

FONASBA

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FONASBA Announces Winner of the 2021 Young Ship Agent or Broker Award

FONASBA is very pleased to announce that the winner of its Young Ship Agent or Broker Award for 2021 is Ana Ruiz García de los Rios, of Bergé Logistics, who is based in Madrid. (pictured below). Her paper was entitled "The Impact of Technologies in the Maritime Sector from the Ship Agent's Vision". Ana is both the first female winner of the Award and the first from Spain. Previous winners were based in Brazil, Australia, Germany, Portugal, and Belgium.

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. It was postponed in 2020 due to the impact of COVID-19.

The Award attracted four entries 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 "The introduction of new technologies will have a profound impact on the way ship agents work. Ms. Ruiz' paper provides a clear and comprehensive overview of how current and anticipated developments will drive changes in working patterns and procedures. It covered a range of subjects, clearly explaining each one in detail. My Review Committee colleagues and I congratulate Ms. Ruiz on an excellent entry". Mr. Heinonen also expressed FONASBA's gratitude to prize sponsors BIMCO and ITIC for their ongoing support for the Award.

Acknowledging her award, Ms. Ruiz said "I am extremely honoured to have been awarded first prize, and by doing so, becoming the first woman to win the FONASBA Award. I am earnestly grateful for the recognition that the paper has received. I would like to thank FONASBA for hosting the Young Ship Agent or Broker Award, as it encourages professionals from all over the world to expose different points of view from within the same industry. I truly hope that everyone enjoys reading the paper as much as I did writing it."

The other entrants for the 2021 Award were:

Ralston Edema,
GAC, Bahrain
Yves Vercalsteren,
Vertom, Belgium
Mariana Ribeiro Torres
Mediterranean Shipping Company, Brazil

For Notes to Editors, see overleaf

*Right:
Ana Ruiz García de
los Rios,
Winner of the
FONASBA Young
Ship Agent or
Broker Award 2021*



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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 78 members in 65 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