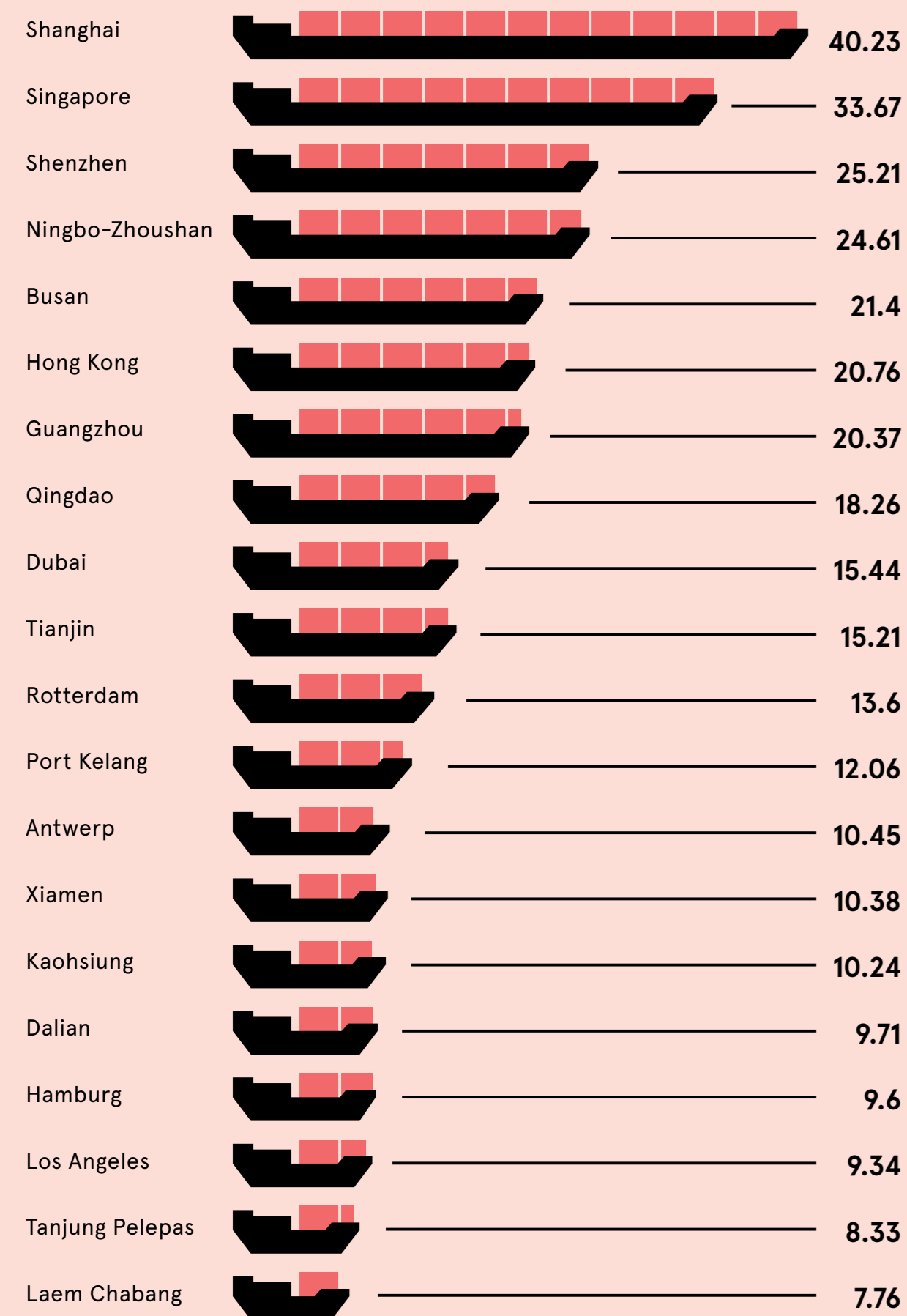


PORTS AND PATHWAYS

Modern ports have become multimodal distribution megahubs which link sea, river, canal, road, rail and air transport routes, vital for international trade and linchpins for the global economy. Since the advent of container shipping in the 1950s, globalisation has led to the vast expansion of ports, and trade flows show the importance of Asia as a major transport region. The continent now dominates the scene, handling nearly two thirds of global annual container port volumes, and is home to fifteen of the twenty largest ports in the world, eight of which are located in China

