

**GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS****RÓISÍN CLASS Offshore Patrol Vessel****Length** 78.9 m**Beam** 14 m**Draft** 3.8 m**Displacement** 1500 t**Speed** 23 kts**Propulsion** 2 x 5,000KW Diesel Engines
Complement 56 persons (all ranks)**OVERVIEW**

LE NIAMH was commissioned in 2001 and is the last ship in the "RÓISÍN Class" (2) of Offshore Patrol Vessel operated by the Irish Naval Service. She is named after Niamh Cínn Ór, (Niamh of the Golden Hair) a female figure from Irish mythology.

She is armed with a 76mm OTO MELARA gun operated by a RADEMEC fire control system. Her secondary and tertiary armaments consist of 2 x 20mm, 2 x 12.7mm as well as 2 x General Purpose Machine Guns.

The Naval Service has a long history and expertise in small boat handling and boarding operations and LE NIAMH is equipped with 2 x 6.8m long DELTAs for this task.

The ship was designed to operate in the harsh environment of the North East Atlantic and has been involved in a number of high profile drug interdiction operations throughout her service life.

In 2015 she deployed to the Mediterranean as part of OP PONTUS, a unilateral humanitarian mission conducted under a bilateral agreement between Ireland and Italy. During this deployment LE NIAMH rescued over 2,000 people.

LE NIAMH joining EUNAVFOR MED Operation SOPHIA in 2017 is the first time that the Irish Naval Service has ever deployed overseas as part of a multinational mission.

**Contact details**

**European Union Naval Force Mediterranean Operation Sophia
Media and Public information office**

Tel: +39 06 4691 9442 ; +39 06 46919451 (IT Office hours)

Mobile: +39 334 6891930 (Silent hours and weekend)

Email: spokesperson@euohq.difesa.it ; eunavformed.pi@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.operationsophia.eu

