

## UiO Scandinavian Institute of Maritime Law University of Oslo

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#### Marine insurance law





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# 4 Insurable interest, insurable value and the sum insured

- Insurance unrelated to any interest
- Terminology
- Calculating the insurable value
- The sum insured as limit to the insurer's liability

## 4.1 Insurance unrelated to any interest

- Insurance unrelated to any interest is void, NP Cl. 2-1
- MIA sec. 4.1/Strl ikrl § 12
- The relationship with provisions concerning legal interest:
  - NL 5-1-2
  - NP Cl. 3-16 concerning illegal activities

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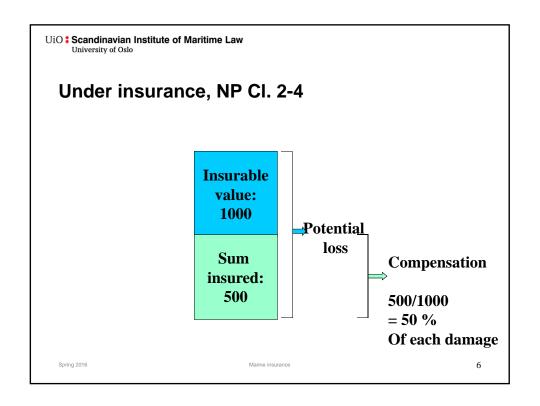
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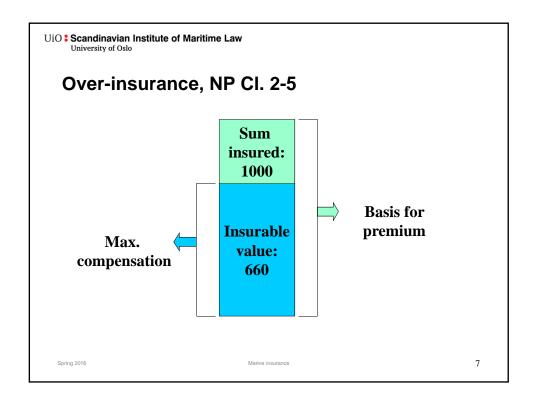
## 4.2 Terminology

- Insurable value, NP Cl. 2-2
  - Value of the insured interest
  - at the commencement of the insurance
  - Maximum for liability, Cl. 4-1
  - Not possible for liability risk
- Sum insured, NP Cl. 4-18,
  - The sum the assured has chosen to insure
  - Three sums at risk

## **4.2 Terminology**

- Under-insurance
  - = insurable value exceeds sum insured
  - NP Cl. 2-4
- Over-insurance
  - = sum insured exceeds insurable value
  - NP Cl. 2-5
- Double insurance
  - = same interest insured against same peril under two or more contracts, NP CI 2.-6





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## 4.3. Calculating the insurable value

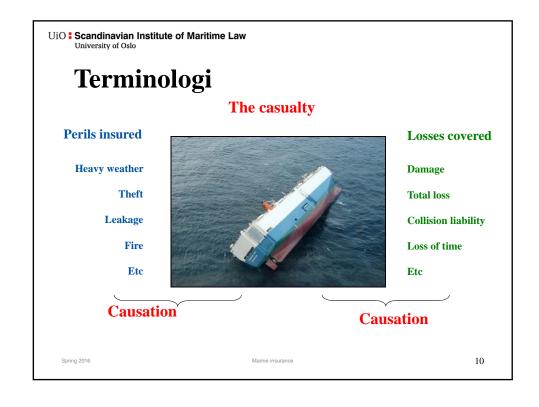
- "Open" insurable value
  - Full market value when the insurance commences, NP CI. 2-2
  - Not common in hull insurance for ocean going ships
  - Reason: Must cover mortgage amount
- Agreed insurable value, NP Cl. 2-2/2-3 = as agreed between the parties

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## 5 Scope of cover

- Terminology
- Perils insured against in marine insurance
- The losses covered
- Causation



