



# Global Ship & Yacht Registration.

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**CHOOSING THE RIGHT FLAG IS  
A STRATEGIC DECISION THAT  
SUPPORTS THE LONG-TERM SUCCESS  
OF EVERY VESSEL.**

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## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SHIPPING



Kyriaki (Kelly) Kresta | Head of Shipping

The maritime industry is built on global connectivity. Ships and yachts operate across borders, and choosing the right flag and registry is an important strategic decision for every vessel owner.

At AGPLAW, our Shipping practice focuses on helping shipowners and yacht owners understand the complexities of global vessel registration. Through our international network and practical industry experience, we assist clients in selecting the most suitable registry and managing the entire registration process efficiently and professionally.

Having worked closely with maritime professionals and shipowners for over a decade, I understand that every vessel and every operation is different. Our approach is therefore always practical and tailored to the needs of each client.

Whether registering a commercial vessel, structuring ownership for a fleet, or advising on the most appropriate flag jurisdiction, our goal is to provide reliable support and clear guidance throughout the process.

We are proud to work with shipowners, yacht owners, brokers and maritime professionals worldwide and to contribute to the continued growth of AGPLAW's Shipping practice.

Kyriaki (Kelly) Kresta | Head of Shipping



## GLOBAL SHIP & YACHT REGISTRATION

The global maritime industry operates within a complex regulatory landscape, where the choice of flag, ownership structure and registry jurisdiction can significantly influence operational efficiency, regulatory compliance and long-term strategic flexibility.

Shipowners and yacht owners today are no longer limited to registering their vessels in the jurisdiction where they reside or operate. Modern maritime practice allows vessels to be registered under a wide range of international registries, each offering different advantages in terms of regulatory framework, tax treatment, operational requirements and global recognition.

Selecting the appropriate registry is therefore not merely an administrative step, but a strategic decision that must take into account the nature of the vessel, its intended use, financing arrangements, chartering activities, crew requirements and long-term commercial objectives.

**AGPLAW** provides comprehensive legal and corporate support for the registration of commercial vessels and yachts across a wide range of international registries. Acting as a central point of coordination, the firm assists shipowners, yacht owners, managers and maritime professionals in navigating the legal, regulatory and administrative processes associated with vessel registration worldwide.

Through our specialised maritime practice and international network of partners and registry representatives, we assist clients with the selection of the most appropriate flag jurisdiction and manage the full registration process from initial advisory and documentation preparation to the completion of provisional and permanent registrations.

Our services extend beyond the registration process itself and include advice on vessel ownership structures, incorporation of vessel-owning companies, mortgage registrations, transfers of ownership, flag changes and ongoing registry compliance.

By combining legal expertise with practical industry knowledge, **AGPLAW** ensures that vessel registrations are completed efficiently, transparently and in full compliance with the applicable regulatory requirements of the chosen jurisdiction.



## REGISTRIES & JURISDICTIONS WORLDWIDE

*AGPLAW provides ship and yacht registration services across more than 36 international registries, allowing shipowners and yacht owners to select the jurisdiction that best suits their operational and commercial needs.*

Through our international network of registry representatives and maritime professionals, we support vessel registrations in a wide range of recognised maritime jurisdictions worldwide.

**Common registries include:**

- > Cyprus
- > Greece
- > Malta
- > San Marino (DIR)
- > Panama
- > Marshall Islands
- > Liberia
- > United Kingdom
- > Norway

- > Poland
- > Montenegro
- > Barbados
- > St. Kitts & Nevis
- > Palau
- > Vanuatu
- > Tuvalu
- > and many other international registries.



AGPLAW also maintains strategic cooperation with registry administrations, including its role as an **authorised Registration Specialist for the San Marino Ship Register**, enabling the firm to facilitate vessel registrations under the San Marino flag for commercial ships and yachts.

Our global reach allows us to assist clients in selecting the most appropriate flag jurisdiction and managing the entire registration process efficiently.



## OUR GLOBAL REGISTRATION SERVICES

**AGPLAW** provides comprehensive legal and corporate support for the registration of ships and yachts across a wide range of international registries. Acting as a central point of coordination, we assist owners, managers and maritime professionals throughout the entire registration process.

*Our services include:*

- Flag selection and registry advisory
- Provisional and permanent vessel registration
- Yacht and commercial vessel registration
- Bareboat and parallel registrations
- Vessel deletion and change of registry
- Registration and discharge of ship mortgages
- Ownership transfers and registry transactions
- Coordination with international registries and representatives

Through our global network and maritime expertise, we ensure that vessel registrations are handled efficiently, professionally and in accordance with the requirements of the chosen jurisdiction.

