

# BLACK SEA AND SEA OF AZOV – THREATS TO SHIPPING

The U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) has issued advisory 2022-004. Whilst this advisory is primarily aimed at US flagged vessels, the information is also valuable to all vessels trading in that area.

## SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ADVISORY:

“Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in late February, there have been reports of multiple commercial vessels being struck by projectiles and/or experiencing explosions in Ukrainian ports, and in the northwestern Black Sea off the coast of Ukraine. There have also been reports of naval mines in the water near Odesa.”

“...commercial vessels should avoid entering or approaching the Sea of Azov, Ukrainian ports, or Ukrainian territorial waters in the northwestern Black Sea. Vessels operating near these areas are advised to exercise caution, conduct a risk assessment; review security measures; review current NATO Shipping Center, NAVAREA III and other local broadcast warnings; and incorporate appropriate protective measures into their vessel security plans. Vessels should ensure AIS is transmitting at all times (except when the master believes that continuing to operate AIS might compromise the safety or security of the ship or when a security incident is imminent), consistent with provisions of the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), and monitor VHF Channel 16.”

The full advisory and other advisories can be found at:

<https://www.maritime.dot.gov/msci-advisories>

## QUESTIONS?

Should you have any questions following this information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## ABOUT EF MARINE

EF Marine provides Fixed Premium P&I solutions to Shipowners, Charterers and MultiModal operators. EF Marine has a global client base and offices in Singapore and Rotterdam. EF Marine provides ‘AA’-rated security from Swiss Re Corporate Solutions with limits up to USD 500m. Through our partnership with Swiss Re Corporate Solutions we provide our clients with first class security combined with EF Marine’s extensive knowledge of the P&I market.

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