
D R A F T S T A T U T O R Y I N S T R U M E N T S

2025 No. [0000]

**MERCHANT SHIPPING AND RETAINED EU LAW
REFORM**

**The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention)
(Revocation and Reform Amendments) Regulations 2025**

Made - - - - [***]
Coming into force - - [XX _____ 2025]

The Secretary of State makes these Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 14(1) and (2); and 20 (1)(b) of the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023(a) (“the 2023 Act”).

The Secretary of State is a relevant national authority for the purposes of sections 14(1) and 14(2) of the 2023 Act^b.

Citation and extent

- 1.**—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Revocation and Reform Amendments) Regulations 2025 and come into force on _____ 2025.
(2) These Regulations extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Amendment of The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Medical Stores) Regulations 1995

- 2.**—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Medical Stores) Regulations 1995 are amended as follows(c).
(2) In Regulation 1(3) (citation, commencement, revocation and interpretation)—omit the definition of “Government ships”.
(3) In Regulation 3 (1) (application)—
(a) After “United Kingdom ships”, omit “and Government ships”.

(a) 2023 c.28.
(b) 2023 c. 21 - See section 21 of the Act for the definition of “relevant national authority”.
(c) S.I 1995/1802 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/1202).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997

3.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997 are amended as follows(a).

(2) In Regulation 2(2) (interpretation)— in the definition of “United Kingdom ship”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Manual Handling Operations) Regulations 1998

4.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Manual Handling Operations) Regulations 1998 are amended as follows. (b)

(2) In Regulation 2(2) (interpretation)—in the definition of “United Kingdom ship”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at work) (Employment of Young Persons) Regulations 1998

5.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety) (Employment of Young Persons) Regulations 1998 are amended as follows(c).

(2) In Regulation 2(2) (interpretation)—in the definition of “United Kingdom ship”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Personal Protective Equipment) Regulations 1999

6.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Personal Protective Equipment) Regulations 1999 are amended as follows(d).

(2) In Regulation 2(2) (interpretation)—

(a) in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Safety Signs and Signals) Regulations 2001

7.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Safety Signs and Signals) Regulations 2001 are amended as follows(e).

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)—

(a) in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Provision and Use of Work Equipment) Regulations 2006

8.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Provision and Use of Work Equipment) Regulations 2006 are amended as follows(f).

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)— in the definition of “United Kingdom ship”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment) Regulations 2006

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- (a) S.I. 1997/2962 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Health and Safety) (Amendment) Regulations 2014.
 - (b) S.I. 1998/2857.
 - (c) S.I. 1998/2411 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping (Hours of Work) Regulations 2002 and The Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Chemicals (Amendments to Secondary Legislation) Regulations 2015.
 - (d) S.I. 1999/2205.
 - (e) S.I. 2001/3444 which has been amended by The Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Chemicals (Amendments to Secondary Legislation) Regulations 2015 and The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018.
 - (f) S.I. 2006/2183.

9.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment) Regulations 2006 are amended as follows(a).

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)— in the definition of “United Kingdom ship”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Carcinogens and Mutagens) Regulations 2007

10.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Carcinogens and Mutagens) Regulations 2007 are amended as follows(b).

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)—

(a) in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Control of Vibration at Work) Regulations 2007

11.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Control of Vibration at Work) Regulations 2007 are amended as follows(c).

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)—in the definition of “United Kingdom ship”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Control of Noise at Work) Regulations 2007

12.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Control of Noise at Work) Regulations 2007 are amended as follows(d).

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation) in the definition of “United Kingdom ship”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Asbestos) Regulations 2010

13.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Asbestos) Regulations 2010 are amended as follows(e).

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation) in the definition of “United Kingdom ship”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Work at Height) Regulations 2010

14.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Work at Height) Regulations 2010 are amended as follows(f).

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)— in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Chemical Agents) Regulations 2010

(a) S.I. 2006/2184.

(b) S.I. 2007/3100 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2010; The Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Chemicals (Amendments to Secondary Legislation) Regulations 2015; and The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018.

(c) S.I. 2007/3077 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2010.

(d) S.I.2007/3075 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2010

(e) S.I. 2010/2984 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Asbestos) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.

(f) S.I. 2010/332.

15.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Chemical Agents) Regulations 2010 are amended as follows(a).

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)— in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Biological Agents) Regulations 2010

16.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Biological Agents) Regulations 2010 are amended as follows(b).

