



European  
Shipowners

ECSA | European Community Shipowners' Associations

# European School Competition



**CY2026.EU**  
CYPRUS PRESIDENCY  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EU

The European School Competition is supported by the European Commission and the Cyprus Presidency of the EU Council.



# European Shipowners

**ECSA** | European Community Shipowners' Associations

## **European Shipowners | ECSA**

European Community Shipowners' Associations

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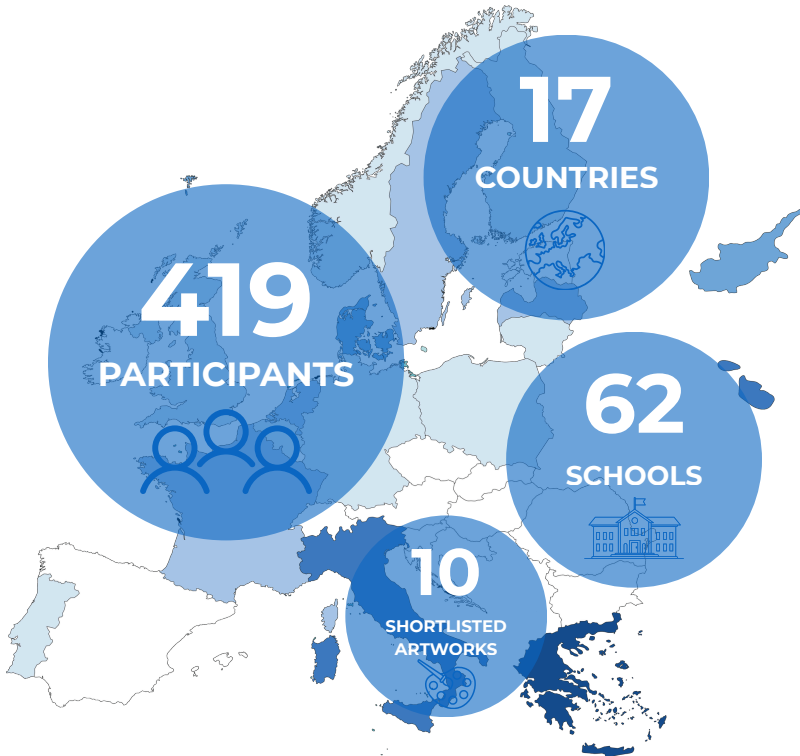
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# ABOUT

The European School Competition, organised by European Shipowners | ECSA, invites young students aged 9 to 12 from across Europe to imagine the ships of the future. As part of ES|ECSA's 60th anniversary, the competition encourages creativity and raises awareness of the importance of shipping in everyday life and the European economy.

Participants are asked to design their vision of a ship in 60 years' time through drawings, paintings, sculptures or other creative formats. The competition has brought together 419 participants from 17 countries across Europe, 10 of which you get to see in this folder, highlighting the strong engagement and creativity of young people from diverse backgrounds.



## Jury Committee



**Marina Hadjimanolis**

Deputy Minister for  
Shipping of Cyprus,  
Shipping Deputy  
Ministry of Cyprus



**Mikki Koskinen**

European  
Shipowners | ECSA  
President



**Alberto Maestrini**

Chairman, SEA  
Europe



**Rowan Van Schaeren**

General Manager,  
Antwerp Maritime  
Academy



**Apostolos Tzitzikostas**

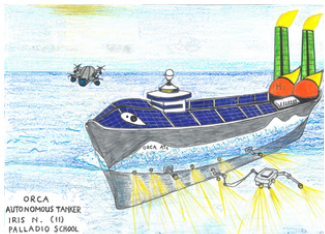
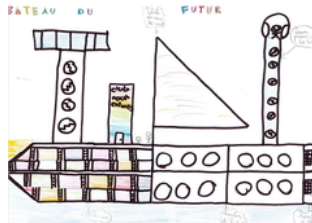
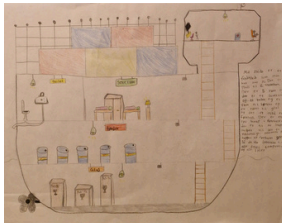
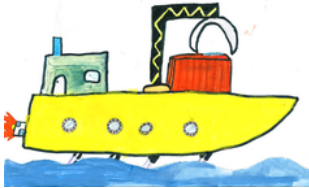
European  
Commissioner for  
Sustainable  
Transport

