

62. Vatican City

DECREE OF THE PAPAL COMMISSION FOR THE STATE OF VATICAN CITY,
No. LXVII OF 15 SEPTEMBER 1951, CONCERNING SHIPPING UNDER THE FLAG
OF THE STATE OF VATICAN CITY.¹

CHAPTER I

Vatican shipping register

Article 1. Persons or goods may be carried to or from Vatican City in ships belonging to the State, to Vatican citizens or to Vatican undertakings duly authorized by the Papal Commission for the State of Vatican City.

Article 2. Shipping shall be directed and administered by the Government of Vatican City through the competent office situated in the Governor's Palace, Vatican City. The said office shall be the port of registry of Vatican ships and shall also keep the Vatican shipping register.

Article 3. Ships used for carriage by sea under article 1 shall be entered in the Vatican register.

Article 4. Ships belonging to the State shall be entered in the Vatican shipping register administratively.

Other ships shall be entered in the register on application in writing by the owner of the ship, subject to previous authorization by the Papal Commission for the State of Vatican City.

Article 5. Authorization to enter in the Vatican shipping register all or any of the ships belonging to a single owner may at any time be withdrawn by order of the Papal Commission of the State of Vatican City.

Article 6. Persons who have been refused authorization to enter a ship in the Vatican shipping register, or whose authorization has been withdrawn, shall in no circumstances be entitled to an explanation of the grounds for such refusal or withdrawal, or to any compensation or indemnity therefor.

Article 7. Ships to be entered in the Vatican shipping register must be passed as sea-worthy; for this purpose a statement by the competent authorities of the place where the ship was built, launched or previously registered shall be accepted as sufficient evidence.

Article 8. Every ship shall have its distinctive name, which shall be approved by the Papal Commission of the State of Vatican City and marked conspicuously at the bow and the stern, followed by the words "Vatican City".

Article 9. Ships entered in the Vatican shipping register shall wear the flag of the State of Vatican City, in conformity with the specification contained in annex A to the fundamental law of Vatican City, 7 June 1929, No. I.

State ships shall also be marked on each side with the official coat of arms of the State of Vatican City, in conformity with annex B to the fundamental law of Vatican City, 7 June 1929, No. I.

¹ Text of Decree provided by the Secretariat of State of the Vatican. Translation by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Every ship entered in the Vatican shipping register shall in addition be marked conspicuously, on each side of the bow and the stern, with the colours of the flag, white and yellow.

Article 10. On the entry of a ship in the Vatican shipping register a document attesting the same, signed by the Governor, shall be issued, and shall constitute the ship's certificate of nationality and shall be kept on board at all times.

Article 11. Every ship shall also be furnished with a log-book, a crew list, an engine-room log and a wireless telegraphy log.

Article 12. The ship's master and the technical staff shall be required to hold certificates of competency issued by the appropriate authorities of the States of which they are nationals or of another State engaging in shipping.

Article 13. Ships belonging to the State shall at all times be deemed to be territory of the State of Vatican City.

Ships belonging to private owners shall be deemed when on the high seas to be territory of the State of Vatican City.

Article 14. The crew of a ship managed directly by the State of Vatican City shall be subject to the same regulations as other employees of that State.

CHAPTER IV

Management of ship

Article 19. The management of a ship may, by order of the Papal Commission for the State of Vatican City, be delegated to a ship's operator.

A ship's operator need not be a citizen of Vatican City.

63. Venezuela

SHIPPING ACT OF 9 AUGUST 1944.¹

CHAPTER II

Vessels or ships

Article 9. In this Act the term "ship" or "vessel" means any craft with integrated means of propulsion intended to sail in territorial waters or inland waterways or on the high seas between national or foreign ports or both.

Lighters, cranes, boats, floating docks, houseboats, floating piers and dredges and other structures having no independent means of self-propulsion are not ships but auxiliary craft.

CHAPTER III

National merchant ships

Article 12. Venezuelan merchant ships shall register with the National Merchant Marine.

¹ *Compilación Legislativa de Venezuela, 1944.* Translation by the Secretariat of the United Nations.