EU MARITIME SECURITY STRATEGY

MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Protect EU interests at sea - citizens, economy, infrastructure and borders
- Protect our natural resources and the marine environment
- Uphold international law, particularly the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
- React promptly and effectively to growing threats (e.g. cyber and hybrid threats)
- Ensure relevant training and education to counter threats (e.g. cyber skills)

Why do we need to act?

Ensuring safe and secure oceans is vital for the European and world economies:

- Over 80% of global trade is seaborne
- About two-thirds of the world’s oil and gas supply is extracted at sea or transported by sea
- Up to 99% of international data transfers and communications are done through submarine cables (over 400 submarine cables extending over 1.3 million kilometres)

We need to deal with an increasing number of traditional and new threats:

- Traditional threats (piracy, armed robbery, smuggling, human trafficking, arms and narcotics, etc.)
- Hybrid- and cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure (submarine cables, pipelines, etc.)
- Climate change and environmental degradation (marine pollution, depletion of fish stocks, loss of biodiversity)
6 strategic objectives

1) Step up activities at sea:
   - organising an annual naval exercise at EU level
   - reinforcing existing EU naval operations
   - developing further coastguard in sea basins around the EU
   - expanding the Coordinated Maritime Presences concept to new maritime areas of interest

2) Cooperate with partners by:
   - deepening EU-NATO cooperation
   - enhancing partnerships with likeminded countries, regional and international organisations
   - deploying EU liaison officers to maritime information centres in non-EU countries
   - promoting dialogue and best practices through the coast guard function forums

3) Enhance maritime domain situational awareness by:
   - strengthening the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) and MARSUR
   - reinforcing coastal and off-shore patrol vessel surveillance

4) Manage risks and threats by:
   - conducting regular live maritime exercises involving civil and military entities
   - monitoring and protecting critical maritime infrastructure and ships from physical and cyber threats
   - tackling unexploded ordnance and mines at sea
   - developing further awareness and preparedness to tackle threats linked to climate change and environmental degradation

5) Boost capabilities by:
   - developing common requirements and concepts for defence technologies in the maritime domain
   - stepping up work on projects such as the European Patrol Corvette or improving anti-submarine capabilities

6) Educate and train by:
   - boosting hybrid and cyber security qualifications notably on the civilian side
   - conducting training and joint exercises open to non-EU partners

EU MARITIME SECURITY AROUND THE WORLD