



**The Port Authority and essential services of the Port of Bilbao maintain their activity level to guarantee supply**

During this first week of confinement, the entry and exit of cargo ships to and from the Port of Bilbao has continued to provide service and supplies to industry and citizens. With preventive measures applied to all personnel, the Port Authority of Bilbao is ensuring that those services considered as essential for vessels to maintain their activity level continue apace, so as not to break the supply chain. Both the Port Authority itself and pilots, tugboats, moorers and MARPOL and goods handling (stevedoring) services continue to work and to be provided to support and ensure the import and export of products from both the Basque Country and its area of influence.

Access to the port remains open to authorised personnel, and both port police services and the emergency control centre continue to operate 24 hours a day.

Ports are essential in the distribution chain, as 85% of Spain's imports and 55% of exports go through them. The activity of the Port of Bilbao alone provides for 9,000 jobs, generating 1.3% of the GDP of the Basque Country and 2.6% of that of the province of Bizkaia.