



ICAS MARITIME AFFAIRS HANDBILL

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Recent News in Global Maritime Affairs

[1] Ocean Governance and Maritime Cooperation [1]

[US resumes aid delivery into Gaza using floating pier but distribution has not resumed](#)

June 21 - CNN

[Middle East, United States]

U.S. Central Command resumed aid deliveries into the Gaza Strip from its temporary pier starting June 20, though aid distribution has been paused. A week earlier, the pier had been temporarily dismantled to avoid damages from heavy seas, marking the second time it had been dismantled.

[S. Korea to host global ocean conference next year](#)

June 18 - Yonhap News Agency

[East Asia, Global]

South Korea's Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries announced that it will host the international 10th Our Ocean Conference, which will run for three days under the slogan "Our Ocean, Our Action."

[Armada Technologies and Qatar Shipyard Technology Solutions Sign an MoU](#)

June 17 - *The Maritime Executive*

[Middle East, Europe]

UK-based Armada Technologies and Qatar Shipyard Technology Solutions have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to collaborate on installing Passive Air Lubrication Systems on vessels owned by the latter, which will reduce operating costs and improve energy efficiency.

[China Coast Guard's new 60-day detention rules take effect](#)

June 15 - *The Japan Times*

[East Asia]

The Chinese Coast Guard's updated regulations, which were announced in May and allow it to detain foreign nationals suspected of trespassing within "waters under China's jurisdiction" for up to 60 days, took effect on June 15.

[Philippines files UN claim to extended continental shelf in South China Sea](#)

June 15 - *Reuters*

[South China Sea, Global]

On June 15, the Philippines filed a claim with the United Nations for an extended continental shelf in the South China Sea. Manila stated the claim was submitted to enact its entitlement to its "exclusive right to explore and exploit natural resources" in the contested area.

[Greece to Cap Number of Cruise Ships to Cope With Over-tourism](#)

June 14 - *Greek Reporter*

[Mediterranean Sea]

In an interview with *Bloomberg*, Greece Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said that he plans to restrict the number of cruise ship visits to some of Greece's islands next year in an attempt to curb the impacts of over-tourism.

[Vietnam tells China they must respect each other's maritime rights and interests](#)

June 12 - *South China Morning Post*

[East Asia]

In his meeting with Chinese Ambassador Xiong Bo, Vietnam's President To Lam said that while managing bilateral relations with China is a foreign policy priority, "both sides need to...respect each other's legitimate [maritime] rights and interests." President Lam further indicated Hanoi's willingness to strengthen bilateral exchanges and deepen China-Vietnam relations.

[China maintains stance on disputed Gulf islands despite Iran's anger](#)

June 3 - *Reuters*

[Middle East, China]

In the last week of May, China expressed support for efforts by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to reach a "peaceful solution" over three disputed islands in the Gulf—the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa—that have been held by Iran but claimed by both Iran and the UAE since 1971. Iran became angry over the "baseless claims" and summoned the Chinese ambassador in protest.

[Philippines, Brunei sign deal on closer maritime cooperation, with eye on Beijing in South China Sea](#)

May 29 - *South China Morning Post*
[Southeast Asia, South China Sea]

During his first official visit to Brunei, Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. signed a deal with Brunei's Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah to boost "stability." The deal, one of several, also includes a joint commitment to develop maritime capabilities through training, research and information sharing.

[2] Maritime Security and Defense [2]

[Maritime Security Committee is back again](#)

June 23 - *Fiji Times*
[Pacific Ocean]

Fiji's Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration re-established the Maritime Security Committee to prepare to address both traditional and non-traditional threats in the maritime space from a legislative view. Its inaugural three-day session was held in mid-June at a resort in Pacific Harbour.

