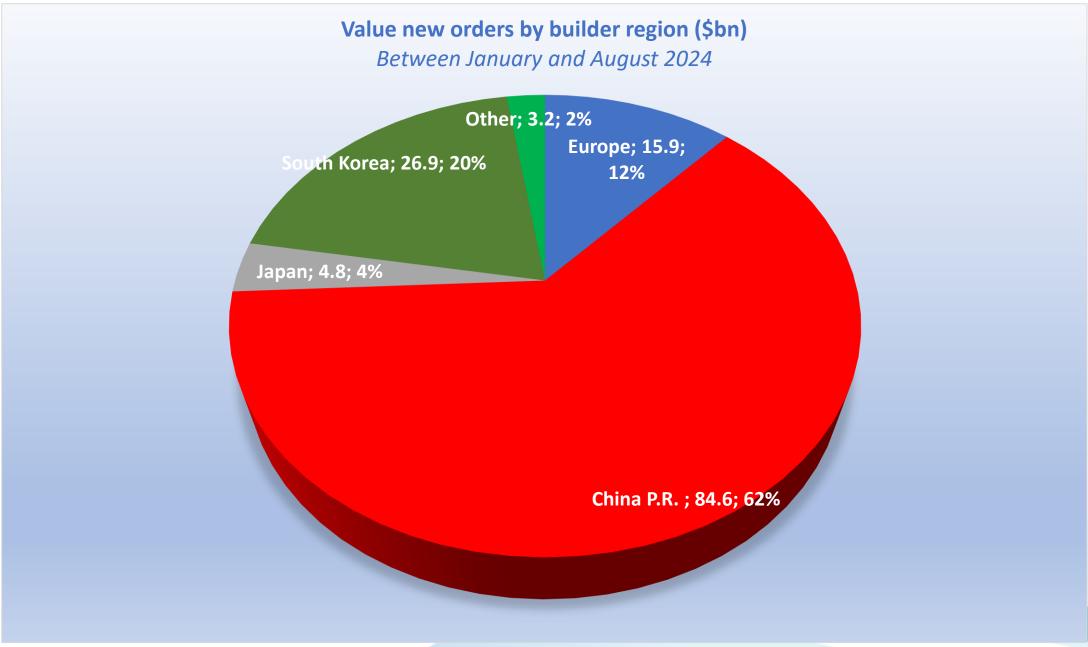
Who builds what?



