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**European Tugowners Association
Newsletter 11 - 31 JULY 2014**

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**ETA 52st ANNUAL MEETING
ATHENS, GREECE
13-15th MAY 2015**

PLEASE SAVE THE DATES !

Upon invitation of our Member Tsavlis, next year's meeting, open to Full and Associate Members, will be held in Athens.

The venue and hotel choice will be selected from a large number of possibilities offered by our member hosts.

This choice will be such that travel distance from the Athens airport will

be kept within very reasonable limits.

As per tradition the programme will include an Executive Committee Meeting, the Annual General Meeting of Members, a Conference and the Social Day.

More details will be made available after the holiday period.

Our Officers trust that the ETA's first return to Greece since the 1994 Annual Meeting in Crete, will offer every possibility to set up a most interesting and enjoyable event in every aspect.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S NEWLY COMPOSED TRAN COMMITTEE

The recently elected European Parliament has installed the standing committees, among which the Committee on Transport and Tourism, previously chaired by MEP Brian Simpson.

The new Chair is German MEP Michael Cramer from the Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance.

The list of members and their substitute can be found [here](#).

In the meantime, the Council of Ministers, now presided by Italy, has instructed its working groups to proceed with the discussions on the Draft Regulation on **Market access to port services and financial transparency of ports**.

The name of the new Transport Commissioner, successor to Vice President Mr Siim Kallas, will most likely not be known before end of September.

EUROPEAN SHIPPING WEEK 2015

Upon the initiative of the European Community of Shipowners' Associations, the ETA was offered partnership in a Steering Group to launch the inaugural European Shipping Week (ESW) to be held in Brussels in the early part of 2015.

Chairman Peter Vierstraete welcomed the project and the active contribution of the ETA and commented: *"The patronage of the European Commission and the involvement of DGMove will offer an excellent platform for our Association to highlight the indispensable role of the towage industry within the shipping cluster and make the newly elected or appointed European legislators aware that best practice is a daily concern of our members".*

The first concept can be found [here](#) and the [press release](#) announcing the launch of the project will be circulated widely.

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