



Ship Release in Tunisia

By Dr. Brahim LATRECH

The release of a detained vessel is often of greater commercial importance than the detention itself. Each day of immobilization can result in substantial financial losses for shipowners, charterers, cargo interests, and other stakeholders.

Drawing on extensive experience in maritime litigation before Tunisian courts, Dr. Brahim Latrech has developed a sophisticated and effective approach to vessel release proceedings. In appropriate cases, the release of a vessel may be secured without the need for a bank guarantee, through the strategic application of legal mechanisms arising from bilateral judicial cooperation treaties between Tunisia and numerous foreign States.

Many of these treaties provide for equal access to justice between Tunisian and foreign nationals and exempt citizens and companies of contracting States from certain procedural guarantees ordinarily imposed on foreign litigants. When properly invoked before Tunisian courts, these provisions can serve as a strong legal foundation for obtaining the release of vessels while minimizing unnecessary financial and operational burdens.

Accordingly, except in exceptional circumstances where adequate security is legally required, Dr. Brahim Latrech is able to develop tailored legal strategies designed to secure the release of vessels in Tunisia without reliance on costly bank guarantees.

The successful release of a vessel requires more than legal expertise alone. It demands a comprehensive understanding of international conventions, bilateral treaties, maritime industry practices, and judicial procedures. This multidisciplinary expertise enables the delivery of efficient, commercially sound, and results-oriented solutions for shipowners, operators, charterers, and P&I Clubs confronted with vessel detention in Tunisian ports.

“If a vessel can legally be released, I will identify the most effective legal pathway to achieve its release.”

Dr. Brahim Latrech
Attorney at Law before the Court of Cassation



Maritime Law Specialist
Tunisia

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Dr. Brahim LATRECH Law Office

Avocat au Barreau de Tunisie

Mob +216 24 29 27 00

Tel + 216 71 830 257

WhatsApp +21624292706

Fax +216 71 830 257

Lafayette Center -Tunis - Tunisia <http://www.cabinetavocat-bl.com>