

MONTHLY REPORT for ICS

January 2026

NOTE TO THE READER: Reference to the Federal Register may be found at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collection.action?collectionCode=FR>.

References to legislation may be found at <https://www.congress.gov> at the center of the page.

Presidential Memorandum – Withdrawing the US from International Organizations/Conventions/Treaties Contrary to US interests

On January 7, 2026, President Trump issued a memorandum for the heads of all executive branch departments and agencies further reinforcing provisions of the February 4, 2025 Executive Order which directed that the Secretary of State and the UN Ambassador review the US participation and funding programs for all international intergovernmental organizations to determine which ones were contrary to the interests of the United States. This memorandum identifies the findings of the Secretary of State and lists those intergovernmental organizations which have now been deemed to be contrary to the interests of the United States, and a list of these organizations has been provided in Section 2 of this memorandum. In spite of earlier discussions and concerns raised, it is notable that the International Maritime Organization (IMO) is not on this list and thus continued robust participation by the US in IMO deliberations is expected and welcome.

A copy of the memorandum may be reviewed at the link below.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2026/01/withdrawing-the-united-states-from-international-organizations-conventions-and-treaties-that-are-contrary-to-the-interests-of-the-united-states/>

Federal Maritime Commission – Appointment of New Chairman

Ms. Laura Di Bella was appointed Chairperson of the Federal Maritime Commission. Robert Harvey's nomination is still pending Senate approval. As indicated in last month's report, Ms. Di Bella was recently appointed as Commissioner and CSA welcomes here elevation to Chairman of this agency with growing importance to the maritime industry due to a number of pending investigations currently underway include those focusing on maritime chokepoints and flags of convenience.