World's largest ports by volume

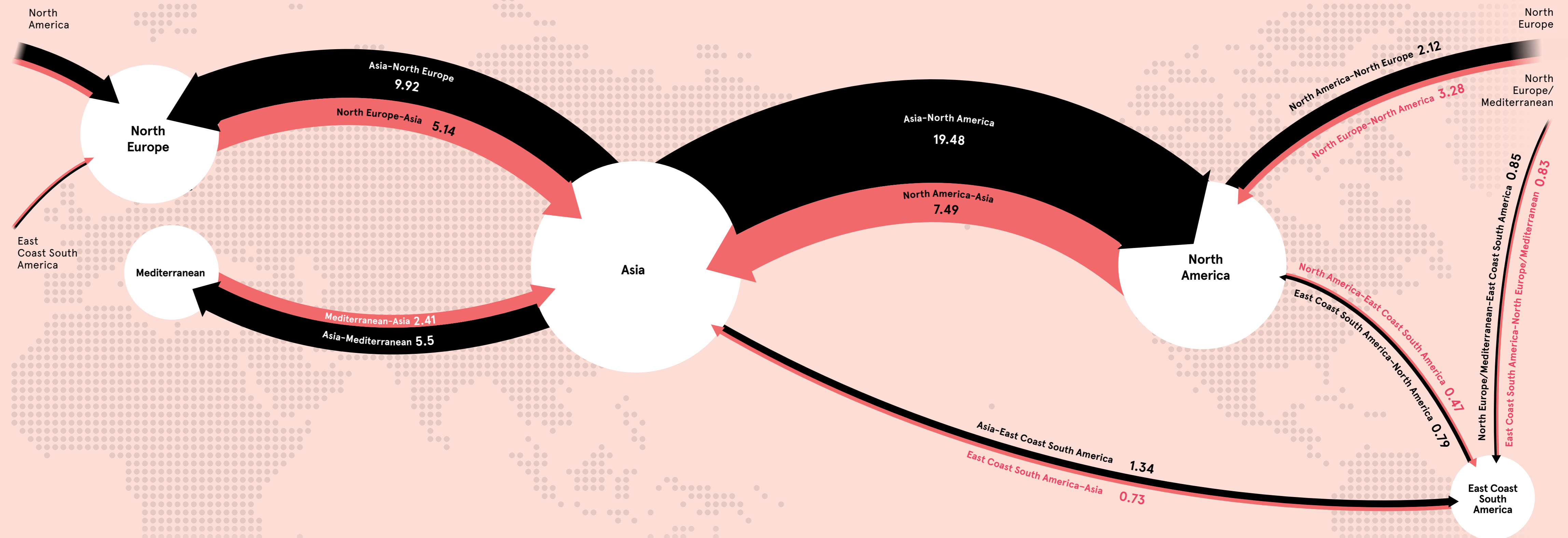
Annual capacity of container ports in 2017, calculated by twenty-foot equivalent units or TEU



