

## Keynote Speakers under 45-year old at the MPL of MHCL 2024 - Bar Conference



**Prof. Dr. Dong Yang**

**Department of Logistics and Maritime Studies (DLMS),  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong (HK PolyU)**

**Topic:** *to be announced soon*

Dr. YANG Dong is an associate professor and associate head of DLMS, Director of International Shipping and Transport Logistics Master Program, Deputy Director of Shipping Research Centre, at HK PolyU. He is Associate Editor of *International Journal of Shipping and Transport Logistics*, and *Maritime Business Review*. He also acts as guest editor of several prestigious journals including *Transportation Research Part E*, *Transport Policy*, *Maritime Policy & Management*, and *Journal of Advanced Transportation*. Dr. YANG is currently Council Member of International Association of Maritime Economist (IAME).

Dr. YANG has chaired funding from various sources, including ESCAP of United Nations, National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), Research Grants Council (RGC), NSFC/RGC Joint Research Scheme, Hong Kong Policy Research Fund (PPR), Hong Kong Marine Department, Hong Kong Tourism Commission and etc. He has published more than 50 SCI/SSCI papers in international academic journals.



**Assist. Prof. Dr. Thalys Zis**

**Cyprus University of Technology (CUT), Limassol, Cyprus**

**Topic:** *Considerations of accurately predicting arrival times in international shipping:  
The economic value and environmental benefits*

Thalys Zis is working as an Assist. Professor at the Department of Commerce, Finance and Shipping, Faculty of Management and Economics, CUT. He was a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Technical University of Denmark previously. Thalys Zis graduated with a Ph.D. in the Port Operations Research and Technology Centre at Centre for Transport Studies in Imperial College London. His subject was on the identification of the environmental impact of container ports and on ways to reduce the emissions associated with the port's operation. Thalys also holds a Dipl. Ing. in Mechanical Engineering from the National Technical University of Athens and an MSc in Transport from Imperial College London. His research interests include Maritime Logistics, Operations Research, emissions modelling, etc.



**Prof. Dr. Maxim Dulebenets**

**Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Florida A&M University-Florida  
State University (FAMU-FSU) College of Engineering**

**Topic:** *A diffused memetic optimizer for the berth scheduling problem in the wake of disruptions*

Dr. Maxim Dulebenets is an Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Florida A&M University-Florida State University (FAMU-FSU) College of Engineering. Dr. Dulebenets holds M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Memphis (Memphis, TN – USA) in Civil Engineering with concentration in Transportation. His research interests include operations research, optimization, simulation modeling, and transportation engineering. Dr. Dulebenets has been involved in a variety of research projects, sponsored by the United States Department of Defense, United States Department of Transportation, National Science Foundation, and Florida Department of Transportation. He serves as a referee for 250+ international journals and an associate editor for *Journal of Industrial Information Integration and Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence*. According to the 2024 Scopus citation report, he is ranked as #14 in the world out of 28,891 scholars in Logistics & Transportation based on the composite c-score c(ns) and last year performance. His work has been published in the leading international journals, including the *International Journal of Production Economics*, *Information Sciences*, *Reliability Engineering and System Safety*, and *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*.



**Prof. Dr. Ognjen Peković**

**Faculty of Mechanical Engineering (FME) of the University of Belgrade (UB)**

**Topic:** *The roles of CFD and wind tunnel testing in advancing wind-assisted ship propulsion*

Prof. Dr. Ognjen Peković earned his M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Aerospace Department, where he began his research and teaching career. He teaches courses on Computational Methods in Aerospace Engineering, Finite Element Method, Aircraft Performance, Flight Dynamics, Aircraft Control and Systems, and Aircraft Armament.

His research interests include structural design, flight mechanics, drones, wind tunnel testing, wind turbines, renewable energy, and energy efficiency. Over the past 15 years, he has contributed to numerous research, innovation, and commercial projects in these fields, serving as a researcher, consultant, and project manager.

Prof. Peković is a member of the Serbian Chamber of Engineers, holding three active licenses, as well as other national engineering associations. He previously held a private pilot license (PPL) and still remains a passionate aviation enthusiast.



**Prof. Dr. Nikola Momčilović**

**Faculty of Mechanical Engineering (FME) of the University of Belgrade (UB)**

**Topic:** *Structural safety of bulk carriers: An ultimate strength analysis*

Nikola Momčilović is an associate professor at the Module of Naval Architecture, FME of the UB. His research is mostly related to the following fields: ship structural design, ship design, regulations, structural engineering and reliability. He has worked on several international R&D projects. Most recent ones were carried out under the framework of HORIZON2020 and COST, and dealt with the design of autonomous vessels and wave energy converters. He is a member of the Royal Institution of Naval Architects - RINA (UK) and the Society of Naval Architects of Serbia. He is also a visiting professor at the Faculty of Maritime Studies, University of Montenegro.