



**CPMR
CRPM**

SEA Europe
Shipyards' & Maritime Equipment Association

CPMR AND SEA Europe MANIFESTO FOR AN AMBITIOUS EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL MARITIME STRATEGY

To thrive in the 21st century, the European Union must maintain and expand its industrial capacity, strengthen its strategic sectors and drive sustainable innovation. The EU maritime industry plays a pivotal role in this endeavour, not only in terms of economic value but also as a key instrument for energy security, geopolitical influence and as a gateway to green and digital transformations.

Over the last decades, the European shipbuilding, maritime manufacturing, logistics and port sectors have lost significant competitiveness in the face of fierce competition from Asia, fuelled by massive policy and financial support. Furthermore, the European Union and its Member States did not deliver the necessary conditions to allow European maritime industry to enhance its competitiveness and attract the funding needed to profoundly update its infrastructures and production processes.

Amidst the current geopolitical tensions, ensuring a critical mass of shipbuilding and maritime manufacturing in Europe is crucial to enable Europe's maritime decarbonisation, ensure naval military capabilities and safeguard Europe's critical maritime and underwater infrastructures.

To enhance the resilience and competitiveness of EU maritime industry, an ambitious strategic roadmap built on impactful initiatives is essential. In this regard, it is necessary to:

- Ensure that sufficient public and private funding is available to finance investment and technological advancement in the maritime industry.
- Boost demand for clean ships and maritime technologies in Europe, through financial and regulatory incentives to shipowners, conditional upon European preference requirements.
- Stay ahead of global competition for maritime technology through enhanced R&D and innovation efforts.

The [European Competitiveness Compass](#), alongside the [Draghi](#) and [Letta](#) reports, provides essential frameworks and recommendations that shaped Europe's new growth strategy set by the [Clean Industrial Deal](#). Together, these documents outlined a path for enhancing the EU's global competitiveness, focusing on key sectors like the maritime industry.

By capitalising on this new framework, the future European Industrial Maritime Strategy must become a “game changer” aiming at enhancing all key factors directly and indirectly impacting on the competitiveness of the EU maritime industry.

For the successful implementation of the European Industrial Maritime Strategy, facilitating cooperation among key territorial stakeholders in maritime regions will be crucial.

Thanks to their capacity to develop effective and innovative strategies involving territorial stakeholders, as well as their diverse legislative and budgetary competences, maritime regions support the sustainable development of maritime industrial sectors.

By encouraging collaboration between regional governments, industry players, research institutions, start-ups/small and medium enterprises, public and private banks, the Industrial Maritime Strategy will accelerate the sharing of knowledge, resources and best practices, making it easier to tackle common challenges, such as decarbonisation, digitalisation and infrastructure modernisation. It might also lead to the development of place-based solutions tailored to territorial strengths.

In this regard, the Industrial Maritime Strategy should deliver the legislative and funding conditions for multi-actors' alliances to establish innovative and more competitive conditions. In this respect, **“Maritime Industrial Valleys”**, modelled along the Net-Zero Acceleration Valleys established by the Net-Zero Industry Act as specific areas, will play a strategic role to accelerate industrial activities and the implementation of manufacturing projects.

With the shared objective of equipping EU maritime regions with an ambitious and innovative European Industrial Maritime Strategy, the CPMR and SEA Europe commit to jointly pursuing the vision outlined in this Manifesto and call upon EU legislators to initiate a political and technical debate on these proposals in the coming months.