



Transport Malta

PORTS AND YACHTING DIRECTORATE

Port Notice No. 03 of 2026

**To: Commercial Vessels Owners, Operators, Masters and Crew
Ship Masters and Crew
Ship Owners and Operators
Ship Agents**

Malta Transport Centre,
Triq Pantar, Hal Lija, LJA 2021
Malta

Tel: (356) 2122 2203
Fax: (356) 2125 0365
Email: info.tm@transport.gov.mt

www.transport.gov.mt

Environmental Crime Directive

The attention of all concerned is hereby drawn to the provisions of Directive (EU) 2024/1203 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 on the protection of the environment through criminal law (the “Environmental Crime Directive”), which shall become applicable with effect from 21 May 2026.

The Environmental Crime Directive is aimed at the protection of the environment. It establishes minimum rules concerning the definition of criminal offences and penalties to ensure more effective environmental protection.

This Directive applies, *inter alia*, to discharges from ships deemed as offences falling within the scope of Directive 2005/35/EC on the enforcement of international standards on pollution from ships and on the introduction of administration penalties for pollution offences (the “Ship-Source Pollution Directive”).

All concerned are hereby advised that, as from the said date, the ship-source pollution-related provisions of the Environmental Crime Directive shall be applicable and shall, for all intents and purposes, be read and construed together with the Ship-Source Pollution Regulations (S.L. 226.01) transposing the requirements of the Ship-Source Pollution Directive, as amended.

The Ship-Source Pollution Regulations shall, in due course, be amended so as to give fuller and better effect to the provisions of the Environmental Crime Directive.

**Captain Fritz Farrugia
Chief Officer & Harbour Master
Ports & Yachting Directorate**

15th May 2026