PRESS RELEASE

EuRIC expands into ship recycling, with new working group

Brussels, 19 September 2024

EuRIC, the voice of Europe's recycling industries announces the launch of its **Ship Recycling Working Group** (ESRG) on 19 September 2024. **Chaired by Antonio Barredo (ES), the group includes founding members Galloo (FR), Smedegaarden (DK) and Fornaes (DK).**

This ESGR aims to address current barriers in ship recycling within the EU. Although the **EU Ship Recycling Regulation (SRR)**, implemented on 31 December 2018, was designed to ensure environmentally sound and safe ship recycling practices, challenges remain. Ship recycling is a key part of the maritime industry's lifecycle management, focusing on the safe dismantling of end-of-life vessels while minimising environmental impact.

"Our goal is to make ship recycling in the EU transparent, efficient, profitable and sustainable. "We want to ensure that regulations are effective but not too burdensome, and that international actors play by the same rules", said Antonio Barredo, Chair of EuRIC's ESRG.

Our key priorities include:

1. **Creating a level playing field both within the EU and with third countries** to ensure that all EU-listed yards adhere to the same standards and all EU-based yards fall under the scope of the EU legislation. This can prevent any non-compliance and ensure that all vessels are recycled only at approved yards or by listed companies.
2. **Simplifying bureaucratic processes** to speed up notification procedures and reduce administrative costs**.**
3. **Expanding the regulation's scope** to cover all types of vessels, regardless of size, type, or flag, prioritising ownership and financial beneficiaries of the vessel rather than its flag state.
4. **Strengthening control mechanisms** to ensure proper certification of yards and penalise violations of the legislation.
5. **Strengthening the ship recycling sector in the EU** by limiting the number of vessels leaving the EU at the end of their life.

"The launch of our Ship Recycling Working Group is a major step forward in advocating environmentally sound dismantling of end-of-life-ships in Europe and beyond and a token of EuRIC's leadership in driving the circular economy. We call on policymakers and stakeholders to join – because we need all hands on deck to make a real impact", stated Julia Ettinger, EuRIC's Secretary General.

Note to editor:

For press-related enquiries, please contact **Zoi Didili**, EuRIC Senior Communications Advisor, by email at zdidili@euric.org or by phone at +32 (0) 489 09 46 02. The European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC) is the umbrella organisation for the recycling industries in Europe. Through its 75 members from 23 European countries, EuRIC represents more than 5,500 large companies and SMEs involved in the recycling and trade of various resource streams. They represent a contribution of 95 billion EUR to the EU economy and 300,000 green and local jobs. By turning waste into resources, recycling reintroduces valuable materials into value chains over and over again. By bridging circularity and climate neutrality, recyclers are pioneers in leading Europe's industrial transition.