Abstract

The maritime sector has drastically changed over the years. For several decades, more and more regulations have been introduced with safety and quality in mind, especially in the tanker sector. On top of that, automation and digitization ensures a reduced crew with the result that the administrative pressure for officers increases. This study will examine how officers on board tankers experience administrative tasks and will highlight some of the consequences. A literary study has been carried out to describe the concept of 'administrative burden'. With the information gathered in the literary study, we have drawn up a questionnaire which we have shared with as many tanker companies and organizations as possible. The questionnaire teaches us that 75% of respondents believes that there is too much paperwork and that this can have serious consequences for safety. So it turns out that 66% of the sample uses rest time to complete urgent administrative paperwork. We also ask the respondents for their own suggestions where it shows that there is need for additional staff to carry the administrative burden. The conclusion is that 'administrative burden exists and that it can give rise to dangerous situations.