

THE 2012 STRASBOURG CONVENTION ON THE LIMITATION OF LIABILITY IN INLAND NAVIGATION ENTERS INTO FORCE ON 1 JULI 2019. IT INTRODUCES AN ENLARGED SCOPE OF APPLICATION OF THE LIMITATION OF LIABILITY IN INLAND NAVIGATION.

CLNI 2012, the new convention on the limitation of liability in inland navigation, enters into force on 1 July 2019. At the same time the CLNI 1988 convention that was in force in Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland, will cease.

Enlarged scope of application

The CLNI 2012 convention enters into force in Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Serbia. Belgium and France have announced a short termed ratification after which these countries will apply the convention as well.

The main difference between the 1988 and 2012 convention is the enlarged scope of application. Where the application of the 1988 convention is limited to the rivers Rhine and Mosel the CLNI 2012 convention is open for ratification by all countries. After the realisation of the connection between Rhine and Danube in 1992 the discussion regarding an enlargement of the scope was opened in order to introduce the system of limitation of liability in Danubian countries equally. Negotiations since the beginning of this century lead to the conclusion of the new convention in 2012. 13 State Parties and a number of NGO's were involved in the negotiations. IVR as one of these parties strongly lobbied for the maintenance of the limitation of liability mainly in the area of passenger transport which is increasingly under pressure.

Increased limits

In the CLNI 2012 the general limits of liability have increased by 100 % taking into account the inflation of the past decades. Besides a new article regarding the limitation of liability for claims resulting from dangerous goods has been introduced and the limits of liability for claims of passengers have increased substantially.

9th IVR-Colloquium in Belgrade

On the occasion of the entering into force of this new convention IVR will organise on **5 September 2019** another in Belgrade, awarding Serbia as first country having ratified the convention. The colloquium will provide detailed information regarding the new convention and cope with other relevant conventions in inland navigation such as the registration and collision convention as well as with the General Average rules of IVR.

Registration for this event is open now at www.ivr-eu.com.

Rotterdam 1 July 2019