Carbon free shipping and shipping carbon -Contracts in context

Setting the scene

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Hosting the conference

CEPRI (Centre for Private Governance)

SHOC (Shipping and Ocean Law Group)

So...?



The problem

- The shipping industry forms part of major global value chains
- It accounts for between 2% and 3% of global emissions
- If nothing is done, it will get worse: 17% of total annual CO2 emissions by 2050.



The shipping industry as a conservative industry

Public regulation:

- The Paris agreement from 2015 does not mention the shipping industry
- IMO Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy has been critisised for being insufficient
- Shipping sector originally not included in the EU ETS system

Private governance:

• Maritime actors have been slow movers under the CSR movement

Now speeding up?

Regional initiatives:



International initiatives:

- IMO: MARPOL, Annex VI, introducing EEXI system and CII system from January 2023:
 - Existing ships must meet energy efficiency requirements as built (EEXI) and as operated (CII)
- May 2022: Carbon tax?

Theme for this conference

What are the spill over effects of the development towards carbon reductions at the contractual level?

- Contracts for carbon free shipping
- Contracts for shipping carbon for storage

Matters for discussion:

What do the contracts look like, how should they be understood and interpreted, do they achieve the desired goal and will and can they be enforced? =>5 parts of the conference



- I. Regional initiatives
- EU ETS system

=> Contractual issues:

- Distribution of costs between shipowner and charterer
- Trading carbon credits

II: International initiatives

- MARPOL, Annex VI (from January 2023)
 - EEXI system
 - CII system

=> contractual issues:

- BIMCO clauses: Distribution of costs and obligations between shipowners and charterers
- Other models

Focus on energy efficiency => Will the contracts become more 'collaborative'? Common goals of the parties? Can existing long term contracts be amended?

III: Enforcement?

Public enforcement:

• Reporting requirement/corrective plan

Market based enforcement?

- "... Bad CII ratings will significantly reduce the commercial attractiveness of the ships. Charterers will not want to charter them, insurance premiums for these ships will increase, and they will not get preferred slots in ports around the world and the port fee will increase for these ships."
- Push from **financial** actors?
- Climate **litigation** against maritime actors? (The Dutch Shell case, 2011)

Will it work or make things worse?

Focus on energy efficiency – but not total amount of emissions:

- Slow steaming and less cargo intake may optimise efficiency. But no limit as to the amount of ships that can be operated
- Long voyages may be more efficient than shorter with many ports stops. But in total, long voyages may produce more Co2
- - =>Will the CII system may make things worse?!
- Are contracts the tools to be used to solve these problems? Incentives?
- Interpreting contracts in the light of overriding, societal climate change concerns?



IV: Shipping carbon for storage

- Increased interest in this. The CCS chain is taking shape
- Project Green Sand, Blue Water Shipping
- New deal with Belgium, autumn 2022 for shipping carbon to Denmark
- Icelandic project, Shipments to start in 2025 by Danish Shipping Company
- Requires the right ships to carry the carbon under the right conditions
- =>Contracts for this kind of carriage?

- How to do it?
- Legal frameworks: Facilitation/obstacles?
- International law of the sea
- Environmental law: Carbon as 'waste'?

