




**INTERNATIONAL  
SEAFARER**

- not Danish citizen



## **You have rights according to Danish law if you**

-  have been subject to an industrial injury and you are not fit for duty
-  are not a Danish citizen
-  have been employed on a Danish ship flying the Danish flag (DIS)

read about  
your **RIGHTS**  
and how to get  
**HELP**

Published by:  
Danish Union for Seafarers

**CO-Sea**



All the maritime Danish unions  
are affiliated to the **ITF**

## Abbreviations used in this booklet:

LMI	Labour Market Insurance
DMA	Danish Maritime Authority
DSAIA	Danish Shipowners Accident Insurance Association
DS I	Danish Shipping (collective bargain area I)
DS II	Danish Shipping (collective bargain area II)
CBA	Collective Bargaining Agreement
DIS	Danish International Ship register

## Guide and help

The purpose of this booklet is to guide and help you in relation to assistance from Denmark, if you have been subject to an industrial injury from work onboard a Danish ship registered in DIS.

### Simplified information

It should be noted, that the information in this booklet has been simplified, especially the parts relating to the LMI.



## SICK PAY

### The shipowner

The shipowner is obliged to pay the seafarer during sickness for a maximum of 4 months. This is under the condition that the obligatory medical reports declare you unfit for duty. When you are fit for duty, the sick pay stops.

According to existing CBA's with DS I and DS II, the amount to be paid during sickness equals your basic wage.



## SICKNESS BENEFIT

### The Danish Maritime Authority (DMA)

If you are still unfit for duty after the 4 months of sick pay, the DMA is responsible for the payment of sickness benefit.

Sickness benefit will be paid until:

Either

1) A doctor declares you fit for duty

Or

2) The Labour Market Insurance in Denmark (see section 3) has come to a decision regarding your case. It should be noted, that the payment of sickness benefit will also stop during an appeal case.

The amount paid as sickness benefit is 90 pct. of the basic wage at the most. Danish tax might be deducted from the amount.

The DMA will pay for two months at a time and payment is made through the Danish diplomatic representation. On account of practical and currency issues, delays do occur from when payment is

requested in Denmark until the payment is actually carried out abroad.

It should be expected that a new medical report has to be presented every two months. A request for this will come through the Danish Consulate and will normally be by referral to an ordinary doctor.

By the end of the 4 months with sick pay from the shipowner, we recommend that – if you are still unfit for duty - you send a report from your normal doctor declaring you unfit for duty. This might contribute to your case progressing less slowly before the DMA starts paying sickness benefit.

An English version of the DMA website can be found using this link:

[www.dma.dk](http://www.dma.dk)

sign  
**power  
of attorney**  
and get  
**HELP**

**The Danish Union for Seafarers, CO-Sea, can help you in connection with sickness benefit if we receive a **power of attorney** from you.**

**Then we can:**

- 1) Get access to all documents regarding your case.**
- 2) Send reminders and demand status reports from the authorities.**



## COMPENSATION

### The Labour Market Insurance (LMI)

The LMI is the administrator of the Act on Protection against the Consequences of Industrial Injuries on Danish work places. The Act applies to all employees on Danish places of work.

In the worst cases it might take up to several years until a decision is reached regarding your case. Unfortunately, letters from the Danish authorities to non-Danes are sometimes sent out in Danish. In such cases, you are welcome to send a copy of the letter to CO-Sea by post or e-mail, and we will take action. The content of these letters is not necessarily that important. Often they are standard letters that are automatically sent out when a certain time limit has been reached. But do not ignore if you do not understand!

If your case is accepted as an industrial injury and meets certain criteria, the LMI will normally make a decision about two

different types of compensation:

#### 1. Compensation for Permanent Injury (one-off payment):

Compensation for a permanent injury is decided according to the degree of the injury. If the degree is **below 5 pct.**, no compensation is given. If the degree is 100 %, the amount given is DKK 939.500 (by January 1st, 2021). The amount may be reduced depending on your age.

#### 2. Compensation for Loss of Earning Capacity (monthly payments):

Compensation is given when the loss of earning capacity is estimated to be **15 pct. or more**. Monthly payment may in some cases be converted into a one-off payment. The payment runs until the injured person reaches the age of 65,5 up to 74 (depending on the year of birth).