[Houthis Release Video Footage of Blowing Up MV Tutor Ship in the Red Sea](#)

June 22 - *Marine Insight*
[Red Sea, Europe]

After more than 60 launched attacks targeting ships in the Red Sea since November 2023 and months of defensive measures by regional and global navies, Houthi rebels have sunk a second ship in the Red Sea region, the Liberian-flagged and Greek-owned bulk carrier the *Tutor*.

[Philippines won't invoke mutual defense treaty with US after Chinese confrontation at disputed shoal](#)

June 21 - AP
[South China Sea, United States, Indo-Pacific]

Amidst a lengthy string of reports of physical and verbal exchanges between Chinese and Philippine navies and vessels over the disputed Second Thomas Shoal in the South China Sea, Manila announced that it has no plans to invoke its mutual defense treaty with the United States.

[Ukraine unveils new versatile sea drone](#)

June 18 - *TVP World*
[Black Sea, Global]

Ukraine has revealed its new unmanned surface vessel "Stalker 5.0", which is capable of reaching speeds of up to 40 knots and operating across a 600 kilometer range. The new drone was

introduced during the Black Sea Security Forum held in Odesa, Ukraine from June 14-16, which focused on addressing regional security issues related to the war in Ukraine.

[Russian warships leave Havana's port after a 5-day visit to Cuba](#)

June 17 - AP

[Caribbean Sea, Russia]

In mid-June, a fleet of Russian warships successfully paid a five-day port visit to Cuba's port of Havana as part of planned military drills in the Atlantic Ocean. U.S. officials said the port visit—which included a nuclear-powered submarine, a frigate, an oil tanker and a rescue tug—was carefully monitored by the United States and not deemed to be a threat to the region.

[China warns against Dutch naval 'intrusion', disputes East China Sea encounter](#)

June 11 - *South China Morning Post*

[East China Sea, Europe]

Two Chinese fighter jets and a PLA helicopter approached a Dutch maritime combat helicopter, accompanied by a Dutch navy frigate while in international airspace. The Dutch frigate was patrolling part of the East China Sea in support of the multinational UN coalition Pacific Archer 24.

[Brazil Lays Keel Of Second Tamandaré-Class Frigate](#)

June 8 - *Naval News*

[South America, Europe]

On June 6, the Brazilian Navy, Germany-based engineering company thyssenkrupp, and their partners celebrated the keel laying of Brazil's most modern frigate, the *Jerônimo de Albuquerque*, which is the second of Brazil's four planned Tamandaré-class stealth guided-missile frigates.

[EU forces committed to keeping sealanes open against security threats](#)

May 31 - *Seatrade Maritime News*

[Red Sea, Europe, Global]

European Union naval leaders from EUNAVFOR ASPIDES, the Combined Maritime Forces and Operation AGENOR, gathered at the 15th Industrial Strategic Meeting in Madrid, reiterated their commitment to keeping sealanes open against security threats in the Indian Ocean and Red Sea.

[Lebanon launches first maritime strategy, including focus on maritime border security](#)

May 31 - *Breaking Defense*

[Africa]

On May 28, the Lebanese government approved the first formalized maritime strategy plan that involves the use of US\$7.6 million in aid from the European Union. The strategy specifically notes

maritime security challenges involving the protection of communication cables, border control, and search and rescue missions.

[Sea-based launch startup scores \\$2.5 million Pentagon contract](#)

May 29 - *Space News*

[United States]

The Pentagon's Defense Innovation Unit has awarded a US\$2.5 million contract to The Spaceport Company for developing sea-based launch platforms for rockets. This technology hopes to reduce vulnerability and increase flexibility for spaceport launches.

[3] Maritime Economy and Shipping [3]

[AI Image Tools May Help Autonomous Ships Drive Safely in the Arctic](#)

June 23 - *The Maritime Executive*

[Arctic Ocean]

To enable autonomous navigation in dangerous Arctic waters, PhD candidate Nabil Panchi has developed an algorithm that could remove weather's influence on image clarity and enhance algorithm accuracy for autonomous navigation in poor Arctic weather conditions.

