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# CRIMINAL LIABILITY (OR NOT) OF THE MASTER OF THE SHIP FOR TRAFFICKING



### Criminal liability of the master of the ship

### Presumed innocence

- proof of guilt
- Any other physical person
- Not connected with the function of the master of the ship

### Command liability

- Commander of a ship
- Strict liability
- What for? What are his functions?

# Wider sense

#### Trafficking

Every organized illicit trade in different commodities, provided by criminal activity

• People, drugs, arms, organs etc.

## SP arrower

Only trafficking in persons

The victim has not given consent

Prolongued abuse

"...recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

Art. 3. par. 1 a) Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children Of the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000

### Smuggling

- "...procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident"
  - Art. 3. par. 1 a) Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air of the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000.

### Supranumeraries on board of a ship

Found during voyage & declared

- Stowaways
- Administrative procedure of repatriation

Found by the port state authorities

- In part of the ship
- In the cargo
- Liability of the master?

### Criminalization of seafarers for trafficking

- Capt. Laptalo Case 2007, Greece
  - Carriage of 187 000 boxes of bananas, palletes wrapped in plastic
  - Guayaquill, Equador to different Mediterranean ports
  - 2 boxes cocain
  - Master: 16 months in prison, 1° Court: 14 years of prison; 2°
     Court: released of all charges
- Case "Therese" 2008, Panama
  - "parasite" on the underwater part of the hull
  - Columbia to Panama
  - Master: House arrest for months

### Trafficking within the cargo or

part of the ship







### Liability of the master of the ship

- FOR THE SHIP
  - Functions of the master of the ship
- FOR THE CARGO
  - Cargo handling procedure

#### Functions of the master

- Nautical function and safety of the ship
- Administrative powers
- Legal representation of the shipping company

### 1. Nautical function & safety of the ship

- Early days of shipping
  - Shipowner (merchant): physically present on board of a ship
    - Commands the whole maritime venture; commercial duty
    - Ship: biggest asset
  - Magister navis (master mariner): navigation
    - Fully independent and liable for nautical function
- Primitive accumulation of capital
  - Shipowner: more ships, runs from the mainland
  - Transfers his powers onto the master of the ship

### Master's functions: directly transferred from the shipowner

- Goal:
  - safe completion of the maritime venture
  - profit from carriage of goods
- Nautical function
- Safety of the ship
- Commercial duty for the cargo during voyage
  - Contractual liability for the cargo
  - As declared by the shipper

#### After 9/11: Security function

- 2002 Ammendments to the Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS)
  - International Ship and Port Facilities Security Code (ISPS Code)
    - Security of ships, crew and ports
    - Certification of security officer, port, ship
    - Violation: misdemeanor
  - Example: underwater hull scan prior to sailing out

### Administrative function

- Reasons: Isolation of the ship from the mainland, urgency
- Content: entry into the log book the facts of: birth, death, last will etc.

#### Legal representation

- Reasons: ship
   phisically remote
   from the
   shipowner/company
- Master: contracts for completion of the maritime venture outside of the place of business

### Cargo handling procedure

Liability for the cargo in transport Commercial duty of care by the crew

#### Shipper's loading and declaration of cargo



### Disposition for shipment

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3. 09067344 A2700560	37815353 DRVNA CEI	45GP	3,800.00	TNRDS 138	TN	24,620.0	0 510/7280/28.12						
4. 09066900 A2700555	37815353 HLXU6029111 DRVNA CELULOZA		45GP	3,800.00	TNRDS 145	TN	26,280.0	0	.12.09.				
5. 09067480 A2700561	37815353 HLXU6486946 DRVNA CELULOZA		45GP	3,800.00	TNRDS 143	TN	25,380.0	0	.12.09.				
6. 09066996 A2700557	37815353 DRVNA CEI	45GP	3,800.00	TNRDS 145	TN	26,220.0	0	.12.09.					
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### Shipping (loading) plan