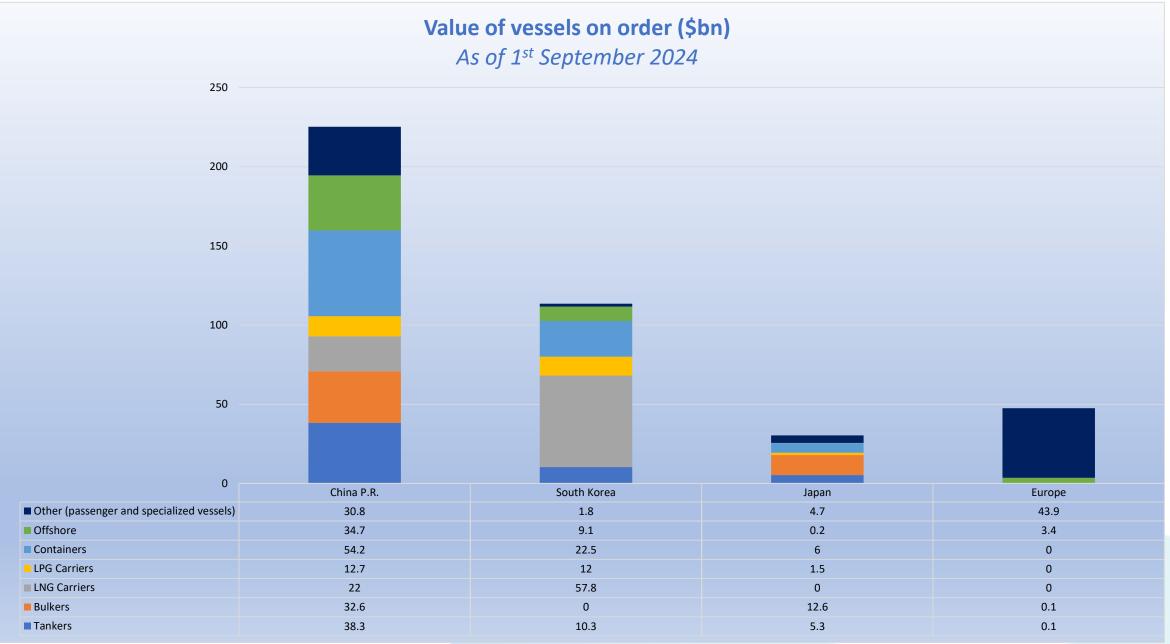














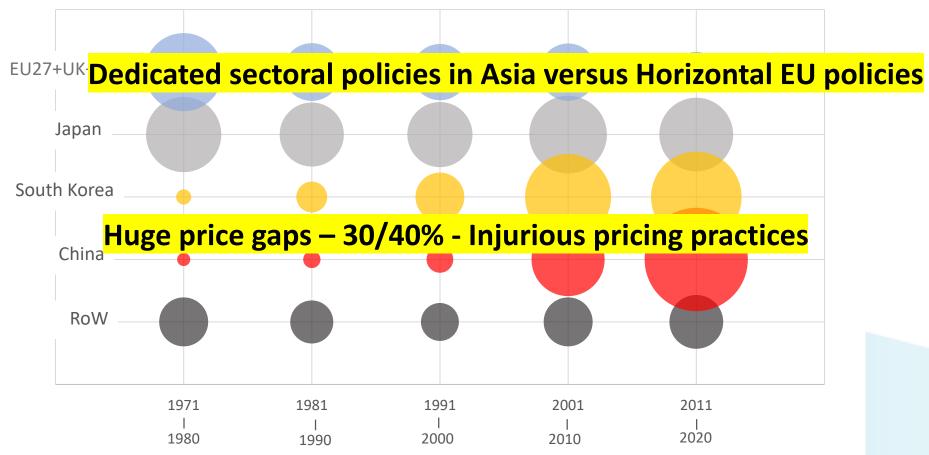
How did we arrive to this situation?

THERE IS NO COINCIDENCE ...



Historical evolution – Unfair competition

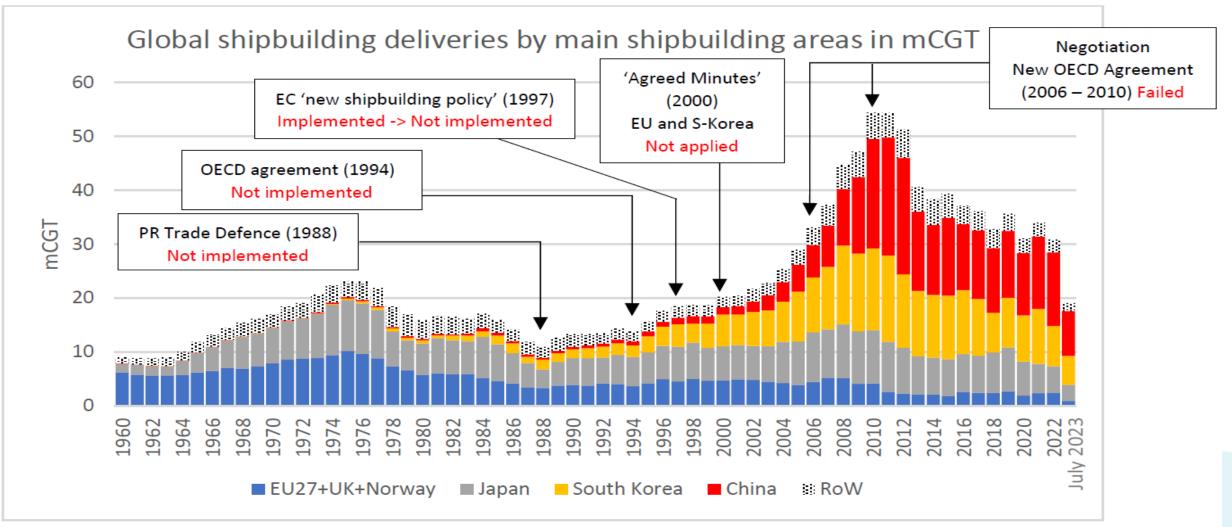
Global shipbuilding deliveries per ten-year period based on CGT



Data source: IHS Markit. Compiled by: SEA Europe.