[Russia Transshipping Fish Through Norway to Avoid Dutch Shipping Ban](#)

June 21 - *The Maritime Executive*

[Barents Sea]

A Norwegian public broadcaster reported a case of Russia operating ship-to-ship transfers of frozen fish, likely from the Barents Sea, in an attempt to avoid EU sanctions against Russia. Russia has previously used ship-to-ship transference in secluded regions to transport oil, reports say.

[Using China as a Foil, Peru Pitches New Port to American Investors](#)

June 13 - *Bloomberg*

[South America, United States, China]

Having noticed the United States' growing concern of Chinese investments in Latin America, Peru's Ambassador to the U.S. Alfredo Ferrero pitched a new Corio port project to U.S. private investors by calling it a potential "counterweight to China's chancay project" in Peru.

[DP World upgrades terminals in Latin America](#)

June 12 - *Seatrade Maritime News*

[South America, Pacific Ocean]

DP World, a UAE-based multinational logistics company, has announced a US\$400 million and a US\$140 million expansion in its ports located in Peru and Ecuador, respectively. This investment is expected to greatly boost the capacity and equipment efficiency at these South American ports.

[Red Sea ships attacks push 47% more crude oil, fuels around Africa](#)

June 11 - *Reuters*

[Africa, Red Sea, Global]

The U.S. Energy Information Administration reported that global crude oil and oil product shipments going through the longer route around the Cape of Good Hope has increased by 47% after Houthi's began attacking vessels in the Red Sea region. As the Red Sea accounts for 12% of the world's shipping traffic, this change in route has greatly pushed up shipping costs.

[Baltimore shipping channel fully reopens after fatal bridge collapse](#)

June 11 - *Axios*

[United States, Global]

Traffic has officially been fully restored to the Port of Baltimore, one of the United States' busiest ports. The Port had been fully or partially closed since the sudden collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge on March 26, which killed six and launched a massive cleanup effort.

[MSC launches new Asia - South America East Coast service](#)

June 10 - *Seatrade Maritime News*

[Global, South America, Asia]

Starting July 19, Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) will expand its Brazil port coverage via a new weekly Carioca service that will regularly connect ports in South Korea, China, Singapore and Sri Lanka to several Brazilian ports.

[Russia and China to cooperate on Arctic shipping route](#)

June 7 - *Ship Technology*

[Arctic Ocean, Russia, China]

Russia and Chinese company Hainan Yangpu NewNew Shipping have signed a joint deal to operate a year-round shipping route through the Arctic Circle as well as develop a new ice-class container ship for the region. The deal, signed at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, plans to increase the number of NewNew voyages to 12 in 2024, up from seven voyages the year prior.

[Shipping container rates from China jump to 2-year high as panic sets in amid US tariff threat, Red Sea disruptions](#)

June 4 - *South China Morning Post*
[Global, Red Sea]

Shipping container rates from China to Europe jumped to a two-year high after spiking 12.6% at the end of May, with prices expected to continue amidst U.S. tariff announcements and ongoing security threats to all vessels operating in or near the Red Sea.

[4] **Climate Change and Blue Carbon Economy** [4]

[MAWANI and REVIVA establish recycling and industrial waste complex at Jeddah Islamic Port](#)

June 23 - *Arab News*
[Middle East]

On June 23, the Saudi Ports Authority signed a US\$8 million contract with Global Environmental Management Services to build a marine and industrial waste recycling complex at Jeddah Islamic Port. The Saudi Press Agency said that this move is part of Saudi Arabia's effort of promoting environmental sustainability and will strengthen its position as a global logistics center.

[Equatic to Build North America's First Large-Scale Ocean-Based Carbon Capture Plant](#)

June 21 - *Environment Energy Leader*
[Canada, North Atlantic Ocean]

Equatic, a carbon-removal company, has announced plans to build North America's first and the world's largest ocean-based commercial-scale carbon dioxide removal facility in Quebec, Canada. The facility is estimated to capture 109,500 tonnes of carbon dioxide and release 3,600 tonnes of green hydrogen annually.