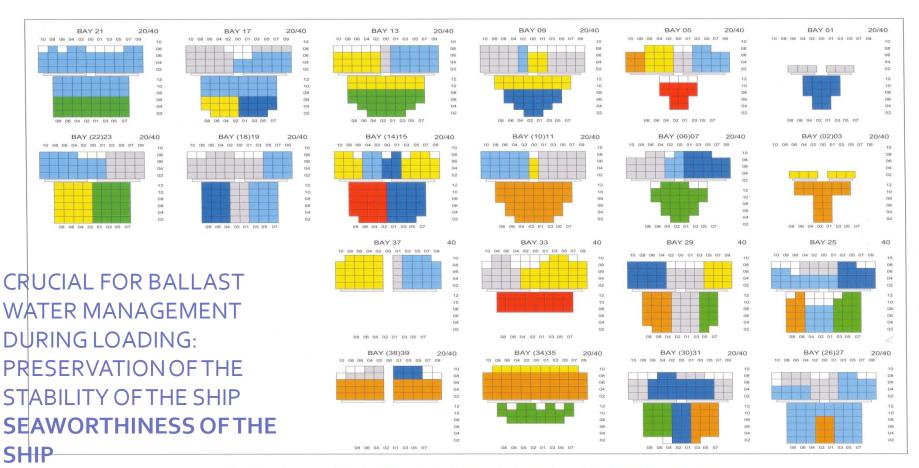


Fig. 18 - Piano di stivaggio che indica la forma e la dimensione delle "baie" da prua a poppa.

### Cargo manifest

#### **MANIFEST** CMA CGM CROATIA POM CMA CGM S.A. FRANCE CMA CGM CROATIA POM CMA-CGM c Zr. fasizma 2/2 4 QUAI D ARENC Zr. fasizma 2/2 51000 RIJEKA 13002 MARSEILLE 51000 RIJEKA CRILLON broj putovanja brodana OG016R rb Teretnica Kontejner Tip Tez. kont. Luka ukrc. Zemlja odred. Transh Plomba Opisrobe Br. pak. Tez, robe 1. PK2272680 BMOU2079789 22G1 2,250.00 MTMLA 1,969.00 075149 149 CARTON REF 149 69-291.124-1-5-000.728.530-062 DLV BSIU2097047 2. IN1533032 22G1 2,250.00 MTMLA 0351139 320 19,424.00 3. DJ1253092 CMAU1057535 22G1 2,250.00 MTMLA 5911958 1,920 BAGS 6X20FT GROSS WEIGHT: 116,640 KGS 320 19,440.00 NET WE DJ1253092 CRXU1587267 22G1 2,250.00 MTMLA 5911955 1,920 BAGS 6X20FT GROSS WEIGHT: 116,640 KGS 320 19,440.00 NET WE 5. IN1533032 CRXU1868177 22G1 2,250.00 MTMLA 0351140 320 19,424.00 6. IN1533032 DFSU2078906 22G1 2.250.00 MTMLA 0351132 320 19,424.00 7. PK2272462 ECMU1183963 22G1 2,250.00 MTMLA 6117581 335 CARTONS = 3824 PCS-SETS FLANNEL QUILT 335 2.524.00 ovjera agenta referent HTZ-a OVAJ DOKUMENT IZRADEN JE ELEKTRONSKOM **B-T (F)** OBRADOM PODATAKA I VRIJEDI 0006 29. 12. 2009. 11:3 BEZ POTPISA I PECATA.

### CARGO HANDLING OPERATIONS: -1ST DECK OFFICER

- -Checks only the number of loaded containers, serial numbers of containers
- -2nd DECK OFFICER
- -Safety and security
- -Ballast waters

### The end: Bill of lading

Stevedores / ship

Shipping plan



List of loaded containers



Agent / consignee

On board bill of lading

#### CONCLUSIONS

- Modern functions of the master of the ship:
  - No warranty ship is a crime-free zone
  - Only functions transferred from the shipowner
    - Safe ending of maritime and commercial venture
  - Ship's security (ISPS) public order, anti-terrorist measures
- Cargo handling: only documentary checks, sealed cargo
  - Contractual liability for damages of the cargo as declared
- Criminal liability for trafficking:
  - COMMAND LIABILITY: ONLY FOR WAR CRIMES
  - NO ANALOGY IN CRIMINAL LAW
  - NULLUM CRIMEN, NULLA POENA SINE LEGE

