

Program

Postgraduate Research Conference on the Law of the Sea

30 September 2026, 9:00 - 18:00

Maison de la Paix, Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva,
Switzerland

29 September 2026

18:30 – 22:00

Welcome Drinks

—

30 September 2026

08:45 – 09:00 Registration and Welcome Coffee

09:00 – 09:15 Opening Remarks

Stephen Fietta KC, Fietta LLP

09:15 – 10:45 Panel 1: The Law of the Sea and Historical Perspectives

Moderators: Stephen Fietta KC / Ralph Loren-Eisendecker (IHEID)

Dr Matilde Rocca (SOAS University of London)

“Upon Free Seas: Maritime Liberty and the Individual in the Age of Abolition”

Dr Negar Mansouri (Copenhagen Business School, Denmark)

“Remaking ‘Freedom of Navigation’: Standard Oil of New Jersey, American Antitrust, and the Global Rise of Open Shipping Registries”

Dr Yulu Liu (Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore)

“From upstream rules to coastal and marine pollution: a missed opportunity for managing land-based pollution in the global plastic treaty?”

Chiara Pavesi (University of Liverpool, England)

“Reconstructing the UNCLOS’ Jurisdictional Framework governing States’ Jurisdiction over Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel on Merchant Vessels”

10:45 – 11:00 Morning Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 Panel 2: The BBNJ Agreement and the Antarctic Regime

Moderator: Romina Pezzot, IHEID

Thaissa Almeida Meira (University of Basel, Switzerland)

“Implementing Equity Beyond Sovereignty: Marine Genetic Resources and Global South Participation under the BBNJ Agreement”

Dr Maria Juliana Tenorio (Permanent Mission of Colombia to the UN - Geneva)

“Was there a need for having an Implementation and Compliance Committee under the BBNJ Agreement?”

Anna-Sophie Jess (University of Potsdam, Germany)

“Universalism meets Exceptionalism: The Regime Interaction between the BBNJ Agreement and the Antarctic Treaty System”

Anaïs Rémont (ANCORS, University of Wollongong, Australia)

“The interplay between the BBNJ Agreement and the Antarctic Treaty System: the case of marine spatial protection and management”

12:30 – 13:45 Lunch

13:30 – 13:40 Welcome Note by the Head of the International Law Department, Nico Krisch, IHEID

13:45 – 15:15 Panel 3: Climate Change and Sea-Level Rise

Moderator: Mitchell Lennan, Co-Director, Aberdeen University Centre for Energy Law

Namgu KIM (Nantes Université - Centre de Droit Maritime et Océanique, France)

“La délimitation maritime à l'ère du changement climatique : portée et enjeux des considérations environnementales dans les négociations de délimitation en Asie du Nord-Est”

Natascha Gojkovic (University of Graz, Austria)

“Submerging Island States as Specially Affected States: The Immovable Baseline and Customary International Law”

Simone Mamini (CITY ST. GEORGE'S, University of London)

"Icebergs as Emerging Ocean Resources: Legal Status and Sustainable Governance under International Law"

Maria George (Geneva Graduate Institute)

"Causation, International Law, and Climate Reparations: Moments of Encounter"

15:15 – 15:30 Afternoon Coffee Break

15:30 – 17:00 Panel 4: Dispute Settlement, Deep-Seabed Mining and Submarine Cables

Moderators: Tihao Zeng (UNIGE) / Himanil Raina (IHEID)

Dr Nicolò Andreotti (University of Padua, Italy)

"Reshaping the Law of the Sea? Investmentification and the Governance of Deep-Seabed Mining."

Anna Kirchhoff (University of Halle, Germany)

"Between Efficiency and Fragmentation: The Role of Alternative Dispute Settlement Fora of the Seabed Disputes Chamber under Part XI Section 5 of UNCLOS"

Dr Tsuyoshi Yamashita (Tohoku University, Japan)

"Compulsory Adjudication or Compulsory Forumization? Issue-Structuring in UNCLOS Dispute Settlement and Contemporary Ocean Governance"

Dr Milena Mottola (University of Cagliari, Italy)

"Infrastructural Jurisdiction: Domestic Authority, International Law, and the Protection of Submarine Infrastructure"

17:00 – 17:30: Closing Remarks

Dr Mitchell Lennan

-

Farewell Reception/Dinner – 18:30

Apero/Dinner (Participants only)