[More beaches closed after oil spill; MPA working with insurer to set up contact for third-party claims](#)

June 17 - *Channel News Asia*
[Southeast Asia]

Singapore is working to clean up an oil spill that spread for 30 kilometers along its beaches at the start of a long holiday weekend after the Netherlands-flagged dredger *Vox Maxima* hit and ruptured the bunker-fuel vessel *Marine Honour* up the coast.

[Warming springtime waters will mean more salmon in the Arctic, research shows](#)

June 10 - CBC News

[Arctic Ocean]

Warming waters in the Chukchi Sea have enabled Pacific salmon to swim further north, reaching Arctic regions that were previously uninhabitable for the species. Observing this trend, Scientists have expressed concerns about its potential disruptions to the Arctic ecosystem.

[Hundreds of Indigenous families complete relocation off Gardi Sugdub due to rising sea levels](#)

June 8 - NBC News

[South America, Caribbean Sea]

Panama's ministry of housing announced that the majority of the population of its Gardi Sugdub Island has been successfully relocated to a housing development on the mainland. Prolonged concerns from rising sea levels have made the long-inhabited island no longer inhabitable.

[Scientists map one of Earth's top hazards in the Pacific Northwest](#)

June 7 - *The Washington Post*

[North Pacific]

Scientists have mapped a 600-mile geological boundary in the Pacific Northwest that has the capacity to produce a 9.0-magnitude earthquake that could form a 40-foot tall tsunami, threatening areas stretching from Northern California to Vancouver Island, Canada.

[Sea urchin pandemic spreads beyond Red Sea, endangering coral reefs](#)

June 7 - *Reuters*

[Red Sea, Global]

Israeli scientists have identified a sea-borne pandemic that rapidly killed off sea urchin populations in the Red Sea and is now spreading globally. The increasing elimination of this particular species of sea urchins may pose serious threats to the coral reef ecosystem.

[Japan completes 6th round of Fukushima treated water discharge](#)

June 4 - *Mainichi*

[Pacific Ocean, Northeast Asia]

On June 4, Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) completed the sixth round of its release of treated radioactive water from Fukushima into the sea. TEPCO plans to release one more round of processed radioactive water within the 2024 fiscal year.

[Citizen science program launched to protect, manage PH's mangrove cover](#)

June 4 - Manila Bulletin

[Southeast Asia]

The Philippines' Department of Environment and Natural Resources has launched a citizen science program, called "BakaJuan," to protect and manage the nation's critical yet declining mangrove forests.

Handbill Spotlight

ITLOS

Issue Background

The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) is an independent, international judicial body established by the 1982 [United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea \(UNCLOS\)](#). [Article 287](#) of UNCLOS defined the four mechanisms for dispute settlement regarding matters of the sea—the International Court of Justice, ITLOS, Arbitral Tribunal, and the Special Arbitral Tribunal. ITLOS, or the Tribunal, is unique in that it is a standing judicial body that provides guidance regarding the application and interpretation of UNCLOS. Given the predominant international acceptance of and respect for UNCLOS as the international maritime legal framework, ITLOS serves a crucial role in reaffirming international legal norms surrounding matters of the seas. Operating out of Hamburg, Germany, it is composed of 21 members who are nominated and selected by the parties that have ratified UNCLOS. ITLOS' [main purpose](#) is twofold: 1) to settle disputes related to UNCLOS and other maritime activities and 2) to clarify and interpret the content of UNCLOS through advisory opinions.

In the case of dispute settlement, ITLOS provides a judicial mechanism for states, organizations, and persons to reach an agreement through peaceful means. According to Article 33 of its [statute](#), its decision is “final and shall be complied with by all the parties to the dispute.” However, the Tribunal also [recognizes](#) that it “has no means of enforcing its decisions.” Its decisions merely incentivize compliance by stigmatizing behaviors as violating international law.