## FLAG SELECTION & STRATEGIC ADVISORY

Selecting the appropriate flag is a key decision for every shipowner and yacht owner. Different registries offer varying advantages in terms of regulatory framework, operational requirements and international recognition.

**AGPLAW** assists clients in evaluating the available options and identifying the most suitable registry based on the vessel's characteristics, intended use and commercial objectives.

*Our advisory services include:*

- Comparative analysis of international ship registries
- Evaluation of regulatory and operational requirements
- Advice on tax efficiency and ownership structures
- Guidance on compliance with international maritime conventions
- Strategic planning for long-term fleet operations

Our goal is to ensure that the chosen flag aligns with the operational needs of the vessel while supporting the owner's broader commercial strategy.

## VESSEL REGISTRATION SERVICES

**AGPLAW** assists shipowners and yacht owners with the registration of vessels across a wide range of international registries. We coordinate the entire process, ensuring that all legal, technical and administrative requirements are properly addressed.

*Our registration services include:*

- Provisional vessel registration
- Permanent vessel registration
- Registration of commercial ships
- Registration of private and commercial yachts
- Issuance of registry certificates
- Coordination with registry authorities and representatives

We work closely with clients, registry officials and technical representatives to ensure that vessel registrations are completed efficiently and in full compliance with the applicable regulations.

## REGISTRY TRANSACTIONS

Beyond initial registration, vessels frequently undergo changes that must be recorded with the relevant ship registry. **AGPLAW** assists clients in managing a wide range of registry transactions throughout the life cycle of a vessel.

*Our services include:*

- Change of vessel ownership
- Transfer of vessels between registries (flag change)
- Vessel deletion from existing registries
- Registration and discharge of ship mortgages
- Change of vessel name or port of registry
- Amendments to vessel particulars
- Coordination of registry filings and documentation

We ensure that all registry transactions are completed efficiently and in accordance with the requirements of the relevant maritime authorities.

## OWNERSHIP STRUCTURES & VESSEL HOLDING COMPANIES

Proper structuring of vessel ownership is an important element of maritime operations, offering advantages in terms of liability management, financing flexibility and operational efficiency.

**AGPLAW** advises shipowners and yacht owners on the establishment of appropriate ownership structures and assists with the incorporation and administration of vessel-holding companies.

*Our services include:*

- Incorporation of vessel-owning companies
- Structuring of ship and yacht ownership
- Advice on fleet and holding structures
- Coordination of corporate and registry requirements
- Ongoing corporate administration and support

Through careful planning and structuring, we help clients establish efficient ownership frameworks that support their maritime activities and long-term business objectives.

## MORTGAGES & VESSEL FINANCING

Vessels are often financed through secured lending arrangements, making the proper registration and management of ship mortgages an essential part of maritime transactions.

**AGPLAW** assists lenders, shipowners and financial institutions with the legal and registry aspects of vessel financing.

*Our services include:*

- Registration of ship mortgages
- Discharge of ship mortgages
- Coordination with lenders and financial institutions
- Preparation and review of financing documentation
- Registry filings related to vessel financing

We ensure that mortgage registrations and related transactions are completed accurately and in accordance with the requirements of the relevant ship registry.

## INTERNATIONAL REGISTRY NETWORK

**AGPLAW** works with a broad network of international ship registries and maritime professionals, allowing us to support vessel registrations across multiple jurisdictions worldwide.

Through our global network of registry representatives, technical advisors and maritime specialists, we coordinate registration procedures efficiently and ensure compliance with the requirements of each registry.

Our international reach allows us to assist with registrations in a wide range of recognised maritime jurisdictions, providing clients with flexibility in selecting the most appropriate flag for their vessels.

