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## FONASBA Announces Winner of the 2019 Young Ship Agent or Ship Broker Award

FONASBA is very pleased to announce that the winner of its Young Ship Agent or Ship Broker Award for 2019 is Stefan Gielen of Mediterranean Shipping Company, who is based in Antwerp. (pictured below).

The Award was introduced in 2015 with the aim of encouraging members of the ship agency and ship broking profession aged 40 or younger to further their academic and practical training and education by researching and writing a thesis-standard paper on a maritime-related subject of their choice. Five entries were received this year and these were reviewed and judged by FONASBA Past President and Honorary Member Gunnar J. Heinonen of Finland, Charlotte Kirk FICS, Marketing Director of prize sponsors ITIC and Capt. Jakov Karmelić, FONASBA's Vice President for Education. Announcing the winner, Mr. Heinonen said "My colleagues and I really appreciated this entry; it was just the type of paper we looked forward to receiving. It was an excellent, intelligent, informative and forward-looking analysis, spotting and analysing the problems of Dangerous Goods declarations. Furthermore it was well set out and well referenced with a good bibliography. The paper provided much food for thought for the challenges of future development". Mr. Heinonen also expressed FONASBA's gratitude to prize sponsors BIMCO and ITIC for their ongoing support for the Award.

Thanking FONASBA for his Award, Mr. Gielen said "I am deeply honoured that my paper has been awarded first prize in the internationally recognised FONASBA Award. It also gives me great pleasure to know that the subject of dangerous goods is receiving significantly more attention and sincerely hope that my paper can contribute in some way to a safer shipping industry".

Philippe Oyen, Chairman of the Antwerp Shipping Federation, Gielen's home association, added "I am obviously glad to see that an Antwerp ship agent has won the Award this year. Next to a correct weight declaration, the pursuit of a correct Dangerous Goods declaration for containers is a high priority for the many container agents in Antwerp and the ASF in general. My colleagues and I would therefore like to thank and congratulate him for his paper which constitutes de facto a contribution for more safety for our container vessels. I would also like to thank FONASBA for having this award in place for making sure our young members are committed to professionalism and excellence in our jobs as ship agents and brokers".

The other entrants for the 2019 Award were:

Filipe Martins,  
Navex Empresa Portuguesa de Navegação, S.A, Portugal,  
Michael Pritchard,  
Sterling Shipping Agencies Ltd., Great Britain  
Caroline Rodrigues,  
Agência Marítima Orion Ltda., Brazil  
Gili Vigdorovitch,  
Lucy Borchard Shipping Ltd., Israel

**For Notes to Editors, see overleaf**

Right: Stefan Gielen,  
Winner of the FONASBA  
Young Ship Agent or  
Ship Broker Award 2019



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### About: FONASBA

FONASBA is the only organisation representing the global ship agency and ship broking professions. Established in 1969 it now has members in 64 countries, including all major maritime and trading nations. Its remit is to “promote and protect the professions of ship agency and ship broking worldwide”, a task which it undertakes through dialogue with its member associations and its consultative status with IMO, UNCTAD, UNCITRAL and the World Customs Organisation, as well with the European Commission and other regional bodies. FONASBA also enjoys reciprocal memberships with the Baltic Exchange, BIMCO, the Comité Maritime International, INTERCARGO, INTERTANKO, the International Port Community Systems Association, indemnity insurer ITIC and the Shipbrokers’ Register and works closely with all other maritime sector bodies, both internationally and in Europe. [www.fonasba.com](http://www.fonasba.com)