

A NET-ZERO, SMART,  
RESILIENT AND  
COMPETITIVE EUROPE:  
EUROPE'S PORTS ARE  
PART OF THE SOLUTION



Priorities of the European Sea Ports  
Organisation for 2024-2029

More than ever, ports are strategic entities and enablers of Europe's ambitions and its sustainable, digital, competitive, strong and social future.



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Induced by sustainability, technological, geopolitical and demographic drivers, the European port sector is transforming and responding to several ongoing trends.



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Focus on implementation:  
bring clarity and give support  
to ports to ensure an effective  
implementation of existing  
legislation.



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Incoherences or conflicting policies should be addressed.



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# Europe's ambitions are port ambitions.



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Give ports the space to take up their role as facilitator of renewable energy.



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More financial support for ports when pioneering with more risky energy investments.



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Ports must be able to prioritise green investments that make most sense in terms of emission reduction.



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A continuous dialogue  
between all relevant  
stakeholders must limit the  
risk of stranded assets.



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# Support circular economy and industrial carbon management.



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Safeguarding the level  
playing field both within the  
internal market and vis-à-vis  
Europe's neighbours.



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Make work of administrative simplification.  
Introduce a “do not harm competitiveness check”  
in EU policy making.



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Equal access and conditions  
to funding across  
Europe remains key.



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The fair power play and level playing field within the maritime sector should be monitored more closely.



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The role of ports as a fundamental pillar of Europe's supply chain sovereignty must be recognised. Ports must be supported accordingly.



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EU security measures should not stop trade, but make it safer.



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Europe must remain an  
attractive place to invest.



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Raising awareness of possible cyber risks is a shared responsibility of all port stakeholders. No one should be left behind in these efforts.



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Ports are partners in striving  
for a smart, but safe and  
secure cyber environment.



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# European funding should be simple.



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Ports more than ever need access to robust funding support to continue to invest in projects with a high societal value but often slow, low and risky returns on investment.



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Dedicated port envelopes within the different EU funding instruments are essential and must reflect the needs and realities of Europe's ports.



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Europe's ports have 80 billion EUR investment needs for the next ten years



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**A closer cooperation  
between DG MOVE and DG  
ENER should be envisaged.**



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Addressing the complexity of today's challenges requires a continuous, transparent and open dialogue between stakeholders and EU policy makers.



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The new roles of ports can be door openers for attracting new businesses and new talents.



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Ports connect people:  
the port as resource for  
the city.



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# Ports are multitaskers.



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Ports cannot get the job done without the right people.



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