



An ISPS Balance with Aspects of the Human Element

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Abstract

ISPS Code: A diplomatic masterpiece (introduction worldwide through SOLAS)
However: A net with holes and knots, not starting from the beginning

What it basically is:

- A demonstration of limits
- An area of awareness
- A communication network
- A contribution to a governmental task

What it cannot be:

- The random anti-terror fight instrument in ports / on ships
- A cargo control system
- A watertight solution

Negatives

- Non-productive investments (but was every investment non-productive?)
- Time-waste or loss
- A contribution to the excessive administrative workload?
- Exaggerating? Security non-sense?

Positives, Chances

- New normalcy in level 1 partly achieved; access from shore under control Waterside?
- Anti-terror measures probably also assisting in hampering organized crime
- Communication among authorities / facilities
- Ship/port feeling: "We are in one boat and we support each other"

Optimizing activities underway

- AEO Authorized Economic Operator: securing the transport chain?
- National Traffic and non-SOLAS-vessels: leaving pleasure boats out of control?
- European Minimum Standards: a slashing or a tightening?
- EPAIC European Port Access Identification Card: What security benefit is possible?
- EU Directive 65/2005 Security in Ports: Constructive confusion?
- ILO Seamen's Identification Cards: Good forgotten idea?
- 100% screening requirements for US traffic: Weighing benefits and efforts

Obstacles / Risks

- Data protection legislation
- Sports and Tourism
- Administrative structure, Avoiding double-efforts on same matters
- "Human Elements" in port security:
 - Public / private partnership: American way of life in Europe
 - Risk assessment: A formula with a personal factor
 - Seamen's discrimination, inhuman? ("sniffer-dockers", mistrust)
 - Control of controllers: Control refusal of officials
 - Information disclosure in connection with open partnership and improved communication
 - Security everyday's business: comparable to safety (awareness)?