

# EC claims round one?

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**Shipping's hopes of overturning the European directive on ship-source pollution were dented today when a top advisor to the European Court claimed there was nothing wrong with the law.**

Advocate general, Juliane Kokott, released a 37-page document which stated that there was "no factor that could bring into question the validity" of the directive.

Kokott's statement is not binding and a ruling on the case is not expected until the first half of next year. However, it is still widely regarded as a set back for the Intertanko-led coalition which is fighting the law.



Intertanko refused to comment on today's news when contacted by TradeWinds, stressing that it wanted to take time to formulate a considered response.

Industry lobbyists are fighting the directive, which seeks to criminalise shipowners for acts of pollution, on the grounds that it violates international law.

By [Andy Pierce](#) in London

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