The body's advisory opinions, on the other hand, provide clarifications regarding the applicability and application of UNCLOS. Though advisory opinions [“have no binding force.”](#) these opinions shape states' understandings of the laws of the sea. They allow UNCLOS to adapt and account for recent practices, developments, or technological innovations that UNCLOS could not have anticipated. Examples include global warming, ocean acidification, and technological developments in fishery or seabed mining. As of June 2024, ITLOS has accepted [33 case requests](#); thirty of them have been contentious proceedings, or dispute settlements, while the other three have been requests for advisory opinions.

Beyond these two types of proceedings, one crucial function of ITLOS is its ability to issue provisional measures to temporarily protect the parties' interest as they wait for a Tribunal decision. This is important as requests often take years to process. For instance, ITLOS issued a series of provisional measures in the 1999 [Southern Bluefin Tuna](#) case involving Japan, Australia, and New Zealand. These prescribed measures required the three States to not only cease experimental fishing, but also to resume negotiations while the Tribunal deliberated for a final order.¹



The novelty of ITLOS lies in its jurisdiction over the prompt release of vessels and crews. Under its rules, ITLOS [“must give priority to...applications for release of vessels and crews.”](#) and would [“deal only with the question of release.”](#) A decision would be given—at the latest—14 days after the last hearing. Contrary to other proceedings, requests for prompt release could be submitted unilaterally by the state of the detained vessels and crews. Recognizing the urgency of these requests, this procedure is purported to protect the financial interests of the vessels' owners and the human interests of the crew from prolonged periods of detainment. The ITLOS, thus, provides an exclusive legal means for states to seek an expedited and prompt release.

Recent Events

On May 21, 2024, ITLOS made global headlines after issuing an unanimous landmark [advisory opinion](#) on climate change. The request was submitted in 2022 by the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law led by Tuvalu and Antigua and Barbuda. In the advisory opinion, the Tribunal concluded that atmospheric greenhouse gas emission is considered as “pollution” to the marine environment under the definition of UNCLOS. More importantly, the Tribunal concluded that States bound by UNCLOS have the specific obligation to take all necessary measures to “prevent, reduce, and control...pollution...caused by anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions.”

This opinion marks the first legal opinion issued by an international judicial body that directly addresses climate change. It is also the first time an international judicial body has outlined the specific legal obligations of states to address greenhouse gas emissions related to climate change. Though this advisory opinion is not legally binding, it provides a clearer legal framework for holding states accountable for greenhouse gas pollution and sets an unofficial legal precedent for future climate-related legal decisions. This advisory opinion carries a significant signaling effect that could strengthen existing advocacy for climate legislation and increase states' willingness to adopt climate policies.

¹ Image: The emblem of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) outside their premises in Hamburg, northern Germany. (Source: Getty Images)

Keep In Mind

As notable and unique as ITLOS is, it does face several barriers in efficacy. As mentioned above, ITLOS, like many international judicial bodies, is constrained by its enforcement and limited in its ability to induce compliance. It does not have the power to unilaterally decide to adjudicate on disputes, nor the power to summon the involved parties. This means that a party's non-appearance often poses difficulties in the tribunal's functioning. One example was [The Arctic Sunrise Case](#), where Russia simply chose not to participate in the ITLOS proceedings regarding its dispute with the Netherlands.

Despite these caveats, ITLOS still holds significant weight in settling disputes. In the [Case concerning the detention of three Ukrainian naval vessels](#) in 2019, ITLOS' provisional measures added legal pressure on Russia and eventually led to the release of the detained Ukrainian vessels and Ukrainian servicemen. As it derives its authority from UNCLOS, ITLOS' movements represent international law and what is expected to be the consensus of the international community. [168 States](#) have ratified UNCLOS, and the influence of this international consensus is robust. ITLOS' orders may, therefore, severely stigmatize state actions and result in self-enforcing compliance. Even if it does not, it creates additional incentives for de-escalation and party-to-party negotiations.

