



# LAW OF THE SEA

## INTEREST GROUP NEWSLETTER

Dear LOSIG members,

We hope you are all having a wonderful summer! We are excited to launch this first edition of our Law of the Sea Interest Group newsletter. We hope this will be an opportunity to keep our members updated on current developments in the law of the sea, draw your attention to recent publications that may be of interest, and encourage dialogue and participation among the members of our community. We urge you to submit your events, job openings, recent publications, recent developments, and professional news throughout the year to share with the other members of our interest group. We also welcome your thoughts and ideas for upcoming events hosted by the interest group. Thank you and we look forward to collaborating with you!

Kind regards,

Margaret Materna & Tracy Roosevelt, Co-Chairs

### Recent Developments in the Law of the Sea:

- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) resolutions: Bipartisan resolutions calling on the U.S. Senate to give its advice and consent to the ratification of UNCLOS have been introduced in both houses of the U.S. Congress. [H. Res. 361](#) and [S. Res. 220](#) specify some of the advantages to the United States of acceding to the Convention, and recommend ratification remain a "top priority for the Federal Government." No action has yet been taken on the resolutions since their introduction in April and May of 2021, respectively.
- Russia Assumes Arctic Council Chairmanship: At the most Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting in May 2021, the Russian Federation [assumed the chairmanship](#) of the Arctic Council until 2023. Iceland had previously held the chairmanship since 2019. Russia has promised to utilize its chairmanship to strengthen regional cooperation and promote sustainable development.
- Russia's Updated Continental Shelf Claim: On April 1, 2021, the United Nations confirmed receipt of two [addenda](#) filed by the Russian Federation to its 2015 submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS). The addenda relate to well-known features in the Arctic Ocean, including the Gakkel and Lomonosov Ridges, as well as the Mendeleev Rise. The claims overlap with those of Canada and the Kingdom of Denmark.
- Mauritius-Maldives Boundary Settlement Dispute: On January 28, 2021, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) issued a [ruling](#) in a boundary dispute matter between Mauritius and The Maldives that rejected UK sovereignty over the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT), also called the Chagos Archipelago. The ruling gave legal effect to an earlier advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) that found the UK was under an obligation to end its administration of the BIOT as rapidly as possible. The ruling has implications for the United States, which has leased the island of Diego Garcia from the UK for military purposes.

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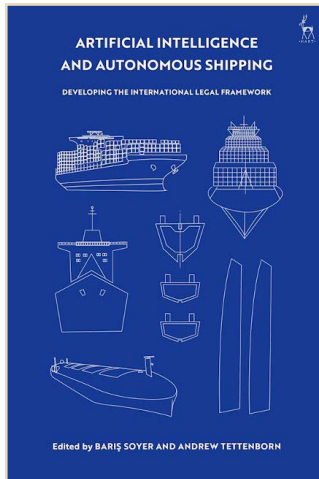
### LAW OF THE SEA Interest Group

#### CO-CHAIRS

Margaret Materna  
&  
Tracy Roosevelt

Views contained in this publication are those of the authors in their personal capacity. The American Society of International Law and this Interest Group do not generally take positions on substantive issues, including those addressed in this periodical.

## New Book Announcement:



"Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Shipping," edited by Baris Soyer and Andrew Tettenborn, was recently released by Bloomsbury Publishing. This collection of essays evaluates the legal framework necessary for the use of autonomous ships in international waters, including analyses of international conventions like SOLAS and MARPOL, private law, insurance and liability issues, and national shipping regulations.

LOSIG members are eligible for a 20% discount with code UG7 at <https://www.bloomsbury.com>.

## Recent ASIL Publications:

- James G. Devaney & Christian J. Tams, "In re Arbitration Between the Italian Republic and the Republic of India Concerning the 'Enrica Lexie' Incident," *American Journal of International Law*, Vol. 115, Issue 3, July 21, 2021, pp. 513-519: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/american-journal-of-international-law/article/in-re-arbitration-between-the-italian-republic-and-the-republic-of-india-concerning-the-enrica-lexie-incident/3687735D2E8E5675D0B4C85DDAF95CE0>
- Craig D. Gaver, "Dispute Concerning Delimitation of the Maritime Boundary Between Mauritius and Maldives in the Indian Ocean (Mauritius/Maldives)," *American Journal of International Law*, Vol. 115, Issue 3, July 21, 2021, pp. 519-526: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/american-journal-of-international-law/article/dispute-concerning-delimitation-of-the-maritime-boundary-between-mauritius-and-maldives-in-the-indian-ocean-mauritiusmaldives/8F405D870CA546C9B9753876F57B8326>
- Kamrul Hossain, "Russia's Proposed Extended Continental Shelf in the Arctic Ocean: Science Setting the Stage for Law," *ASIL Insights*, Vol. 25, Issue 8, May 24, 2021: [https://www.asil.org/sites/default/files/ASIL\\_Insights\\_2021\\_V25\\_18\\_0.pdf](https://www.asil.org/sites/default/files/ASIL_Insights_2021_V25_18_0.pdf)

## Job Opportunities:

- Center for Strategic and International Studies, Freeman Chair in China Studies, Washington, DC: [Senior Fellow or Fellow](#)
- International Maritime Organization, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, UK: [Media and Communication Specialist](#)
- United Nations, Office of Legal Affairs, Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, New York: [Principal Legal Officer](#)

## Other Reading of Interest:

- Ekaterina Antsygina, "Prohibition of Bottom Trawling on Extended Continental Shelves: Creeping Jurisdiction or Enforcement of Sovereign Rights?" *The International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law*, Vol. 36, Issue 2, 26 Apr 2021, pp. 311-342: [https://brill.com/view/journals/estu/36/2/article-p311\\_6.xml](https://brill.com/view/journals/estu/36/2/article-p311_6.xml) (paywall)
- Cynthia J. Parmley and Raul "Pete" Pedrozo, "Russia's Illegal Restriction of Navigation in the Black Sea," *Lawfare*, 27 Apr 2021: <https://www.lawfareblog.com/russias-illegal-restriction-navigation-black-sea>
- Raul "Pete" Pedrozo, "Is a South China Sea Code of Conduct Viable?" *International Law Studies*, Vol. 97, June 2021, pp. 937-955: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2975&context=ils>
- Talita Ramphal, "The Freedom to Use the High Seas to Protect and Preserve the Marine Environment: Case Study of the Activities of The Ocean Cleanup," *The International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law*, Vol. 36, Issue 2, 15 Apr 2021, pp. 343-353: [https://brill.com/view/journals/estu/36/2/article-p343\\_7.xml](https://brill.com/view/journals/estu/36/2/article-p343_7.xml) (paywall)
- Nguyen Thanh Trung, "China's Plan for the South China Sea: A Mixture of Pressure and Legal Approaches," *Center for Strategic and International Studies, Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative*, July 7, 2021: <https://amti.csis.org/chinas-plan-for-the-south-china-sea-a-mixture-of-pressure-and-legal-approaches/>

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i Any views expressed or implied in this publication are not those of the American Society of International Law.