

Rounding the Cape – Storms or Good Hope for the Law at Sea?

Cape Town, South Africa 28 – 30 April 2025

(draft - 10.02.2025)

Day 1: Monday 28 April 2025 (Kramer Law Building, UCT Middle Campus)

Registration: 16:00-18:00

Welcome cocktail and opening keynote address: TBC

Day 2: Tuesday 29 April 2025 (OR Tambo Room, Kramer Law Building, UCT Middle Campus)

Arrival and registration: 08:30-09:30

Session 1: Resource-related challenges

Chair: Denning Metuge (University of Cape Town, South Africa)

- 09:30-10:00 Ziaeddin Madani “Striking a balance between scientific (un)certainty with precautionary approach and due diligence obligations: Lessons from the recent ITLOS Advisory Opinion on Climate Change and International Law” (University of Tsukuba, Japan)
- 10:00-10:30 Andrea Longo “Fishing for rights! The rule of reference and the protection of people on-board fishing vessels” (SOAS University of London, United Kingdom)
- 10:30-11:00 Robert Steenkamp “Marine geoengineering and the African Union: Legal challenges in balancing climate change action and marine protection” (International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and University of Hamburg, Germany)

Group photo and coffee/tea: 11:00-11:30

- 11:30-12:00 NJ Ayuk (Executive Chairman of African Energy Chamber, South Africa)
- 12:00-12:15 Discussant: Eduardo Cavalcanti De Mello Filho (Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore)
- 12:15-12:30 Q&A

Lunch: 12:30-13:30

Session 2: Safety, security and AI-related challenges

Chair: Kamal-Deen Ali (CEO Ghana Maritime Authority)

- 13:30-14:00 T Simelane “Exploring the regulatory sandbox approach in the context of new technologies in maritime navigation: Focus on the maritime security aspects of using micro contraptions in international marine scientific research” (Nelson Mandela University, South Africa)
- 14:00-14:30 Y Van Logchem “Towards the better protection of submarine telecommunication cables under international law” (Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea (NCLOS), UiT-The Arctic University of Norway)

14:30-15:00 ML Deftou "Human rights violations emanating from the use of remote sensing in the Mediterranean: a jurisdictional approach" (AthensPIL, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece)

Coffee/tea: 15:00-15:30

15:30-16:00 Speaker: TBC

16:00-16:15 Discussant: Kristina Siig (University of Southern Denmark, Denmark)

16:15-16:30 Q&A

18:00-20:00 Cocktail

Day 3: Wednesday 30 April 2025 (OR Tambo Room, Kramer Law Building, UCT Middle Campus)

Session 3: Human rights-related jurisdictional challenges

Chair: Irini Papanicopolou (SOAS University of London, United Kingdom)

09:00-09:30 Pieter Van Welzen "'Piercing the flag State veil': Beneficial owners of fishing vessels and their responsibility for labour abuses" (CMS South Africa)

09:30-10:00 Arron Honniball "Looking beyond the usual suspects: Twenty years of detention review panel proceedings and their contributions to protecting persons at sea" (Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law, Germany)

10:00-10:30 Liu Siyu "The functional realisation of marine environmental public interest litigation to protect human rights" (Wuhan University, China)

10:30-11:00 Natalie Klein "International law duties of non-State actors to protect people at sea" (UNSW, Australia)

Coffee/tea: 11:00-11:30

11:30-12:00 Dariusz Bugajski "Detention of a person at sea under Polish law and in light of international law" (Polish Naval Academy, Poland)

12:00-12:10 Anna Petrig (University of Basel, Switzerland) "Presentation of COST Action BlueRights"

12:10-12:25 Discussant: TBC

12:25-12:40 Q&A

Lunch: 12:40-13:30

Session 4: The future of the law of the sea and maritime law in Africa

Chair: Dusty-Lee Donnelly (University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa)

13:30-14:00 Vonintsoa Rafaly "Africa, climate change and the ocean: seeking justice at the time of global challenges" (University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

14:00-14:30 Adrian Bellengere "The proposed establishment of an African Antarctic Regional Interest Group" (University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa)

14:30-15:00 Andre October TBC (President of the Maritime Law Association of South Africa, South Africa)

Coffee/tea: 15:00-15:30

15:30-16:00 Speaker 4: Paul Wambua TBC (University of Nairobi, Kenya)

16:00-16:15 Discussant: Siqhamo Ntola (UNISA, South Africa)

16:15-16:30 Q&A

Closing keynote address: TBC

NB: Conference preceded on **Monday 28 April 2025** by a meeting of the **ILA Committee on the Protection of Persons at Sea** from 10:00 to 16:00 at All Africa House, UCT Middle Campus.