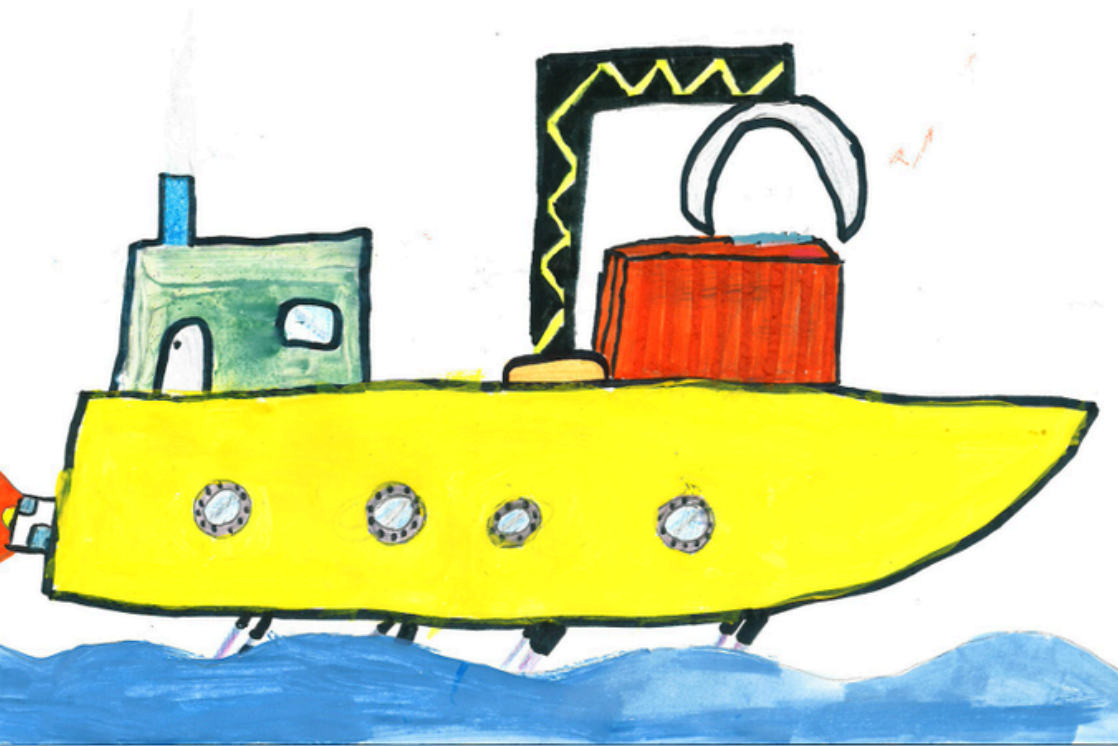


**Eliza Vozemberg**

Chair, European  
Parliament's  
Committee on  
Transport and Tourism,  
MEP EPP

## The 10 shortlisted artworks





### **Antoni | Notre Dame Des Graces | Belgium**

My idea is to have ships in the oceans that transport things around the world without disturbing the fish. Underwater, the fish will not hear the ships.

