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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION — SOUMISSION DE RESUME

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E-NAVIGATION AND AUTONOMOUS SHIPPING, NEW LEGAL AND LIABILITY CHALLENGES FOR VTS

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ABSTRACT / RESUME:

E-NAVIGATION AND AUTONOMOUS SHIPPING, NEW LEGAL AND LIABILITY CHALLENGES FOR VTS

I am a postgraduate doctoral student at Turku University and doing my thesis on "Legal aspects and liability issues concerning Vessel Traffic Services (VTS)".

VTS is regulated by several international conventions and regulations, which lay down the services to be provided and the vessels' duties to follow as well as the instructions given by the VTS authority. The modern means of communication at maritime field, e-maritime and progress towards autonomous solutions have brought new challenges and bring the activity to a new legislative situation. This is especially the case with liability questions.

The lack of internationally harmonized legislation in the liability issues is not a satisfactory situation. The international conventions and regulations should ensure uniform interpretation and implementation. The interpretation usually takes place in courts (precedent), but there is no remarkable case law in this field. Some accident investigation reports include recommendations for the VTS authorities, which may give rules for interpretation. My doctoral dissertation is to fulfill this need.

The seminar would greatly help me in deepening my general research strategy. It would give me a good opportunity to discuss with maritime professionals experts about my thoughts and findings on the topics. The findings would especially imply to empirical legal research.

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