



Spring School & Conference in Turin, Italy

The Use of Force at Sea

Monday, 16 April 2018 – Friday, 20 April 2018

Application
deadline
20 Dec. 2017

Descriptive “Peace and Security at Sea – The Use of Force at Sea”

The use of force is a core issue of international law. The Spring School on Peace and Security brings to the forefront the issue of **use of force at sea specifically**. The broad approach taken considers the use of force by individuals and States, and as part of law enforcement operations and conduct of hostilities.

It is necessary to discuss the use of force at sea specifically for two reasons. First, the **bulk of legal instruments and related writings pertain to the use of force at land**; hence, it must be assessed from a legal and operational perspective whether and how they apply in the maritime context. Second, a series of factual and operational developments – **new scenarios, new actors and new at-sea technologies** – necessitate an analysis of the use of force in the context of the maritime environment.

In terms of ‘**scenarios**’, situations are multiplying where it is unclear whether force is used within the framework of law enforcement operations or rather as part of conduct of hostilities (e. g. when coastguards and other civilian-manned vessels in various parts of the world’s oceans carry out military rather than constabulary functions). As a consequence, it is ambiguous whether a law enforcement paradigm reigns or the more permissive law of armed conflicts is the defining approach to the use of force.

In terms of ‘**actors**’, the increased use of and reliance on private actors to prevent criminal offences at sea (e. g. to protect offshore installations or to prevent piracy attacks) and even to enforce the law (e. g. fisheries laws) can be witnessed; this necessitates an assessment of their respective powers.

Finally, ‘**at-sea technologies**’ remove the need for a direct encounter or physical presence in the display of force. Such technology is being used not only to respond to maritime security threats (e.g. the use of unmanned autonomous maritime systems) but also as a means of creating such threats in the first place (e. g. cyberattacks).

Programme

- Day 1:** The use of force at land and at sea: a comparison
- Days 2 – 4:** New scenarios (ambiguity), new actors (privatization) and new at sea technologies (beyond immediacy): their implications for the use of force in law enforcement operations and conduct of hostilities
- Day 5:** Conference on Peace and Security at Sea

Sessions

- Lectures:** In the morning sessions, leading scholars and practitioners will lecture on the topics mentioned above.
- Case study:** In the afternoon sessions, participants will work on a case study, where they will have the opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge obtained during the lectures to a concrete situation.

Organizers & Directors

- **Gemma ANDREONE**, Institute for International Legal Studies, National Research Council of Italy
- **Anna PETRIG**, Faculty of Law, University of Basel, Switzerland

Host institution

Law Department of the University of Turin, Italy.

Scientific Committee (in alphabetical order)

- **Kara CHADWICK**, Lieutenant Commander Royal Navy
- **Haritini DIPLA**, Professor of International Law at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- **Yurika ISHII**, Professor at the National Defense Academy of Japan
- **Philippe GAUTIER**, Registrar at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
- **Edoardo GREPPI**, Vice-President of the San Remo International Institute of Humanitarian Law
- **Guiseppe PALMISANO**, ISGI, National Research Council of Italy
- **Tullio TREVES**, former judge at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

Language

English (solid knowledge required, i.e. able to read and speak about the topics, most students will be non-native speakers).

Audience

The Spring School is open to anyone with a background in international law and an interest in the use of force at sea, i. e. students, members of the armed forces, media specialists, NGO and IO staff, academics, etc. For students of the Universities of Basel and the Turin, the Spring School forms part of their respective Study Programmes and they will earn ECTS as agreed with their institution.

Fees

The Spring School is funded by the University of Basel and by the Institute for International Legal Studies of CNR. There is therefore no participation fee. However, participants are responsible for their travel and accommodation costs (enrolled participants will receive information on recommended hotels and dormitory rooms and special rates in due time).

Application & registration

The application deadline is 20 December 2017. To apply, please send a letter of motivation outlining your background and interest in the Spring School (max. 1 page) and a current C.V. (max. 2 pages) to the following email address:

SpringSchoolPASS@gmail.com

Applicants will be informed by 15 January 2017 about their selection. The maximum number of participants is 30 persons.