## 5.2. Perils insured against

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- All risks principle: NP Cl. 2-8

- Exceptions:

• War perils, Cl. 2-8 (a)

• Intervention by state power, Cl. 2-8 (b)

• Insolvency, Cl. 2-8 (c)

• RACE II, Cl. 2-8 (d)



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## 5.2 Perils insured against

• War insurance, NP Cl. 2-9

Named perils principle:

- War or warlike conditions
- Capture/confiscation etc
- Riots, strikes, sabotage, terrorism etc
- · Piracy and mutiny
- Common exceptions, see above
- The relationship between the two branches

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#### Question

- MS Unhappy Ship was attacked and captured by a group of men 100 nautical miles outside Somalia.
- Is the capture covered by the marine risk insurer or the war risk insurer?
- Will the result be different if the attack took place 10 nautical miles from the coastline?

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#### Question

- Whilst MS Happy Ship was lying in port in Malaysia, some men crept onboard and stole a lot of expensive electronic equipment.
- Which insurance will cover this?
- What if the Malaysian government confiscated the equipment under the pretext that it was used for illegal purposes?

#### 5.3 Causation

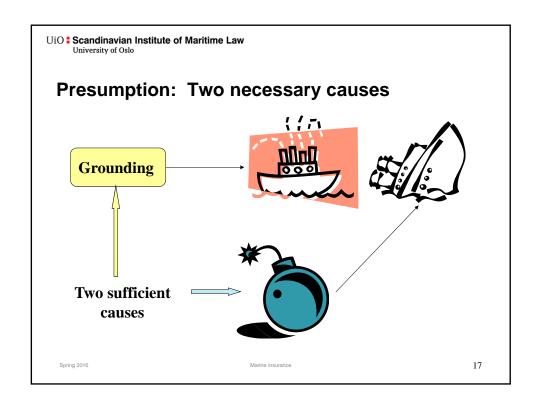
- The problem
- · General insurance law
- NMIP: The main rule
- Combination of war and marine perils
- Combination of perils over different insurance periods

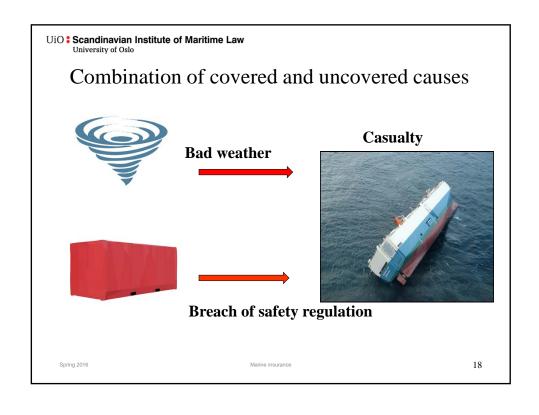
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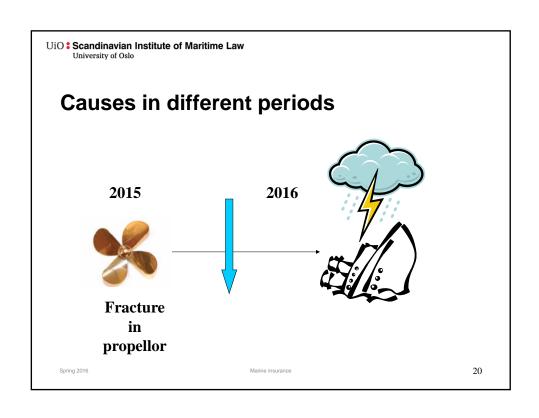
### 5.3.1 The problem

- Presumption:
  - Two causes are necessary to result in a loss,
  - none of them are sufficient.
- Combination of perils in different situations
  - Covered and uncovered perils
  - Perils covered under different branches
  - Perils occurring in different insurance period