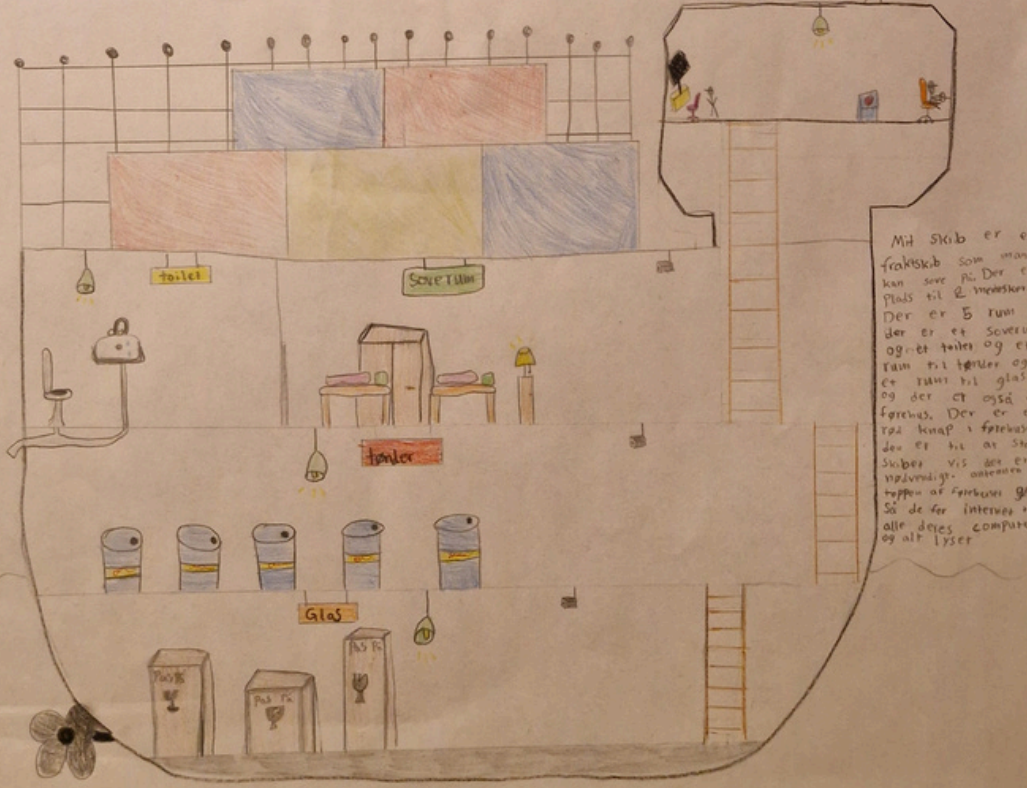
When I grow up I will show you my idea for the engine that has super powers with energy without smoke and explosions! It's a turbo mix invention which I designed for my yellow ship in this drawing.



## Nicol | Agios Lazaros A Primary School | Cyprus

My ship will sail into the future with the compass of sustainability. It will visit different countries in Europe and other places in the world, making sure the seas are crystal clear, full of light and colour.

Having its own recycling program, my ship will have for sailors volunteers, who will help to reduce waste and therefore travel proudly. It will leave behind the song of recycling, the song of joy and peace. Everyone who hears it will join hands for tomorrow's dance. They will send the message for a cleaner environment with their song because our future will be green!