What did Europe do against this situation? A failed policy of broken promises since 1988



Data source: IHS Markit. Compiled by: SEA Europe.

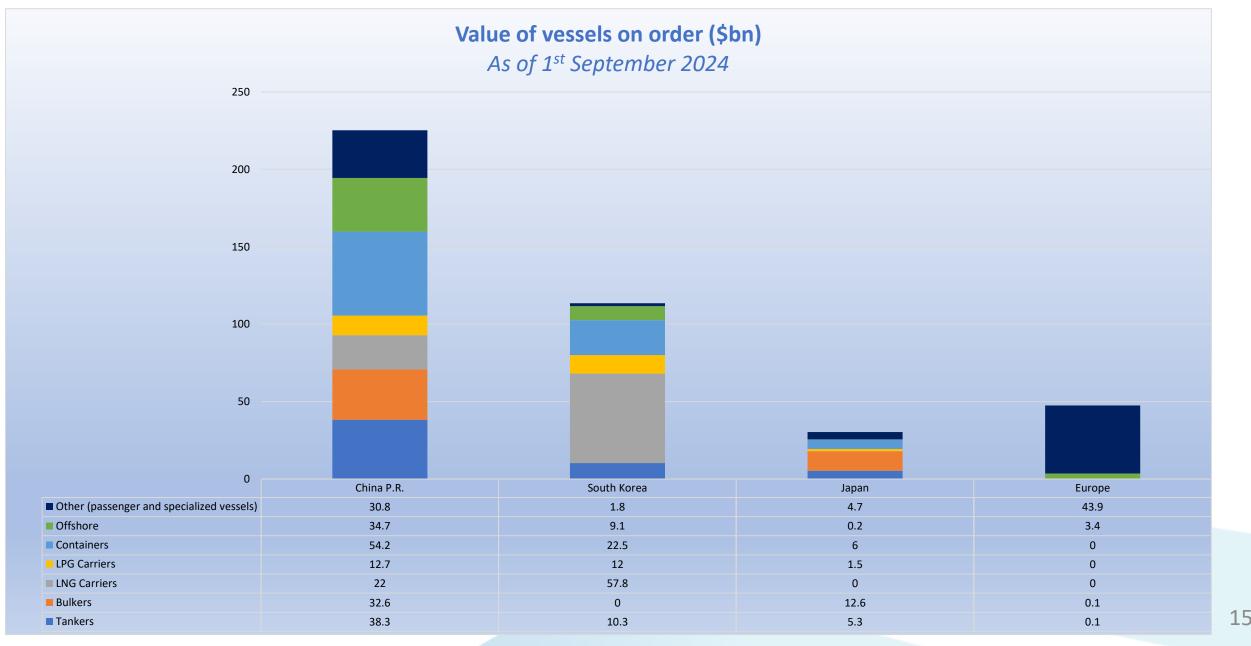


The situation of EU shipbuilding today

STILL PRESENT THANKS TO SPECIALISATION AND INNOVATION BUT ...



