

CIL

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW
National University of Singapore

— NCLOS —
NORWEGIAN CENTRE
FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

CIL – NCLOS Dialogue 2025

**Arctic Governance: Contemporary Trends in Shipping, Environment,
and Security**

18-19 November 2025

Orchard Rendezvous Hotel, Singapore

(By invite only)



Photo Credit: Patrick Kelley, U.S. Coast Guard

AGENDA

The opening of Arctic sea routes necessitates urgent analysis at the critical intersection of Arctic maritime security and environmental governance. The Centre for International Law (CIL) at the National University of Singapore and the Norwegian Centre for Law of the Sea (NCLOS) at the University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway continue their CIL– NCLOS Dialogue series in November 2025 with a 1.5-day workshop, bringing together experts in the law of the sea, the international regulation of shipping, and environmental protection to discuss the implications of legal and practical developments in Arctic governance.

This year's Dialogue begins by confronting complex challenges—from clarifying Northern Sea Route (NSR) navigational rights and integrating coastal state sovereignty and jurisdiction amid strategic competition. It also examines how the NSR is currently leveraged to facilitate transshipment of crude and LNG while assessing prospects for container shipping along the Arctic Route. Building on this foundation, the sessions address critical immediate concerns, including measures for the protection of areas beyond national jurisdiction in the Arctic, evaluation of the implementation of black carbon and heavy fuel oil bans, and assessment of the security externalities of seabed mining and expanding coastal infrastructure. The programme further examines safety implications of maritime autonomous vehicles and how to mitigate the growing maritime cyber threat emerging in the Arctic, concluding with a panel that provides actionable recommendations for responsible Arctic stewardship.

**This workshop is organised by CIL and NCLOS pursuant to the CIL-MPA Oceans Governance Research Programme with support from the Singapore Maritime Institute (SMI-2023-MA-03)*

DAY ONE Tuesday, 18 November 2025	
9:30-10:00	<p>Welcome Address</p>
10.00-11:00	<p>Session 1 - Setting the Stage</p> <p>Moderator: Emeritus Professor Robert Beckman, Co-head, Ocean Law and Policy, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arctic ecosystem governance as a security concern, Professor Vito De Lucia, Director, The Norwegian Centre for the Law of The Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway • Navigational rights in the Northern Sea Route, Dr. Jan Jakub Solski, Associate Professor, The Norwegian Centre for the Law of The Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway <p>Commentator: Ms. Dita Liliansa, Research Fellow, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore</p>
11:00 –11:30	<p>Coffee Break</p>
11:30-12:30	<p>Session 2 – Shipping in Arctic & the Environment: Ice-class Container Ships and Ice-Class Tankers</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Jan Jakub Solski, Associate Professor, The Norwegian Centre for the Law of The Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Container shipping through the Arctic, Emeritus Professor Robert Beckman, Co-head, Ocean Law and Policy, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore • The Northern Sea Route gateway: from crude to LNG, Ms. Bikashita Choudhury, Research Associate, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore <p>Commentator: Dr. Nguyen Thanh Trung, Research Fellow, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore</p>

12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-14:30	<p>Session 3 - Black Carbon and the Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) Ban: Pathways to Cleaner Arctic Shipping</p> <p>Moderator: Professor Simone Borg, University of Malta</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulating impacts from black carbon emissions in the Arctic, Dr. Liu Yulu, Research Fellow, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore • HFO ban in Arctic shipping: problems with new fuels and recommended solutions, Ms. Amanda Wee, Research Assistant, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore <p>Commentator: Emeritus Professor Robert Beckman, Co-head, Ocean Law and Policy, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore</p>
14:30-15:00	Coffee Break
15:00-16:30	<p>Session 4 - Arctic Maritime Security & the Future: Seabed Mining, Maritime Autonomous Vehicles (MAVs), and Cyber Resilience</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Tara Maria Davenport, Co-head, Oceans Law and Policy, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore, Singapore</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seabed mining in the Arctic and the concomitant increase in shipping and infrastructure development: legal and security concerns, Dr. Maria Madalena Neves, Associate Professor, The Norwegian Centre for the Law of The Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway • MAVs and their security implications in the Arctic, Ms. Dita Liliansa, Research Fellow, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore • Cybersecurity in the Arctic: an emerging dimension of maritime security, Dr. Su Wai Mon, Research Fellow, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

PROGRAMME

	<p>Commentator 1: Dr. Jan Jakub Solski, Associate Professor, The Norwegian Centre for the Law of The Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway</p> <p>Commentator 2: Emeritus Professor Robert Beckman, Co-head, Ocean Law and Policy, Centre for International Law, National</p>
DAY TWO	Wednesday, 19 November 2025
9:30 – 11:30	<p>Session 5 - Roundtable Discussion on the Implications of the BBNJ Agreement for the Arctic</p> <p>Moderator: Professor Vito De Lucia, Director, The Norwegian Centre for the Law of The Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Nguyen Thanh Trung, Research Fellow, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore• Professor Simone Borg, University of Malta• Dr. Liu Nengye, Associate Professor, Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore University of Management
11:30-12:00	Break
12:00-13:00	Session 6 - Closing Discussion
13:00-14:00	Lunch

SPEAKERS (in alphabetical order by last name)

Emeritus Professor Robert BECKMAN, Co-head, Ocean Law and Policy, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Professor Simone BORG, University of Malta

Ms. Bikashita CHOUDHURY, Research Associate, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Dr. Tara Maria DAVENPORT, Co-Head, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Ms. Dita LILIANSA, Research Fellow, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Dr. LIU Nengye, Associate Professor, Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore University of Management

Dr. LIU Yulu, Research Fellow, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Professor Vito De LUCIA, Director, The Norwegian Centre for the Law of The Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Dr. Maria Madalena das NEVES, Associate Professor, The Norwegian Centre for the Law of The Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Dr. NGUYEN Thanh Trung, Research Fellow, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Dr. Jan Jakub SOLSKI, Associate Professor, The Norwegian Centre for the Law of The Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Dr. SU Wai Mon, Research Fellow, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Ms. WEE Jia Tong Amanda, Research Assistant, Ocean Law and Policy Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

All information is accurate as of 06 November 2025