

Europe, Maritime Security and Small Navies

~ CONFERENCE ~

18th & 19th January 2018 at King's College London

CALL FOR PAPERS

We are pleased to invite submissions for a conference on 'Europe, Maritime Security and Small Navies'. The conference is being organised jointly by the Corbett Centre for Maritime Policy Studies at King's College London, the Centre for Military History and Strategic Studies at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth and the School of Law and Politics at Cardiff University and will take place at King's College London on 18 and 19 January 2018.

Abstract

The European Union (EU) published its first Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) and Action plan in 2014 to 'secure the maritime security interests of the EU and its Member States against a plethora of risks and threats in the global maritime domain'. This complements maritime security strategies adopted at a national level by Britain (2014) and France (2015) and internationally by the United States (2005) and India (2015). The development of these strategies highlights the growing recognition of the need to secure the maritime space, not just in the European littoral, but globally, given the transnational nature of threats and the interconnectedness of global sea-borne trade. While the role of larger navies within these maritime security architectures is better developed, the role of smaller navies is often overlooked, despite the fact that the majority of European navies can be classified as 'small'.

This conference seeks to identify gaps in our understanding of maritime security and of the role of small navies in Europe, including information sharing, capacity building and capability development alongside actions (collaborative or otherwise) aimed at achieving more efficient and effective maritime security operations. With an increasingly connected, contested and complex international maritime security climate, this conference also aims to develop better understandings of the strategic utility and operational nuances of smaller navies in addressing emergent threats (both in coastal and blue-water spaces). This is crucial given that 75% of the EU's external trade and 30% of its internal trade is seaborne. In addition, this conference wishes to examine how maritime security and naval development in Europe will evolve given that terse economic forecasts will likely limit the potential procurement of 'larger' naval assets in the future, which means that European states will increasingly have to do more with less in the maritime domain.

Threats to European maritime security are multifaceted and perpetrated by a broad collection of transnational actors with diverse objectives; ranging from piracy and armed robbery against merchant vessels, illegal migration flows in the Mediterranean Sea and the exploitation of marine resources to the growing accessibility of the Arctic Ocean (due

to climate change), geo-political tensions in the Black Sea, and an increasingly mobile Islamist terrorist threat. The maritime domain will likely be the frontline of European security within the next decade.

Aims

We invite submissions for papers and/or panels devoted to any aspect of the subject area with a contemporary focus. Special consideration will be given to proposals that address the following topics:

- Role of small navies within contemporary naval strategy, doctrine, application of maritime power, IR theory, and regional and international security structures.
- Transnational maritime crime including maritime piracy and armed robbery at sea, trafficking of human beings, illegal migration, trafficking of arms and narcotics, smuggling of goods and contraband.
- Contemporary maritime security operations and the efficacy of small navies.
- Implications and applications of national and global maritime security strategies.
- The maritime dimension of EU Foreign and Security Policy (EUMSS, CSDP missions, integrated maritime policy, maritime domain surveillance and awareness etc.).
- Cross sectoral collaboration of small navies with other agencies (e.g. coast guard, civilian agencies, larger navies) for both military and non-military purposes.
- Ocean governance, international maritime law, jurisdiction over maritime zones, freedom of navigation and territorial disputes.
- Maritime-land connectivity (protection of maritime infrastructure, crisis response, maritime security research, innovation, education and training).
- Europe and Maritime Security Sector Reform (e.g. Western Indian Ocean region).
- Terrorism at sea, in ports and in coastal zones.
- Cyber threats and the maritime space.
- Impact and challenges of privatising maritime security.
- Exploitation of marine resources, threats to biodiversity, IUU fishing, environmental degradation etc.

Applicants are invited to submit a 500-word (max) proposal/abstract and a CV to the address below. Any queries relating to the conference should be directed to the same address. Papers should be no more than 20 minutes long. The closing date for the submission of proposals is 30 August 2017.

Contact: smallnavies2018@gmail.com