A specialisation in niche markets



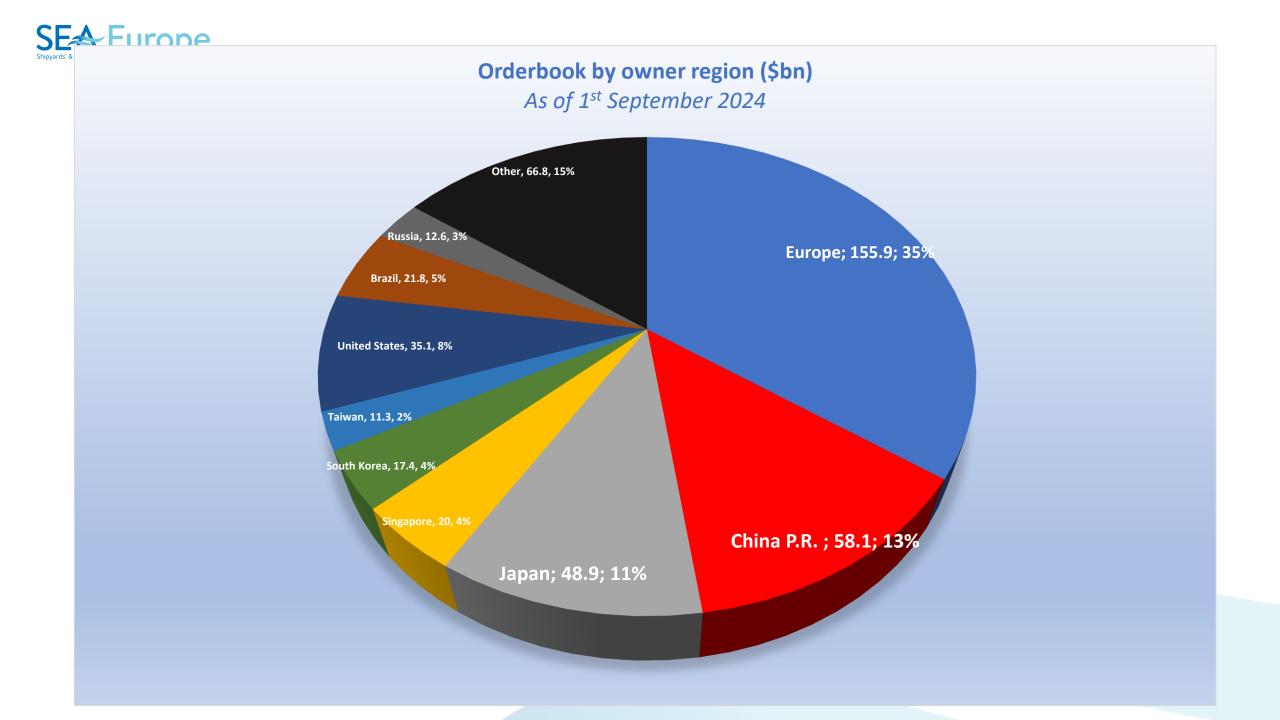


3 main observations

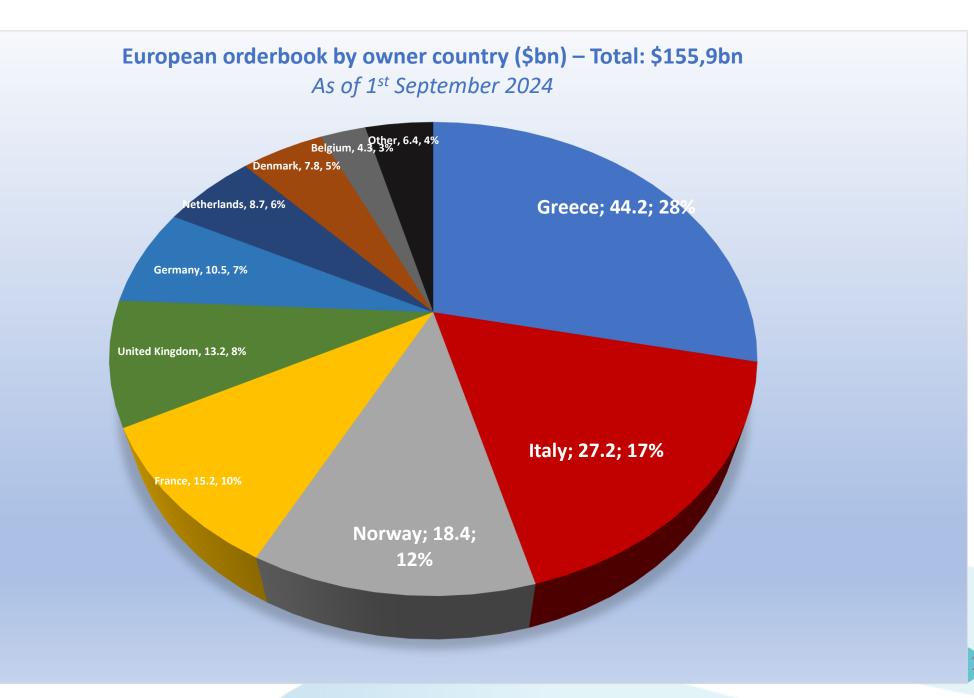
- Europe's specialisation in niche markets is resilience risk
 - E.g., Cruise during the Covid
- China challenges Europe's remaining leadership in complex ship types
 - "Made in China 2025"
- Today's world is characterised by geo-political tensions
 - Need for strategic autonomy and self-reliance, thus also for an own industrial capacity



What about EU shipowners?

