

# LLMC convention

<b>Official reference</b>	Convention on limitation of liability for maritime claims	
<b>Official website</b>	www.imo.org	
<b>Relevant dates</b>	Document	19/11/1976
	Entry into force	1/12/1986
	Ratification by Belgium	11/04/1989
	Termination by Belgium	9/10/2009
	Realisation of termination	1/10/2010
	Document Protocol 1996	2/05/1996
	Entry into force	13/05/2004
	Ratification by Belgium	10/09/2009
<b>Policy level</b>	International	
<b>Type of instrument</b>	Convention	
<b>Geographical reach</b>	World seas	
<b>International contact point</b>	International Maritime Organisation (IMO)	
<b>Competent authorities in Belgium</b>	Federal authority; FPS Mobility and Transport; DG Maritime Transport	
<b>Federal ratification law</b>	Wet van 11 april 1989 houdende goedkeuring en uitvoering van diverse Internationale Akten inzake de zeevaart.	
	Protocol: Wet van 10 september 2009 houdende instemming met het Protocol van 1996 tot wijziging van het Verdrag van 1976 inzake beperking van aansprakelijkheid voor maritieme vorderingen, gedaan te Londen op 2 mei 1996.	

## // abstract:

The LLMC convention of 1976 replaces the Convention relating to the limitation of the liability of owners of seagoing ships (1957) and sets a limit for maritime claims against ship owners and salvors. Two types of claims are considered: claims in respect of loss of lives, or personal injury, and claims in respect of loss or damage to property (e.g. damage to other ships). Furthermore, under the convention the liability of ship owners depends on the ship's tonnage. The limitation of liability is not applicable in case of gross negligence or intentional misconduct. Additionally, the convention provides for the establishment of a limitation fund which persons held liable can apply to. With the 1996 Protocol, the upper limits of maritime claims were considerably increased. A distinction between the two mentioned types of claims, based on the ship's tonnage, still remains.