



**РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ**  
**МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ТРАНСПОРТА,**  
**ИНФОРМАЦИОННИТЕ ТЕХНОЛОГИИ И СЪОБЩЕНИЯТА**  
**ИЗПЪЛНИТЕЛНА АГЕНЦИЯ “МОРСКА АДМИНИСТРАЦИЯ”**

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**Dear Maritime Business Fellows,**  
**Dear Executives,**

In a world of increasing globalization of products and services worldwide transport plays a key role. Sea transport is the leading mode, optimizing economical and ecological requirements. The ship-related business in the context of the whole transport and supply chain including transshipment, storage, pre- and post-sea transports by road, rail or inland waterways (or air), **is the core** of the national, regional and worldwide **multimodal transport**. Bringing a new understanding and improving ship-related business processes means **strengthening of the maritime logistics** in the ways to make it competitive to any other mode of transportation. Maritime transport is the most environmental-friendly transport but still has a potential for improvement by combining international efforts for set up **secure, adequate and reliable logistics chains, imperatively including maritime transport element**.

Transport generates traffic, which meets infrastructures at the limit or even beyond of capacity. This goes mostly for the current situation in a quite number of world ports. The ports are the most **prominent transport nodes** in Europe covering all services from handling of goods and moving passengers via finance, stevedoring and forwarding as elements of smooth logistics chains. The increase of container transport is challenging ports and terminals operating at high rate on the edge of overcapacity. The extension and the **construction of new container terminals** is a matter of concern of the world port community. The maritime transport of 21<sup>st</sup> century, following the global trade flows and changing often directions, cannot be effective if not being part of a logistics network, which needs modern, highly technological and well managed ports.

The Bulgaria Logistics Outlook is part of the Central and Eastern European Logistics policies, which focus on the logistics supply chain, foreign trade and the key logistics services providers. In this regard the multimodal transport network with the predominant role of the **maritime mode and ports** is a topic to be viewed more and more on international events with the participation of eminent policy makers and involved stakeholders. This is exactly what this Conference Balkans Intermodal & Logistics offers with true respect to all aspects of transport logistics, giving analytical insight to the factors affecting the logistic markets with benefits and losses.

It is quite understandable that the papers and the discussions during the Conference will focus on the European and worldwide expertise to promote **a smooth supply chain with multimodal transportation, strongly enhancing the maritime logistics part**.

**Welcome to Sofia at Balkans Intermodal & Logistics Conference,**

**Mr.Sergey Tzarnakliyski**  
Executive Director Maritime Administration