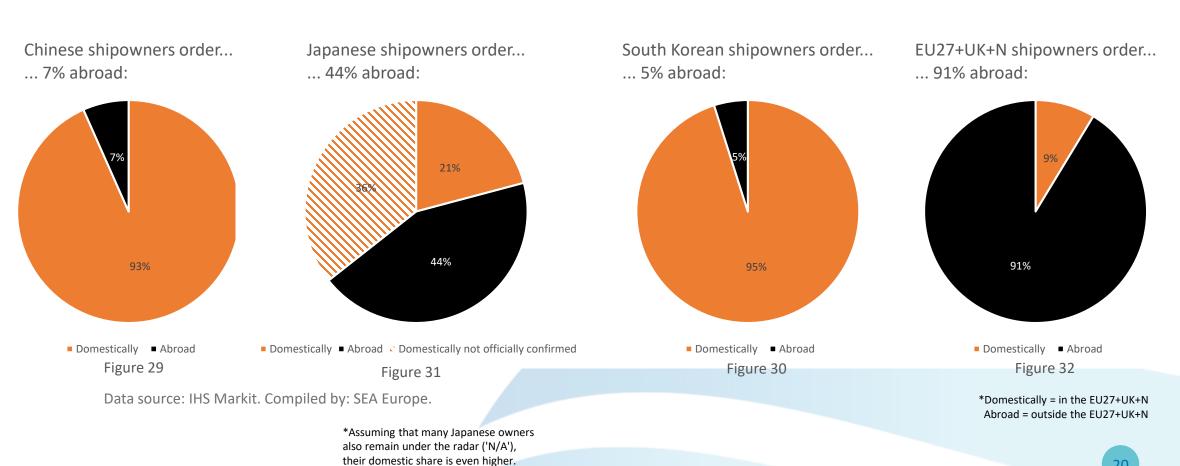








Where do shipowners place their orders?





So what do we do now???

DOING NOTHING IS NOT AN OPTION ...



Reason 1

Maritime Sector is key for EU's Strategic Autonomy

- 90% of global trade is carried by ships
- 80% of the EU's external trade is carried by ships
- 37% of the EU's internal trade is carried by ships
- So without shipping import and export of goods would not be possible.
- Ships transport people and connect maritime regions
- Ships are key for Europe's defence, border control and border protection
- Ships are key for Europe's mobility policy They shift cargo off the roads
- Ships are key for the Blue Economy
 - E.g., offshore renewable energy, aquaculture, deep sea mining



Reason 2 Reducing foreign maritime dependency

- The pandemic and the war in Ukraine have told us a hard lesson: The EU is too dependent on foreign countries
 - 94% of global merchant shipbuilding is made in Asia
 - China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC) alone holds a 21.5% share of global shipbuilding market
 - 52% of shipping trade is managed by Asian companies.
 - Chinese-owned fleet leads the world shipping trade, managing the 18% of global shipping business.
 - The world's largest shipping company is COSCO (China Ocean Shipping Company)
- Foreign dependencies mean economic and military security risks
 - Control of critical supply chains is key (raw materials, energy and food supply)
 - Risks of vulnerability or disruption in supply chains (closed borders; ships blocking the Suez canal)
 - Maritime autonomy is key to ensure trade
 - Naval shipbuilding autonomy is key to ensure own defence capability
 - Industrial capacity (shipbuilding/ship repair) is key for fleet operability and self-reliance



What is the way forward?

A MARITIME INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY



Strengthening the Competitiveness of EU Shipbuilding

European Defence Industrial Strategy Launched in March 2024

Strengthening the European defence industry, including naval shipbuilding

35%

- of the EU-defence market should be made up by intra-European trade
- **40%** of defence equipment should be procured in a collaborative manner
- **50%** of the procurement budget should be devoted to procurement from Europe

To reach these goals, the Commission proposed a number of measures to facilitate access to financing and encourage cooperation. Maritime Industrial Strategy Requested by Council (Compet) May 2024

Securing the strategic autonomy of European shipbuilding

• The European Commission has been tasked to prepare a maritime industrial strategy





What is a maritime industrial strategy?

