



PRESS RELEASE

Global Maritime Forum calls youth to challenge present industry thinking

The Global Maritime Forum announces its first Future Maritime Leaders essay competition. The competition is looking for youth perspectives on how current trends will shape the future of the maritime industry and the wider society. The authors of the three winning entries will be invited to represent the young generation at the Global Maritime Forum's Annual Summit in Singapore on 30-31 October 2019.

The world is undergoing a profound transformation. Trade wars and geopolitical tensions are disrupting international relations and trade patterns. At the same time, we are witnessing how emerging markets, for instance in Africa and Asia, are lifting millions of people out of poverty. Digital technologies are bringing profound changes to societies and companies, offering new challenges and new opportunities. Furthermore, we are observing how rising societal demands for environmental sustainability and inclusive growth are putting pressure on businesses and decision-makers to change their behavior.

Young people's mindset and innovative ideas are key to the future success of the maritime industry and to the prosperity of society. The Future Maritime Leaders essay competition welcomes concrete, actionable ideas and creative arguments for how current trends will affect, shape and transform the maritime industry. How can the maritime industry best prepare for these changes? How can the maritime industry use these challenges and opportunities to contribute to sustainable long-term economic development and human wellbeing?

"There are enormous, multiple shifts the world is experiencing that affect everyone, including the maritime industry. Young people have unique insights that are important. We want to hear from them. We encourage young talents from inside and outside the maritime sector to challenge present industry thinking and to share their ideas on how to shape the future of the global seaborne trade," says **Christine Loh, Chief Development Strategist, Institute for the Environment, Hong Kong University of Science & Technology**. Christine Loh also heads the selection committee that will select the three winning entries.

The Global Maritime Forum is looking for essay submissions from students and young professionals aged 18-30. A selection committee comprised of senior maritime stakeholders will select three winning essays, and the authors will be awarded the unique opportunity to participate in the Global Maritime Forum's Annual Summit in Singapore on 30-31 October 2019. There they will represent the young generation and take up active roles as official participants alongside maritime CEOs and other top executives. The winners will receive full sponsoring for the duration of the event, as well as see their contribution published on the Global Maritime Forum's website.

Selection committee members:

- **Christine Loh**, Chief Development Strategist, Institute for the Environment, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong (Head of Committee)
- **Amy Jadesimi**, Managing Director, LADOL, Nigeria
- **Oivind Lorentzen III**, Director, SEACOR Holdings, USA
- **Ian El-Mokadem**, Chief Executive Officer, V.Group, UK
- **Kasper Soegaard**, Head of Research, Global Maritime Forum, Denmark

Essay competition criteria:

- The competition is open to students and young professionals aged **18-30**
- Essay submissions in **PDF** format should not comprise more than **1000 words**
- Participants in the competition should also attach their **CV**
- The submissions deadline is **30 June 2019**

Competition winners will be announced in the first week of September

Learn more about the Future Maritime Leaders essay competition at the **Global Maritime Forum's website**.

Photos and logos are available for download **here**.

For any further information please contact Head of Communications Torben Vemmelund at **tve@globalmaritimeforum.org** or +45 2224 1446 or visit **www.globalmaritimeforum.org**.

About the Global Maritime Forum

The Global Maritime Forum is an international not-for-profit organization committed to shaping the future of global seaborne trade to increase sustainable long-term economic development and human wellbeing. To serve its mission, the Forum convenes leaders from across the maritime community with policy-makers, NGOs, experts, and other influential decision-makers and opinion shapers from all geographies in a community of purpose to discuss collective challenges and to work together on developing new solutions and recommendations for action. In order to do so, the Forum identifies, develops and shares new insights and key issues on the global agenda and facilitates collaborative projects and initiatives that can deliver long-term impact and sustainable change.