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development 2017

Top liner shipping trade routes

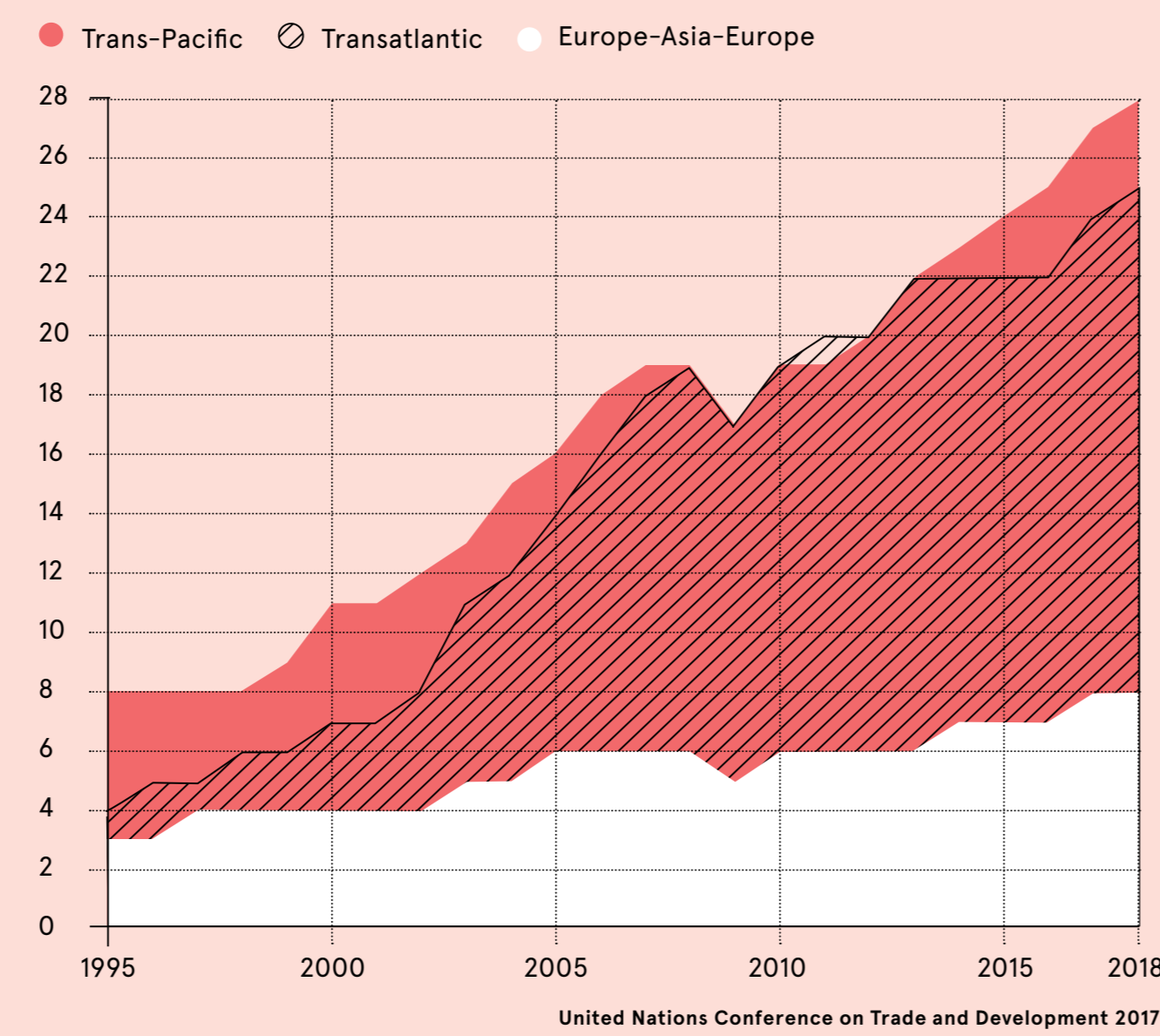
Total volumes shipped, in terms of million twenty-foot equivalent units or million TEU



Data on shipping volumes to and from the Middle East was not available
World Shipping Council 2018

