

## Europe, China and US could decarbonize 84% of shipping emissions without ‘ineffective’ IMO

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Europe, China and the US could decarbonize 84% of all global shipping emissions without the need for the “ineffective” IMO, according to a study from Brussels-based NGO Transport & Environment (T&E).

The next meeting of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) is just a few weeks away, and pressure is growing on the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to deliver stricter green targets.

T&E analysis of 2019 automatic identification systems showed that 84% of shipping traffic goes through Europe, China and the US. If these economies were to regulate ships calling at their ports in a manner similar to the way that the EU plans to with its emissions trading scheme, they could decarbonize most of the industry without need to work via the IMO, T&E claims.

Jacob Armstrong, sustainable shipping officer at T&E, said that “efforts to decarbonize shipping at the IMO have so far been miserable. The need for consensus at the global level has brought us nowhere. But there is a much easier way to do it. With the vast majority of ships passing through Europe, China and the US, these leading economies can unilaterally regulate emissions without relying on the ineffective IMO.”

China, Europe and the US together account for only 40% of shipping emissions, but the vast majority of ships call at one of their ports.