For SEA Europe:

"A strategy about and for European shipyards and maritime equipment manufacturers"





SEA Europe's ambition

SETTING SAIL TO BUILD IN EUROPE 10,000 SUSTAINABLE AND DIGITALISED VESSELS BY 2035

SEA EUROPE'S CALL FOR A EUROPEAN MARITIME INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

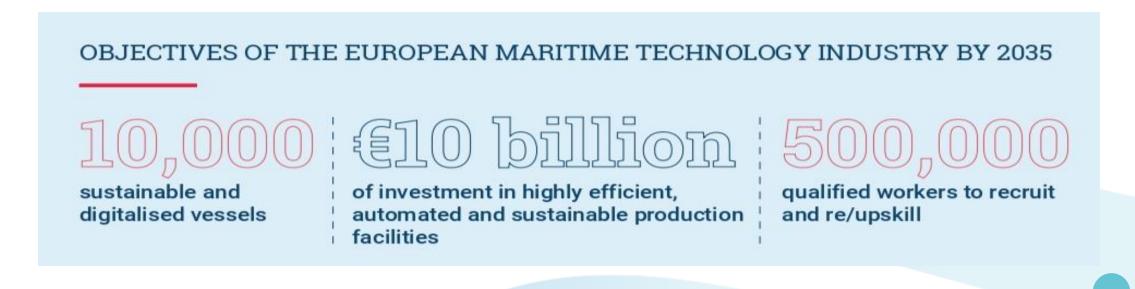


Goal:

Regaining shipbuilding capacity is critical for Europe

Our ambition:

- Consolidate our global leadership in complex shipbuilding & maritime equipment manufacturing
- > Regain strategic ship types for the European Blue Economy (e.g. shortsea shipping)
- **Conquer** emerging markets (e.g. offshore renewable energy)





Industrial Sovereignty & Competitiveness

"Made in Europe" requirements in strategic public procurement markets & EU financial instruments

Financial incentives for shipowners to build and retrofit vessels in Europe.

Supportive regulatory framework

A Maritime Industry Act An Industrial Alliance for Blue Economy

Maritime Industrial Strategy

Technological leadership

Continue support for RDI (e.g., cPP) Easier access to public & private finance (e.g., through EIB guarantees) Skilled workforce Communication campaigns, Training programs A pool of qualified workers



Are we daydreaming?





The prospects are more promising than ever

- EESC CCMI (December 2022): A call for a maritime industrial strategy (
- COM Mobility Transition Pathways (January 2024): Our industry's needs recognized
- EP EU Port Strategy (January 2024): Reference to our industry's needs
- Competitiveness Council (June 2024): A clear call for a maritime industrial strategy
- Draghi report (September 2024): Shipbuilding explicitly mentioned
- Von der Leyen's mission letter to new Transport Commissioner: Propose a new industrial maritime strategy for Europe's maritime manufacturing sector



Many political hooks for the maritime industrial strategy

- Clean Industrial Deal
- Industrial Decarbonization Accelerator Act
- An EU Competitiveness Fund
- A Sustainable Transport Investment Plan
- Industrial Alliances combined with Important Projects of Common European Interest



Together we are stronger

- The EU is not a state like China or the USA
- The EU's competences are divided between the European Commission and EU Member States
 - The European Commission can only do what it can do.
 - But the European Commission can adopt measures to support the maritime industry
- EU measures can help Member States to compete with Asia. Something they cannot do alone.
- An EU–wide framework can avoid competition amongst EU Member States (e.g. for the national use of EU ETS revenues for maritime investments



The political momentum for EU shipyards and maritime equipment industry is there

Now it is time to deliver



Some interesting thoughts for Poland

• A nation with a long history in shipbuilding and ship repair

• So much expectation from the maritime technology industry

• 1st EU Presidency of the Council under new European Commission

- A unique political momentum to assist European Commission in developing a maritime industrial strategy
- Maritime Conference in Szczecin in May 2025
 - A unique political moment to bring EU policymakers and maritime stakeholders together



Thank you very much