It is also important not to underestimate the impact of ITLOS' advisory opinions. In ITLOS' recent opinion on climate change, the Tribunal provided a much clearer legal language on states' obligations in preventing greenhouse emission. Climate advocates now have a clearer legal basis to hold states accountable for climate change and to push for climate legislation. The opinion also established unofficial precedent for other international judicial bodies to adjudicate on climate-related matters, thereby increasingly strengthening current legal frameworks on climate change. Sovereign states, in reaction, would grow increasingly aware of its climate impacts and potentially change their polluting behaviors to comply with the UNCLOS. The obligations explicitly outlined in the advisory opinions make it difficult for States—especially those who have ratified UNCLOS, like China and India—to blatantly ignore climate change's impact. Therefore, while the ITLOS remains limited in its capacity to enforce international law, its significance in shaping international norms and guiding state behaviors cannot be overlooked.

This issue's [Spotlight](#) was written by Wyatt Huang, ICAS Full-Time Research Assistant Intern.

Peer-Reviewed Research on Maritime Issues

Government Releases & Other Press Statements

- NATO - [“Operation Sea Guardian: NATO's Vigilance in the Central Mediterranean”](#) [June 20]
- International Chamber of Shipping - [“Shipping industry calls for action following the attack on the MV Tutor and cargo ship Verbena”](#) [June 19]

- Northrop Grumman - [“How Northrop Grumman Supports Maritime Security for the US and its Allies”](#) [June 18]
- Government of Brazil - [“Why federal government should continue to manage marine lands for the Brazilian people”](#) [June 17]
- Chinese Ministry of Natural Resources - [“2023 China Marine Ecological Early Warning Monitoring Bulletin \[In Chinese\]”](#) [June 13]
- U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency - [“Yemen: Houthi Attacks Placing Pressure on International Trade”](#) [June 13]
- Republic of Namibia - [“Statement by His Excellency Dr. Nangolo Mbumba, President of the Republic of Namibia on the Occasion of the World Ocean Day Celebration”](#) [June 7]
- UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission - [“2024 Ocean Decade Conference - The Barcelona Statement”](#) [June 6]
- International Institute for Strategic Studies - [The IISS Shangri-La Dialogue: Recordings & Transcripts](#)
- The White House - [“A Proclamation on National Ocean Month, 2024”](#) [May 31]
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China - [“China and the United States Hold the Second Round of Consultations on Maritime Affairs”](#) [May 28]
- NATO - [“NATO officially launches new Maritime Centre for Security of Critical Undersea Infrastructure”](#) [May 28]