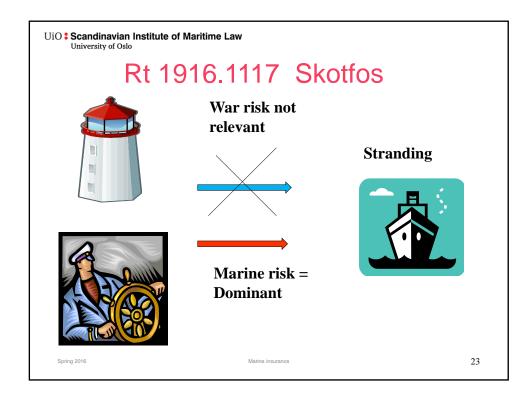




#### 5.3.2 General insurance law

- The main rule: The dominant cause rule
- Legal basis: ND 1916.76, cfr, ND 1916.209
  NSC SKOTFOS
- Anglo-American solution: Causa proxima





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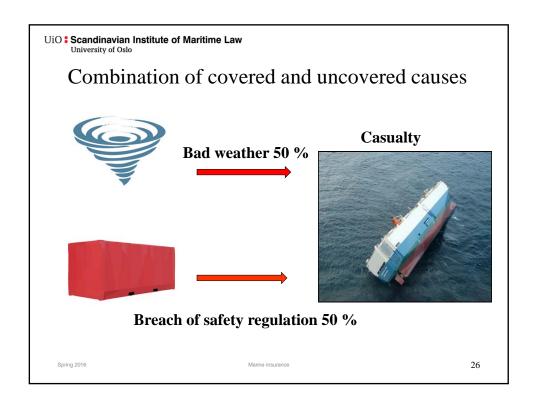
### 5.3.3 NP: The main rule

- NP Cl. 2-13
- Apportionment principle, not the dominant cause rule
- Special Norwegian principle
- Only applied in marine insurance
- Combination of covered and uncovered perils

#### **NP CI. 2-13**

 If the loss has been caused by a combination of different perils, and one or more of these perils are not covered by the insurance, the loss shall be apportioned over the individual perils according to the influence each of them must be assumed to have had on the occurrence and extent of the loss, and the insurer shall only be liable for that part of the loss which is attributable to the perils covered by the insurance.

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## 5.3.4 Combination of war and marine perils

- NP Cl. 2-14
- Reinstates the dominant cause rule as a main rule
- If neither cause is dominant, equal division

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#### **NP CI. 2-14**

 If the loss has been caused by a combination of marine perils, cf. Cl. 2-8, and war perils, cf. Cl. 2-9, the whole loss shall be deemed to have been caused by the class of perils which was the dominant cause. If neither of the classes of perils is considered dominant, both shall be deemed to have had equal influence on the occurrence and extent of the loss.

## 5.3.5 Combination of perils in different periods

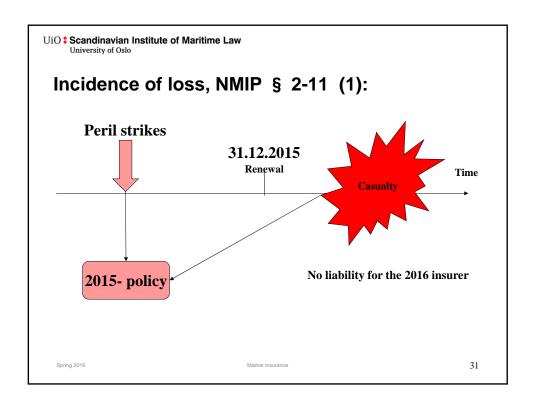
- NMIP § 2-11
- Starting point: When the peril strikes
- Exception for unknown defect or damage

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## NP CI 2-11, sub clause 1

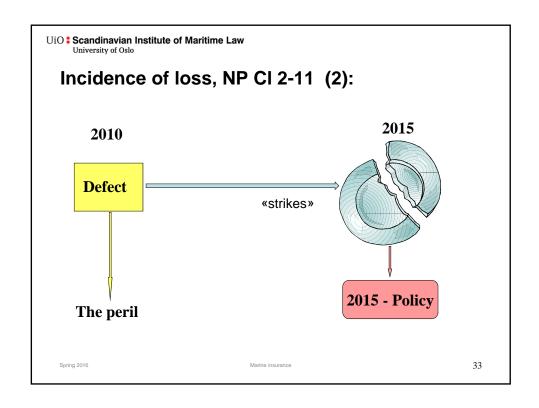
The insurer is liable for loss occurred when the interest insured is struck by an insured peril during the insurance period.

