



EUROPEAN DREDGING ASSOCIATION

EUDA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OPEN-PART PROGRAMME

**THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2009
SHERATON BRUSSELS AIRPORT**

**FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING STATE AID
TO EU MARITIME TRANSPORT,
IN THE LIGHT OF THE RISING THREAT FROM CHINA**

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Dimitrios Theologitis
DG Energy & Transport
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

“Next revision of the Guidelines on State Aid to EU Maritime Transport”

Mihail Milev
DG Energy & Transport
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*“The 2004 Guidelines on State Aid to Maritime Transport and
their recent application by the Commission”*

Carsten Dannöhl
BUSINESSEUROPE

“International Chinese trade practices”

*Panel discussion moderated by
Filip Tuytschaever
CONTRAST EUROPEAN & BUSINESS LAW*



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**FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING STATE AID TO EU MARITIME
TRANSPORT, IN THE LIGHT OF THE RISING THREAT FROM CHINA**

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The current European Commission Guidelines on State Aid to Maritime Transport date from January 2004.

Since then, decisions on cases have been taken by the Commission and have paved the way towards the revision of the Guidelines.

The Guidelines explicitly state that their revision should take place within 7 years of publication i.e. the beginning of 2011.

Therefore, the timing is right to initiate a reflection on key elements with respect to the dredging industry within the existing Guidelines taking into account the recent decisions on cases in order to have a better understanding of how the revised guidelines would integrate this leading European industry.

Key actors from the Commission (involved in the writing and the implementation of the Guidelines on State Aid to Maritime Transport) will present the key elements of the Guidelines' revision.

This reflection should be put in the context of the current global financial and economic crisis and the temptation for many countries to protect their national champions active in fiercely competitive global markets and to provide them with additional (but unfair) advantages, based on Government support.

China's approach to international trade (including its financing practices) is often distorting competition and creating unfair advantages in the field of dredging works in Africa and South-America.

BUSINESSEUROPE's specialist on China will make a presentation on selected trade practices.

**KEYNOTE
SPEAKERS:**

Dimitrios Theologitis
DG Energy & Transport
**EUROPEAN
COMMISSION**
Head of Unit for "Maritime
transport & ports policy;
maritime security"

Mihail Milev
DG Energy & Transport
**EUROPEAN
COMMISSION**
Case Handler for State Aid to
Maritime Transport – Unit for
"Internal Market and
Competition"

Carsten Dannöhl
BUSINESSEUROPE
Senior Adviser on International
Relations – specialist of China

Filip Tuytschaever
CONTRAST
Lawyer specialised in European
& Business law



SPEAKERS

**FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING STATE AID TO EU MARITIME TRANSPORT,
IN THE LIGHT OF THE RISING THREAT FROM CHINA**

Thursday 12 November 2009

*“Next revision of the Guidelines on State Aid to
EU Maritime Transport”*



Dimitrios Theologitis

**Head of Unit for “Maritime transport & ports policy; maritime security”
European Commission - DG TRANSPORT & ENERGY**

Born in Athens in 1955, educated as Civil Engineer (National Technical University of Athens) specialised in transport, Dimitrios Theologitis joined the European Commission in 1984.

After holding several positions, he became Head of Unit for “Computer Aids for Translation” then moved to Directorate General for Energy and Transport (DG TREN) leading successively the Units for “Road Safety and Technology” and “Security Policy and Maritime Security”.

Since April 2008, he is Head of the Unit "Maritime Transport and Ports Policy; Maritime Security" where he deals with, amongst other, the definition of a vision for maritime transport for the next ten years, the realisation of the European Maritime transport space without barriers, the promotion of short sea shipping, the follow-up of the European ports policy programme, the development of an e-Maritime programme, international relations with the major European trading partners in the maritime domain, as well as the further development of maritime security.

He is also the “chef de file” for the guidelines on state aid to maritime transport.



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Thursday 12 November 2009**

“The 2004 Guidelines on State Aid to Maritime Transport and their recent application by the Commission”



Mihail Milev

Case Handler for State Aid to Maritime Transport – Unit for “*Internal Market & Competition*”

European Commission - DG TRANSPORT & ENERGY

Mr. Mihail Milev has a legal background and is a graduate of the College of Europe (Natolin). He has previously worked in the Bulgarian Competition Authority and Directorate-General for Competition (DG COMP) of the European Commission in the field of application of EC antitrust rules to Maritime Transport.

Since 2008, he is working at the Unit for "Internal Market and Competition Unit" of the Directorate-General for Energy and Transport (DG TREN), dealing specifically with State Aid cases in the Maritime Transport sector.



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“International Chinese trade practices”



Carsten Dannöhl

Senior Adviser on International Relations – specialist on China

BUSINESSEUROPE

German national, Carsten Dannöhl studied political sciences, economics, international law and intercultural communications in Munich and Paris, and holds a Master degree in European studies from the Sorbonne University in Paris.

He has been working for BUSINESSEUROPE, the Confederation of European Business, for more than 8 years. Holding different positions, he started his professional career as personal adviser to the Director General then moved to take charge of press relations for several years. He is currently responsible for BUSINESSEUROPE's activities towards China and Japan, multilateral trade negotiations in the framework of the WTO, and European customs policy.



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Panel Discussion moderated by



Filip Tuytschaever

**Lawyer specialised in European & Business Law
CONTRAST EUROPEAN & BUSINESS LAW**

Filip Tuytschaever is a partner of Contrast, professor of EU competition law at the Law Faculty of the University of Brussels (VUB) and a member of the Brussels Bar.

He graduated from the University of Ghent, obtained Masters' degrees in International and European Law at the University of Brussels (VUB) and in business management (VLEKHO) and was awarded a Ph.D. in law at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence (Italy).

He specialises in EU, competition and distribution law and assists companies and public authorities in administrative and judicial proceedings before the EU and national authorities and courts. He has represented the Belgian authorities before the European Commission (DG TREN) in the course of the transition by Belgium to the new Guidelines on State Aid to Maritime Transport and the related adoption by the European Commission of its positive decision in state aid cases NN132/2000 and NN73/2003 on the reduction of the social security contributions for maritime transport and maritime dredging by Belgium.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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