**CO-Sea can help you in connection with compensation claims from Denmark. To do so, we need a power of attorney from you. Then we can:**

- 1) **Receive copies of all letters and documents regarding your case.**
- 2) **Send reminders and demand status reports from the authorities.**
- 3) **Appeal a decision on your behalf.**



sign  
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## **LMI - please note that:**

You can find information and a link to an English version of the Act (legislation) online using this link:

<https://www.aes.dk/english/publications/guides-and-information-material>

**The LMI does not deal with SICKNESS BENEFIT (see section 2)**

### **Death:**

When death is caused by an industrial injury, a so-called "interim payment" is paid to the bereaved (be advised that there are special rules as to who the bereaved are). In 2021, the interim payment is Danish Kroner 177.000. In addition to this, continuous payments may be paid to the bereaved for loss of breadwinner.

It is possible to appeal the decisions made by the LMI. An appeal could delay the payment of compensation. Also, sickness benefit from Denmark ends when the decision is made by LMI and will not be resumed during an appeal. The average consideration time for an appeal to the LMI is no less than 12 months (in 2021).

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## **Danish Shipowners Accident Insurance Association (DSAIA)**

Most Danish shipowners are insured in the DSAIA regarding compensation according to the Act on Protection against the Consequences of Industrial Injuries.

### **The DSAIA is**

the company paying compensation according to the decision by the LMI.

### **The DSAIA does not deal with:**

Sickness benefit (see section 2)



**CO-Sea is in ongoing contact with the DSAIA regarding all registered cases.**

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## **MEDICAL EXPENSES**

Your rights include reimbursement of necessary expenses for medical consultations and medicine. In some cases, also for transportation and accommodation. Therefore, always save your receipts in good condition.

### **The Danish Maritime Authority:**

The DMA covers doctor bills for medical reports demanded by the DMA in connection with obtaining sickness benefit. Reimbursement is normally paid by the Danish Consulate. In the first 4 months when sick pay is given by the shipowner, it is often the shipowner, who pays the medical expenses (which they will then be reimbursed for by the DMA).

### **The Danish Shipowner Accident Insurance Association:**

The DSAIA covers the expenses when they request statements by specialist doctors to be used by the LMI. Reimbursement is normally paid by the Danish Consulate or alternatively by the DSAIA on receiving original receipts.

save your  
**receipts**  
for possible  
**reimbursement**



### **PERSONAL LAWYER**

**Many foreigners with an industrial injury hire a local lawyer for assistance in compensation cases.**

**These lawyers often have their own interests because they are hired on the condition that they are paid a part of the compensation.**

**We cannot give advice regarding such assistance. In general, we always advise you to seek assistance from your local union.**

# USEFULL LIST OF CONTACTPOINTS

## **Danish Shipowners Accident Insurance Association**

Amaliegade 33B  
1256 Copenhagen K  
Denmark

Phone: +45 33 13 86 88  
E-mail: [skade@ufds.dk](mailto:skade@ufds.dk)  
Web: [www.ufds.dk](http://www.ufds.dk)



## **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark**

Contact information for Danish embassies and consulates in every country in the world:

[um.dk/en/about-us/organisation/find-us-abroad](http://um.dk/en/about-us/organisation/find-us-abroad)

## **The Labour Market Insurance**

Kongens Vænge 8  
3400 Hillerød  
Denmark

Phone: +45 72 20 60 00  
E-mail: [aes@atp.dk](mailto:aes@atp.dk)  
Web: [www.aes.dk](http://www.aes.dk)

## **The Danish Maritime Authority**

Caspar Brands Plads 9  
4220 Korsør  
Denmark

Phone: +4572 19 60 00  
E-mail: [sfs@dma.dk](mailto:sfs@dma.dk)  
Web: [www.dma.dk](http://www.dma.dk)



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## FREE HELP FROM DANISH UNIONS

Three Danish maritime unions have made an agreement with the Danish shipowners to assist non-Danish seamen having an industrial injury onboard Danish DIS-ships.

Help and assistance from the Danish unions is free of charge for the seafarer. One of the three unions, CO-Sea, takes care of the coordination of the prelimi-

nary work in Denmark. CO-Sea is a union for all ratings, engineers on smaller vessels and navigators on DS ships.

If a maritime officer (e.g. navigator or engineer) is injured, the case will be transferred from CO-Sea to the relevant Danish union as soon as we receive a signed **power of attorney** from the injured seaman.

### Navigators on DS II ships



Danish Maritime Officers

#### Danish Maritime Officers

Vermlandsgade 65  
2300 Copenhagen S  
Denmark

+45 33 45 55 65  
mail@ledernesofart.dk

### Ratings / Navigators



#### CO-Sea + Metal Maritime

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2610 Roedovre  
Denmark

+45 36 36 55 85  
cosea@co-sea.dk

### Maritime Engineers



Maskinmestrenes  
Forening

#### Danish Engineers' Association

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