Containerised cargo flows on major East-West trade routes

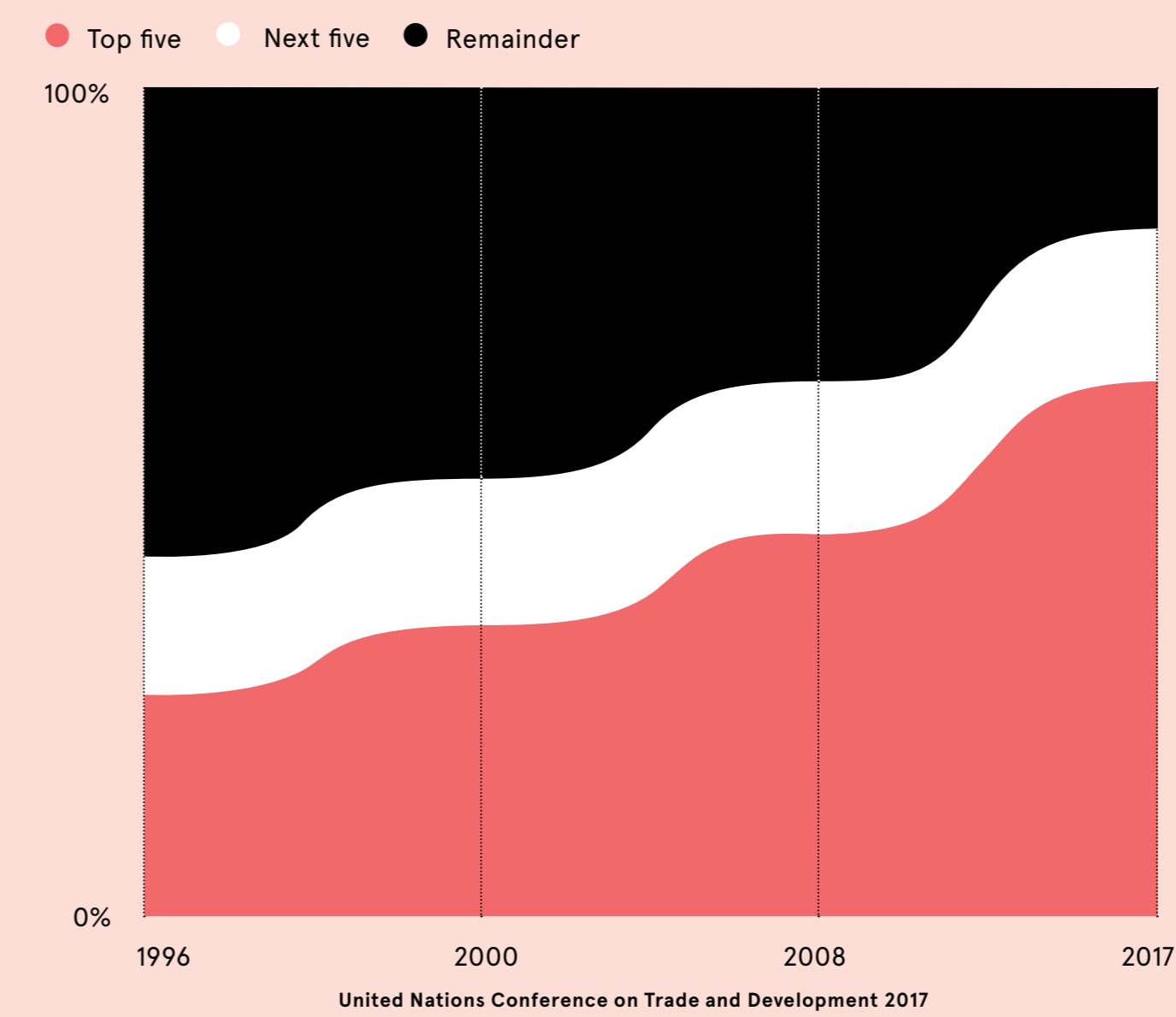
In million twenty-foot equivalent units or million TEU