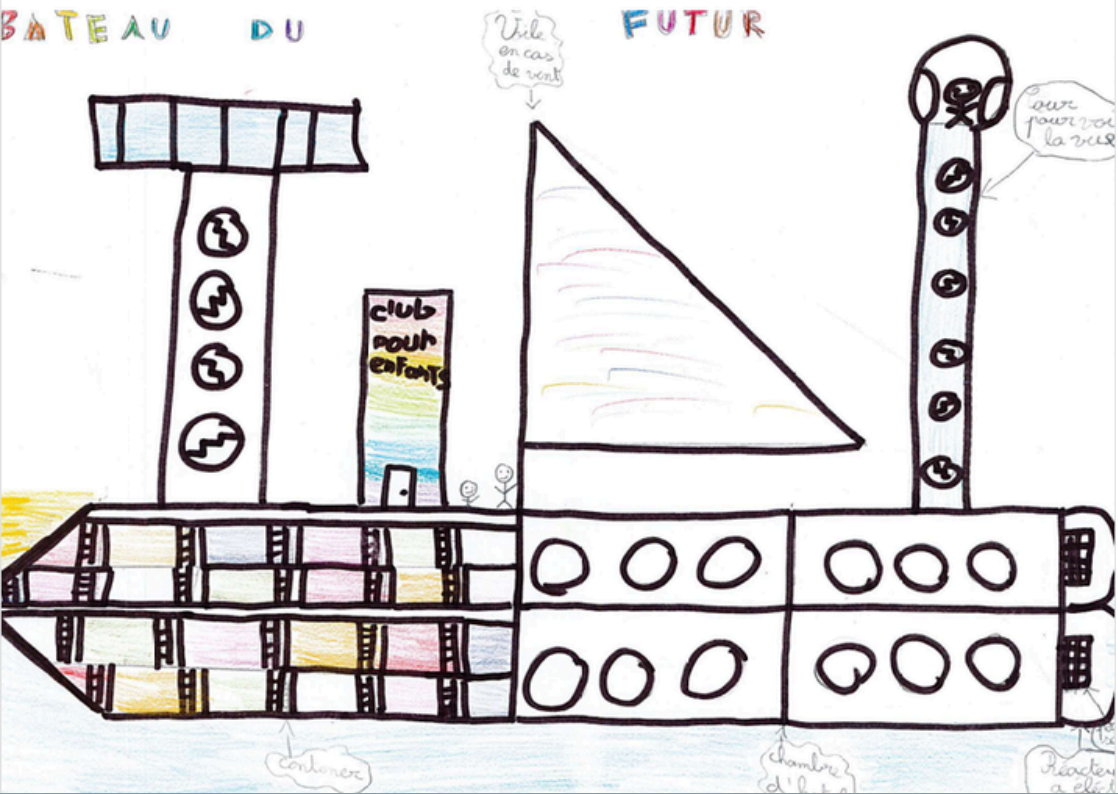


Mit skib er et  
 frakteskib som man  
 kan sove på. Der er  
 plads til 2 mennesker.  
 Der er 5 rum  
 der er et soverum  
 og et toilet og et  
 rum til taller og et  
 rum til glas og  
 og der er også  
 fødevarer. Der er  
 rpa knap i fødevarer  
 der er til at stå  
 skaber. Vi kan  
 nyde os på  
 rupper af fødevarer  
 Så de der internet  
 alle deres computere  
 og alt lys

## Freja | Rørkjær Skole | Denmark

I drew a cargo ship because I thought they were big and there was room for me to draw more on the ship (I love drawing). I thought that in 60 years they would probably do it more systematically so that, for example, barrels are in one place and glass are in another.

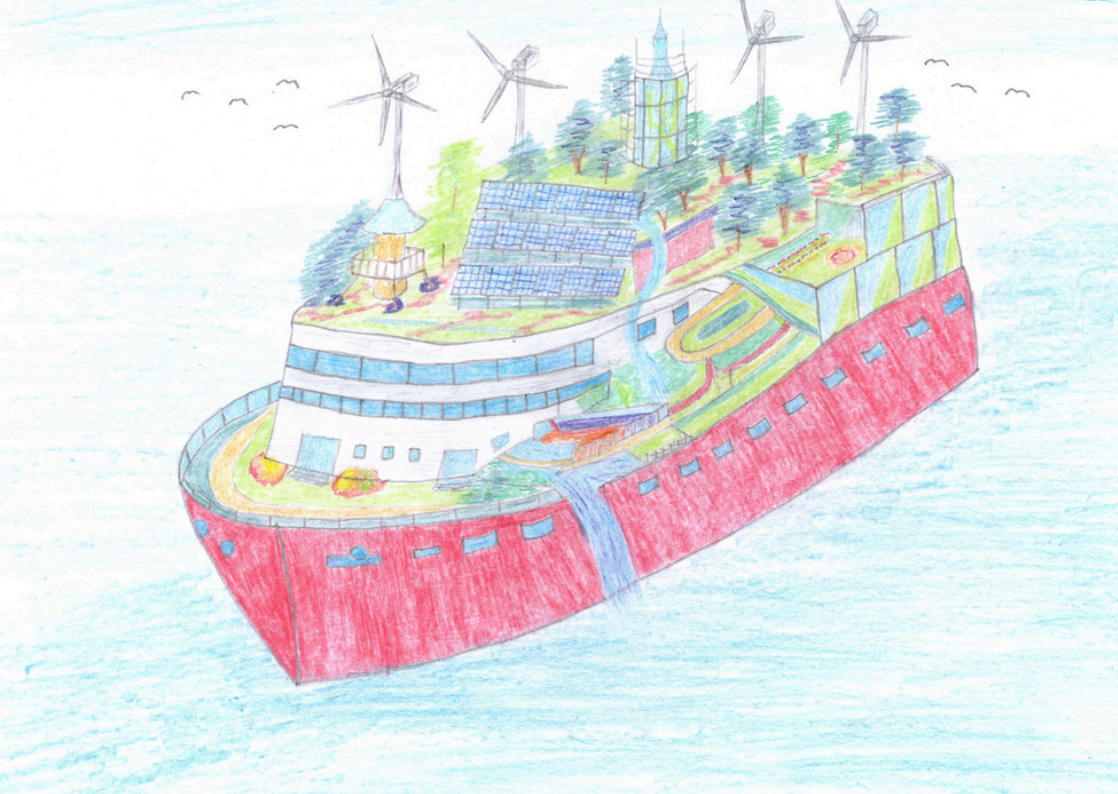
I think the toilet will just have a pipe leading to the water, I didn't think it was a good idea myself, but that's what I think. I drew ladders instead of stairs because I think you save more space by using ladders instead of stairs. The cameras monitor the cargo and the antenna provides internet.



