

**SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR SEAFARERS
UNDER MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION,
2006**

PhD DISSERTATION

EI PHYO AYE

**DEPARTMENT OF LAW
UNIVERSITY OF YANGON
MYANMAR**

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Abstract

The provisions relating to the social protection for seafarers have existed since ancient times under various definitions of the term "seafarer". The International Labour Organization, 1920 established laws concerning both the rights of seafarers at work and their social protection. The Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006) is the most significant development of seafarers' rights, covering the social protection of seafarers: wages; hours of work and rest; medical care on board and ashore; their health protection; welfare of seafarers; and prevention of accidents; and social security. Under Title 4 of the MLC, 2006, social protection means health protection, medical care, welfare and social security protection, and refers to medical care on board ship and ashore, shipowners' liability and social security. Social protection is laid down as a right of all seafarers in Article IV of the MLC, 2006, a right which ratifying States have the obligation to ensure. All states must respect and give priority to the social protection rights of seafarers because they are the human element of the shipping industry. In addition, the responsibilities of states have grown exponentially in the areas of social protection, and regional organizations are being reformed for seafarers to be adequately covered by social protection in accordance with the MLC, 2006.

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