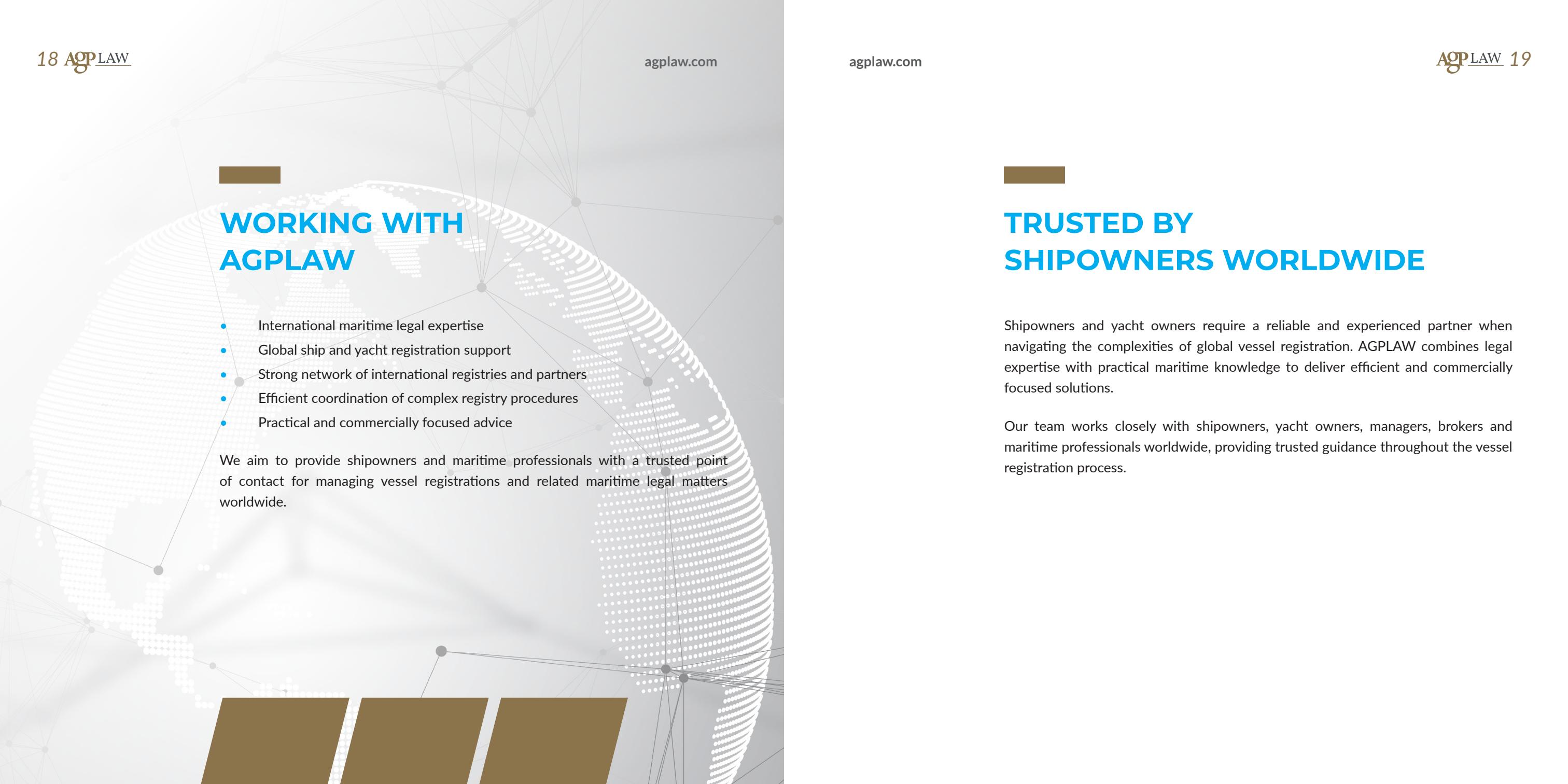
By acting as a central point of coordination, **AGPLAW** simplifies the process of global ship and yacht registration while ensuring professional handling of all legal and administrative requirements.



## THE AGPLAW ADVANTAGE

**AGPLAW** combines legal expertise with practical maritime experience to support shipowners, yacht owners and maritime businesses worldwide.

Our firm provides reliable and efficient solutions for vessel registration, registry transactions and maritime structuring across multiple jurisdictions.



## WORKING WITH AGPLAW

- International maritime legal expertise
- Global ship and yacht registration support
- Strong network of international registries and partners
- Efficient coordination of complex registry procedures
- Practical and commercially focused advice

We aim to provide shipowners and maritime professionals with a trusted point of contact for managing vessel registrations and related maritime legal matters worldwide.

## TRUSTED BY SHIPOWNERS WORLDWIDE

Shipowners and yacht owners require a reliable and experienced partner when navigating the complexities of global vessel registration. AGPLAW combines legal expertise with practical maritime knowledge to deliver efficient and commercially focused solutions.

Our team works closely with shipowners, yacht owners, managers, brokers and maritime professionals worldwide, providing trusted guidance throughout the vessel registration process.

## HOW WE SUPPORT OUR CLIENTS

### ***Global Registry Access***

We assist with ship and yacht registrations across more than 36 international registries, offering clients flexibility in selecting the most suitable flag jurisdiction.

### ***Strategic Flag Advisory***

We provide independent advice on the most appropriate registry based on the vessel's characteristics, operational profile and long-term commercial objectives.

### ***International Maritime Expertise***

Our legal and corporate services are tailored to the needs of the global maritime industry, supporting both commercial shipping and yacht ownership.

### ***Efficient Registration Process***

We coordinate the full registration procedure, working closely with registry authorities, representatives and maritime professionals worldwide.

### ***A Single Trusted Point of Contact***

**AGPLAW** acts as a central coordinator for vessel registrations and related registry transactions, simplifying what can otherwise be a complex international process.





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