

Managing Editor's Comments

Dear *JTMS* Readers,

We are pleased to present this Summer/Fall issue of *JTMS*. As always, this issue of *JTMS* brings a focus on maritime and territorial issues of the day.

First, Sandrine De Herdt provides an overview of the courses of action available to States facing unilateral activities conducted in a maritime area claimed by another State by providing a brief analysis of the content of Articles 74(3) and 83(3) UNCLOS. She then examines protesting, recourse to Part XV UNCLOS, maritime law enforcement, and countermeasures as courses of action. This research is important and has a significant practical dimension since only half of the potential maritime boundaries have been delimited around the world and there are many examples of States acting without notable restraint in disputed areas.

Second, Michael J. Strauss examines the role climate change law can play in determining the future of baselines. This perspective is fresh given that rises in the global mean sea level have been considered from the perspective of the law of the sea, but not from the perspective of climate change law. Strauss summarizes the literature to date and assesses the arguments for and against keeping current baselines. He then describes the primary climate change conventions and their relevance to the issue. This research introduces the relevance of climate change law into the scholarly and diplomatic debate on the future legal treatment of baselines.

Third, Fru Norbert Suh I aims to fill the gap in literature on counterterrorism in gulf zones by identifying and explaining the European Union's counterterrorism framework in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG). Using data obtained from terrorism/counterterrorism literature, including documented reports and other written sources, Suh conducts a comparative analysis using a theory dubbed objective reality-induced counterterrorism to identify and understand the EU's counterterrorism approach in the GoG. He concludes that unless the EU redoubles its efforts in the GoG, international terrorism will further gain grounds there and it will be difficult for the EU to gain control and legitimacy as a partner in the worldwide anti-terrorism struggle.

Fourth, Sindhura Natesha Polepalli discusses the trouble balancing navigational freedom against coastal State security concerns in the context of privately contracted armed security personnel (PCASP) on board ships and floating armories (FA) at sea. In her comparative analysis, the character of the territorial sea (TS) and the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) are examined in light of relevant maritime incidents

and provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982 (UNCLOS). She finds that current regulations do not satisfy coastal State security concerns and argues that the role of International Maritime Organizations (IMOs) is indispensable.

Finally, David Scott delineates, explains and evaluates China's Indo-Pacific strategy through balance of threat theory and security dilemma theory. In terms of geo-economics and geopolitics, he examines energy security and the Maritime Silk Road initiative and also China's presence in its surrounding seas. He finds that China has been quite successful in seeking to establish control of the South China Sea and of the East China Sea, and from there penetrating into the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans. On the other hand, Scott also finds that this very success is creating grounds for failure as a range of states across the region increasingly cooperate ("constraint") to curb China.

We would like to thank editorial board, our authors, our peer reviewers and you, our readers, for continued support. We look forward to bringing you even more great research and the ongoing improvement of *JTMS*.

Lonnie Edge
Co-Managing Editor