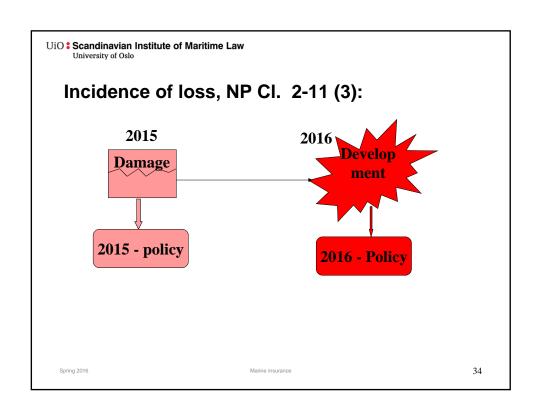


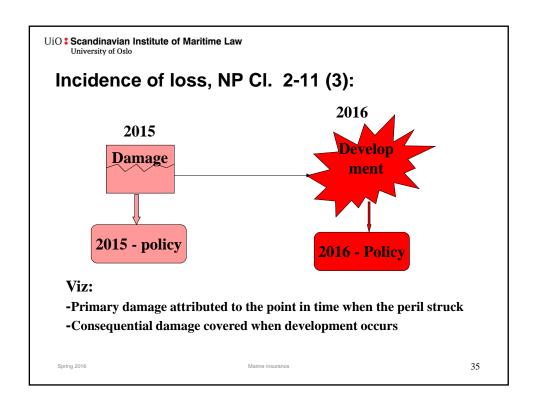
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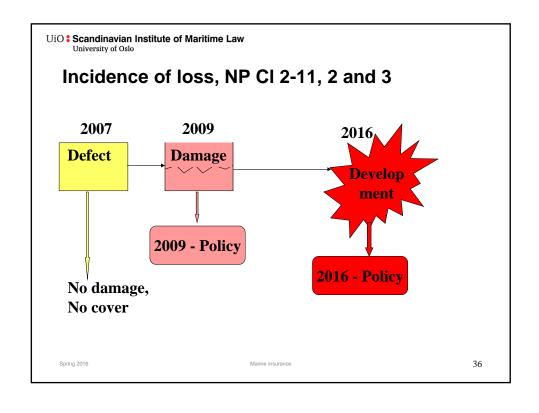
#### Cl. 2-11 sub clause 2 and 3

- If an unknown defect results in damage to the insured vessel, the defect shall be deemed to be a marine peril that strikes the interest insured at the time the damage starts to develop.
- If unknown damage in one part of the vessel results in damage to another part or parts of the vessel, the original damage shall be deemed to be a marine peril that strikes the interest insured at the time the damage to the other part or parts starts to develop.









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#### NP Cl. 2-11 (4)

 Where a defect or damage existing at the inception of the insurance which is known to the assured but not to the Insurer, gives rise to damage (in the case of defects) or new damage to other parts (in the case of existing damage) the liability of the Insurer shall not exceed the amount the Assured would have been able to recover under the insurance on risk at the time the Assured first acquired knowledge of the relevant defect or damage.

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#### Question

- MS Happy Ship sustained a brake down of machinery in January 2016. The reason was a crac in the crank web that had started to develop in 2014. It was agreed that only one part was damaged.
- Is the 2016 or the 2014 insurer liable?

#### Question

- What would be the result if the crack from 2014 led to brake down of the machinery in 2016 which again resulted in grounding of the vessel?
- Would the result be different if the assured was aware of the crack in 2014?