## Emma | École de l'Assomption | France

I drew a boat of the future. It can carry goods in containers and also transport people. There is a kids' club and a hotel on board. I chose this type of boat so there are fewer boats on the sea and less pollution.

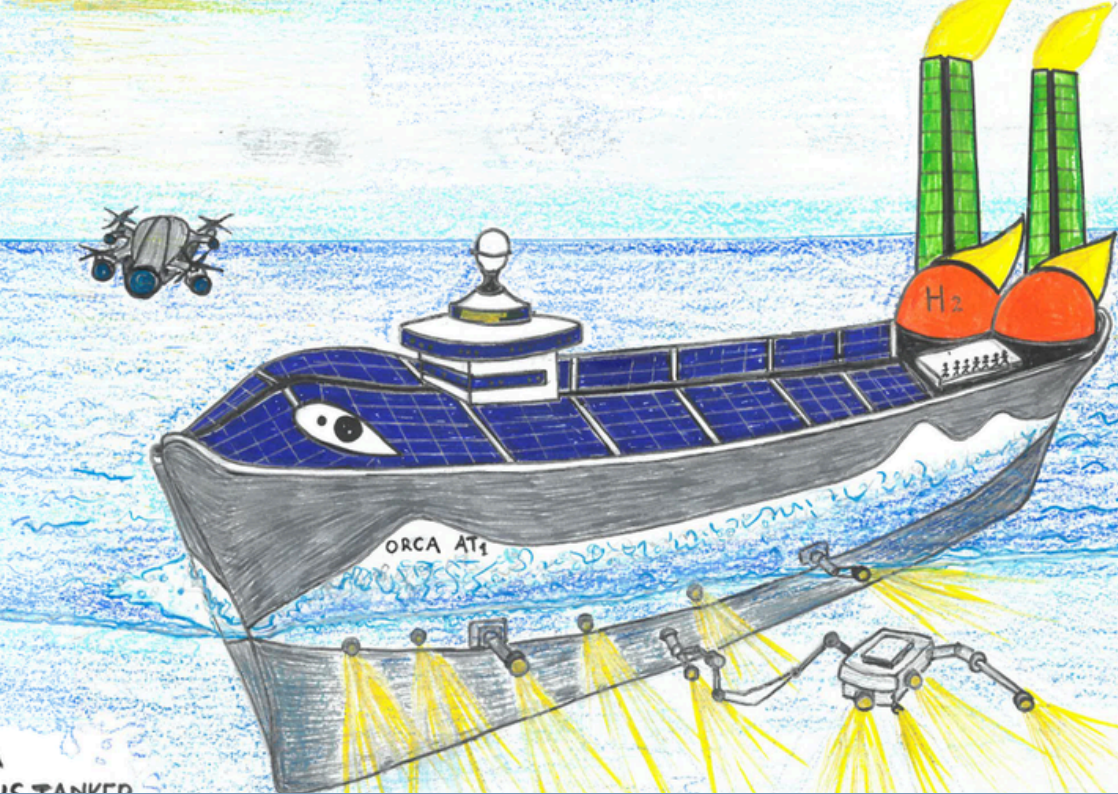
The idea is that the boat can have several uses. For the equipment, I thought about sustainable development: it has a sail when there is wind and an engine when there is no wind.



### **Evdoxia | 7th Primary School of Kastoria | Greece**

The ship I drew was inspired by Noah's Ark. My ship, however, is a future vessel, and I imagined it to be very large!!! I wanted it to resemble a floating ecological refuge. I would like wind, sunlight, and the power of waves to be used for energy, which is why I drew wind turbines and solar panels.