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development 2017

Container shipping industry continues to concentrate

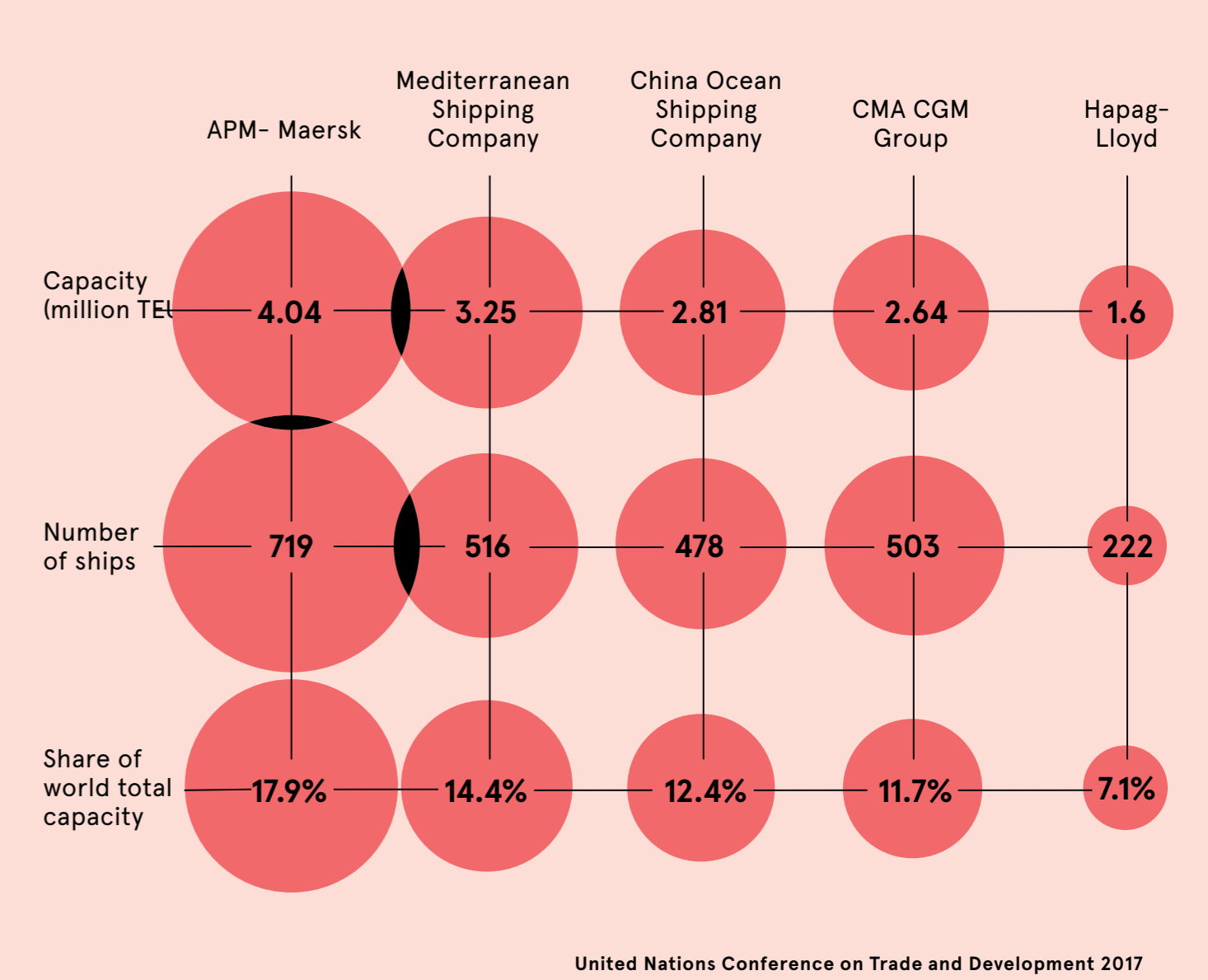
Market share of top five companies has more than doubled in size in the past two decades



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development 2017

Top five largest container operators by fleet size

Includes owned, chartered and ordered vessels, as of October 1



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development 2017