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)— in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Medical Certification) Regulations 2010

17.—(1) The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Medical Certification) Regulations 2010(c) are amended as follows.

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)— in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Artificial Optical Radiation) Regulations 2010

18.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Artificial Optical Radiation) Regulations 2010 are amended as follows(d).

(2) In Regulation 2 (1) (interpretation)—in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Survey and Certification) Regulations 2013

19.—(1) The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Survey and Certification) Regulations 2013(e) are amended as follows.

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)— in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Electromagnetic Fields) Regulations 2016

20.—(1) The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Electromagnetic Fields) Regulations 2016 are amended as follows(f).

(2) In Regulation 2 (1) (interpretation)—in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

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- (a) S.I. 2010/330 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Chemical Agents) (Amendment) Regulations 2012; The Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Chemicals (Amendments to Secondary Legislation) Regulations 2015; and The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018.
- (b) S.I. 2010/323 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018.
- (c) S.I. 2010/737 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Consequential and Minor Amendments) Regulations 2014; The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2018; The Merchant Shipping (High Speed Craft) Regulations 2022.
- (d) S.I. 2010/2987.
- (e) S.I. 2013/1785 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Consequential and Minor Amendments) Regulations 2014; The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2018; The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Compulsory Financial Security) (Amendment) Regulations 2018; and The Merchant Shipping (High Speed Craft) Regulations 2022.
- (f) S.I. 2016/1026.

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Hours of Work) Regulations 2018

21.—(1) The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Hours of Work) Regulations 2018(a) are amended as follows.

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)— in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Minimum Requirements for Seafarers etc.) Regulations 2014

22.—(1) The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Minimum Requirements for Seafarers etc.) Regulations 2014(b) are amended as follows.

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)—in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Recruitment and Placement) Regulations 2014

23.—(1) The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Recruitment and Placement) Regulations 2014(c) are amended as follows.

(2) In Regulation 2(1) (interpretation)—

(a) in the definition of “United Kingdom ship or”, omit paragraph (b).

(3) In regulation 6 (duty of employment agencies and businesses to provide financial system of protection) for paragraph (2) substitute—

“(2) The employment agency or employment business must—

(a) establish a system of protection, by way of insurance or an equivalent appropriate measure, to compensate the seafarer for monetary loss which the seafarer may incur as the result of—

(i) a failure of the employment agency or the employment business to meet its obligations to the seafarer; and

(ii) a failure of the shipowner which is party to the seafarer employment agreement to meet its obligations to the seafarer;

(b) inform the seafarer about the system of protection referred to in sub-paragraph (a) and of their rights under that system.”

Amendment of the Merchant Shipping (Fees) Regulations 2018

24.—(1) The Merchant Shipping (Fees) Regulations 2018(d) are amended as follows.

(2) In Schedule 1 (fees under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995), in the table at the end of Part I (surveys, inspections and applications for exemption), in the entry in section B (crew accommodation) relating to the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Minimum requirements for Seafarers etc.) Regulations 2014(e), after “2018/667” in the third column insert, “2025/0000” and “2025/9999”.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

(a) S.I.2018/58.

(b) S.I. 2014/1613 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2018; The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Compulsory Financial Security) (Amendment) Regulations 2018; The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention and Work in Fishing Convention) (Amendment) Regulations 2020; and The Merchant Shipping (High Speed Craft) Regulations 2022.

(c) S.I. 2014/1615 which has been amended by The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2018 and The Merchant Shipping (High Speed Craft) Regulations 2022.

(d) S.I. 2018/1104.

[Name]

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Transport

[Date]

We consent to the making of these Regulations

Two of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury

Date

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

The Government is directly responsible for the compliance of government ships with all international convention standards and the application of the MLC to government ships has been removed as the Government does not need to legislate for this purpose. Regulations 2 - 22 therefore make amendments to the definitions of "United Kingdom ship" to remove Government ships from the scope of each of the respective statutory instruments.

Regulation 23 amends regulation 6 of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Recruitment and Placement) Regulations 2014 to create a duty on employment agencies and employment businesses to inform seafarers of their rights under systems of financial protection which are already previously required. Breach of the new duty is an offence under regulation 8 of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Recruitment and Placement) Regulations 2014.

Regulation 24 amends the Merchant Shipping (Fees) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/1104) to insert reference to these Regulations into that statutory instrument.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private or voluntary sector is foreseen.

An Explanatory Memorandum is published alongside the instrument on www.legislation.gov.uk.