Also, it would have no captain and would be able to travel anywhere, very quickly and safely. I imagine the ship transporting people, birds, and animals safely while also protecting the sea. Upon reaching their destination, the passengers would be happy to have spent some time in nature. If I were to give my drawing a title, it would be: "The Floating City of Hope."



### **Iris | Palladio School of Vari | Greece**

The ORCA is a top performer with exceptionally high intelligence. It dominates and thrives in the marine environment in which it lives.

Inspired by the natural ORCA, my concept — the AUTONOMOUS TANKER of the Future — adopts both its form and its behavior. It is equipped with underwater and aerial drones that act as a protective shield, providing constant awareness of potential risks. At the same time, robotic systems on deck instantly execute commands from a central agent-robot, which can control the vessel's movement even from another continent. All operations are carried out without putting human lives at risk.

The AUTONOMOUS ORCA respects the environment by using renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power, for its propulsion. The ORCA AUTONOMOUS TANKER is resilient, eco-friendly, efficient, flexible, and intelligent — a vessel that embodies the values and capabilities of the future. An ORCA of tomorrow.



## Sara | I.C. Bozzano - Centro di Brindisi | Italy

This is my "ship of the future," a vessel that flies through the infinite universe just as it sails across the waves of the ocean. It's a fusion between a majestic ship and a powerful interstellar spacecraft. I chose to decorate my futuristic ship with the colours of my country, Italy, because tradition meets innovation. Using our colours on a ship of the future means carrying our culture and values to distant places, adding warmth, vibrancy and love.

I have created a unique ship, one with a soul and filled with hope! A piece of home that travels through the dark sky to bring light and joy to new worlds. For me, the future is a beautiful adventure, ready to be painted.



### **Meja | Klaipėdos Licėjus | Lithuania**

My source of inspiration for this work is a vision of the future – how ships might look in 60 years. I depicted the ships flying in the air because I believe that in the future they will no longer sail on water. The colorful windows represent a modern ship of the future. While drawing palm trees, mountains, and a waterfall, I imagined that nature and future ships come from a fantasy film and meet in space.

These ships are designed to reflect the latest technologies. They could be used both for space travel and as a means of transportation on Earth. The white-highlighted clouds symbolize the ships' free flight in the air. There is a sense of movement in the composition, as if the ships are quietly gliding through the sky. The entire environment looks as if it belongs to another reality, where different laws apply. The background in this artwork resembles not only the sky but also outer space. With this drawing, I expressed my view of how technology and the environment will change shipping in the future."

# The Ocean Guardian Ship of the Future

by Xiaorui Chen  
19/11/20



**Xiaorui | St Edward's College | Malta**

This artwork presents a smart ship of the future designed to support both human life and ocean protection. The idea was inspired by the need to create sustainable ways for people to travel and live while reducing environmental impact. The ship uses renewable energy such as solar panels and wind turbines, ensuring clean and efficient operation.

On top of the ship, there is a small living community where people can work, relax, and grow plants. Inside, advanced systems manage navigation and safety. Beneath the ship, robotic arms and filtration systems collect plastic waste and clean the ocean. This design shows how future ships can become self-sufficient, environmentally friendly spaces that protect the sea and improve life at the same time.



## Marta | Szkoła Podstawowa nr 53 im. Fryderyka Chopina | Poland

GAIA VOYAGER is a ship of the future designed with both people and the ocean in mind. It is not just a way to travel, but also a safe place to live, explore and care for the natural world. Powered by the sun and wind, as well as clean modern fuels, it offers a more environmentally friendly vision of maritime transport.

It can sail on the surface of the sea, but also travel underwater, allowing people to discover the hidden world beneath the waves and learn more about ocean life. Gardens on board provide plants, oxygen and a closer connection to nature. GAIA VOYAGER shows that the ships of the future can be modern, safe and respectful of seas and oceans.



European Shipowners | ECSA is the **voice of European shipping.**

Founded in 1965, ES | ECSA promotes the interests of 21 member associations of the EU and Norway. ES | ECSA strives for a regulatory environment that fosters the international competitiveness of European shipping

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The drawing competition is supported by the European Commission and the Cyprus Presidency of the EU Council.