CLAIMS

1. System for automatically, even in rough seas, launching and recovering a marine or underwater vehicle (15) from an under way carrier ship (10), of the type comprising an inclinable articulated ramp (11) in the form of a channel section comprising a bottom (113) and edges (114, 115), first drive means (18, 181, 182) for lowering and raising the ramp and hauling means (14, 16) for controlling the sliding of the vehicle (15) along the ramp (11) during the launch and for hoisting the vehicle (15) up along the ramp (11) during recovery, the ramp (11) having a free end (112) and an emerged end (111) which is connected to the ship while leaving at least free a degree of rotation about a horizontal axis perpendicular to the principal axis of the ramp so that the free end can be raised and lowered in the manner of a drawbridge, the first drive means being able to lower and raise the ramp in such a way that the position of the free end varies between an immersed position in which it dips down into the water and an emerged position for which the ramp is in a horizontal position, characterized in that the ramp (11) also comprises buoyancy means configured and arranged on the ramp in such a way that the free end of the ramp floats at the surface or near the surface of the water when the ramp is lowered and in that the bottom (113) of the articulated ramp (11) has an external face (21) that forms streamlining the cross-sectional profile of which is V-shaped or W-shaped, said system comprising holding and guiding means comprising a holding device (13) configured to hold the end of the vehicle (15) and remain in contact with the vehicle (15) during the launch and recovery operations, the holding device being driven with the vehicle (15) by the hauling means, the system further comprising vertical protection elements (131) <u>designed to provide a support for the wings</u> ~~on which the wings~~ (151) of the vehicle ~~rest~~ when its end is engaged in the holding device (13), the broad