Analyses & Opinions

- [“Nigerian Navy at 68: Reinforcing Its Sea Power Capabilities”](#) [This Day - June 24]
- [“‘They miscalculated’: Gaza’s floating aid pier failing to deliver in rough seas”](#) [The Guardian - June 23]
- [“China is alone against US allies in the West Pacific – or is it?”](#) [South China Morning Post - June 21]
- [“Naval Industry in Brazil: everything you need to know about it”](#) [Wilson, Sons - June 20]
- [“How underwater drones could shape a potential Taiwan-China conflict”](#) [MIT Technology Review - June 20]
- [“Between a rock and a hard place in the South China Sea”](#) [The Atlantic - June 16]
- [“Recent Ballistic Missile Submarine Movements at Sinpo”](#) [Beyond Parallel CSIS - June 13]
- [“A New Chinese Megaport in South America Is Rattling the U.S.”](#) [The Wall Street Journal - June 13]
- [“Africa’s freeports should boost trade and foreign exchange earnings – but evidence is thin”](#) [The Conversation - June 11]
- [“China and Russia Test the Global Maritime Governance”](#) [Italian Institute for International Political Studies - June 11]
- [“From Farm to Ship to Fork: The Role of Maritime Insurance in Facilitating Global Food Trade”](#) [Center for Strategic & International Studies - June 10]
- [“Seychelles’ calibrated approach towards maritime dependency”](#) [Observer Research Foundation - June 7]
- [“The US quietly exerts Arctic influence with Ted Stevens Center”](#) [Arctic Business Journal - June 6]
- [“A battle royal over deep-sea archaeology in the Caribbean”](#) [The Economist - June 6]
- [“China’s South Sea Aggression Is Backfiring”](#) [Foreign Policy - June 6]
- [“The Brazilian Navy’s Participation in Combined Maritime Forces”](#) [Dialogo Americas - June 5]
- [“ANZUS and the fabric of peace in the Pacific”](#) [Australian Strategic Policy Institute - June 4]
- [“The 50-year dilemma in aircraft carrier design and the future of American naval aviation”](#) [Center for International Maritime Security - June 4]
- [“Freedom of the Seas Requires US Leadership”](#) [The Diplomat - June 4]
- [“Strategic Competition and the Case for UNCLOS”](#) [Wilson Center - June 4]
- [“Arctic Maritime Safety and the Pressing Need for a new Coast Guard Technology Pact”](#) [Open Canada - June 3]
- [“The Possibility of a China-Philippines Conflict in the South China Sea”](#) [Carnegie Endowment - June 3]
- [“Space-based monitoring of electronic signals is now a commercial battleground”](#) [Space News - June 3]
- [“Why Diego Garcia Matters”](#) [Foreign Policy - May 30]

- [“The facts about Australia’s nuclear submarine program”](#) [Australian Strategic Policy Institute - May 30]
- [“How to Respond to China’s Tactics in the South China Sea”](#) [Foreign Policy - May 29]

Other Research

- Magazine: Sea Technology - [Sea Technology](#) [June 2024]
- Magazine: U.S. Naval Institute - [Proceedings Vol. 150/6/1,456](#) [June 2024]
- Report: American Bureau of Shipping - [Beyond the Horizon: Carbon Neutral Fuel Pathways and Transformational Technologies](#) [June 2024]
- Scientific Article: [“A large-scale transcontinental river system crossed West Antarctica during the Eocene”](#) [Science Advances Vol. 10, No. 23]
- Scientific Article: [“Antarctic Blue Ice Areas are hydrologically active, nutrient rich and contain microbially diverse cryoconite holes”](#) [Communications Earth & Environment Vol. 5, No. 345]

Events on the Maritime Domain

- From May 30-31, the European Commission co-organized [European Maritime Day](#) in Svendborg, Denmark to provide a space for Europe’s maritime community to “discuss and outline joint action on maritime affairs and sustainable blue economy.”
- From May 31-June 2, International Institute for Strategic Studies held its [Shangri-La Dialogue 2024](#), Asia’s premier summit where defense ministers gather to debate the region’s pressing challenges and engage bilaterally to produce fresh solutions. Maritime-specific portions include: [Special Session 4: “Maritime Law Enforcement and Confidence Building”](#) and [Plenary Session 6: “Connecting Indian Ocean and Pacific Security”](#).
- From June 3-5, the John Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory and the National Museum of Natural History hosted the biennial [3rd National Workshop on Marine eDNA](#).
- From June 4-6, National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and its sponsors celebrated its [Capitol Hill Ocean Week 2024](#) in Washington, D.C. involving an extensive agenda of speakers and events.
- From June 7-8, UNESCO and the Government of Costa Rica held a High Level Event on Ocean Action titled [“Immersed in Change”](#) in Costa Rica.
- From June 11-13, Naval Postgraduate School hosted its [Maritime Risk Symposium 2024](#).
- On June 12, Environmental Peacebuilding Association held an online session during its 3rd International Conference to discuss how [“Blue Parks Offer a Promising Model for Peacebuilding in Transboundary Water Issues.”](#)
- On June 12, Center for Strategic & International Studies held a [Fireside Conversation with Bob Wilt, CEO of Ma’aden on “International Minerals Diplomacy.”](#)
- From June 13-14, Banca d’Italia and the International Monetary Fund held a hybrid research conference in Venice, Italy on [“Embedding Sustainability in Credit Risk Assessment”](#) to highlight “how sustainability factors, especially climate change and environmental issues, can be integrated in credit risk assessment,” among other topics.
- On June 19, National Oceanography Centre hosted [Marine Measurement Forum 66](#)—a “series of one-day, non-profit making events” for the “informal exchange of ideas, knowledge, techniques and

