

III. Abstract

When we talk about ship recycling, it may come to mind that it is a very beneficial industry for the world, because it allows recycling thousands of tons of steel, and that will even have as a result to consider this industry as a very respectful one towards the environment. But that is only partially true.

First of all, it is important to make a distinction between the recycling yards approved by the EU, which are all subject to the EU Ship Recycling Regulation, and those located in South Asia. The problem of the South Asian countries, which are the world leaders of this industry, will in many cases prefer to use questionable recycling practices, which can be harmful to the human health and the local environment.

But the most important question that needs to be asked here is ‘is the safety of the workers practicing those activities guaranteed’?

In reality, for South Asia, since most of these countries still have not ratified the Hong Kong Convention, the workers of these recycling yards will find themselves very exposed to unnecessary dangers. Unfortunately, in many cases these hazards will result in fatal accidents that could have been easily avoided.