developments across an extensive range of marine scientific measurement activities”—in Southampton, United Kingdom.

- On June 21, Center for a New American Security held a virtual event titled [“AUKUS: Taking Stock and Looking Forward.”](#)
- On June 24, East-West Center held a hybrid speaker event on [“Innovative and Creative Approaches to Addressing Water Security in the Pacific.”](#)
- On June 25, US-Asia Institute will host a briefing in Washington, D.C. titled [“Deep Sea Mining: Policy Considerations and Implications for the United States.”](#)
- From June 25-28, UNESCO’S Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission will hold their [57th session of the Executive Council](#) at UNESCO Headquarters. Its provisional [agenda](#) is available.
- On June 26, Wilson Center will hold an online event titled [“Sailing to the Edge of the Carbon World: Decarbonizing Shipping from American, Chinese, and European Perspectives.”](#)
- On June 27, Center for a New America Security will hold a virtual event titled [“Swarms over the Strait: Drone Warfare in a Future Fight to Defend Taiwan.”](#)
- From June 27-28, Maritime Security Centre of Excellence will host its [4th Maritime Security Conference](#) out of Istanbul, focused on the protection of maritime critical infrastructures and seabed.
- On July 1, Atlantic Council will host a report launch event on [“Executing distributed operations in a contested maritime environment.”](#)
- On July 9, Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology will hold its international [Future of Ships, Shipping and Environmental Sustainability Conference](#) in Southampton, England, to feature plenary keynotes and panels under the headings of Technology, Human Contribution and Environment.
- On August 7, Center for Strategic & International Studies will host a hybrid conversation titled [“Preserving the Free Flow of Commerce in the Red Sea and Beyond: An Update from FIFTH Fleet Commander VADM George Wikoff, USN.”](#)
- From August 12-14, Maritime Security West will host its [11th annual conference](#) in San Diego, California, gathering global maritime security personnel from both the private and public sectors to take part in roundtable discussions, sessions, and keynote addresses on a wide array of current maritime issues.
- From November 6-7, Active Communications International will host its [18th Arctic Shipping Summit](#) in Montreal, Canada to gather regional stakeholders and experts to address a variety of shipping issues.

ICAS Maritime Affairs Program: New and Upcoming



— MAP Commentary —

A Landmark Advisory Opinion: ITLOS Strengthens Legal Framework for Climate Action

By Nong Hong

May 28, 2024

On May 21, 2024, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) issued a groundbreaking Advisory Opinion on climate change, which marks a historic first – an international legal body directly addressing

state obligations for mitigating climate change, a critical step forward in holding nations accountable for their actions.

The request made to ITLOS in December 2022 by the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law seeks clarification on states' obligations under UNCLOS regarding the prevention, reduction, and control of marine pollution, as well as the protection and preservation of the marine environment in relation to climate change impacts. This is the first time an advisory opinion has been sought on issues specifically related to sea-level rise and climate change more broadly...



Continue Reading:

chinaus-icas.org/research/a-landmark-advisory-opinion-itlos-strengthens-legal-framework-for-climate-action/

— ICAS Announcement —

ICAS Will Be Looking for a Part-Time Intern for Fall 2024!



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About the ICAS Internship Program: chinaus-icas.org/about-icas/careers-internships/internships/

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