

Training Workshop Programme 2025

Finding an Equitable Solution in Maritime Boundary Delimitation

15 – 17 September 2025, Durham, UK



Develop the skills needed to achieve an equitable division of maritime space and clearly defined maritime boundaries through practical exercises and theoretical discussion



INTRODUCTION

Clearly-defined maritime boundaries are essential for good international relations and effective ocean governance. However, finding the “equitable solution” that is required in maritime delimitation under international law is rarely easy.

Led by experienced practitioners, this workshop combines lectures, discussion and practical exercises to help participants to develop their understanding of the political, legal and geographical factors which contribute to an equitable division of maritime space, and to enhance their negotiating skills in order to achieve the best possible delimitation for their country.

Who should attend?

- Diplomats
- Legal Advisers
- Researchers & consultants
- Energy officials
- Exploration and production managers
- Pipeline and cable planners
- EEZ contactors
- Fisheries managers
- Technical experts

TUTORS

We will be joined by a team of expert tutors who will be onhand to discuss your maritime boundary queries.

Full biographies of the tutors will be available on our website.

Dr Gershon Hasin

Associate,
Fietta LLP

Mr Coalter Lathrop

President,
Sovereign Geographic,
Inc.

Professor Alina Miron

Partner, FAR Avocats
and Professor of
International Law,
University of Angers

Professor Martin Pratt

Director,
Bordermap
Consulting Ltd

Ms Oonagh Sands

Partner,
Fietta LLP

Professor Philip Steinberg

Director, IBRU:
Centre for Borders
Research

Sir Micheal Wood KC

Barrister



What will it cost?

The cost of the workshop will be **£2,685** per participant. Fees include 3 nights of accommodation at Hotel Indigo in Durham.

Payment can only be accepted in GBP sterling, however, we are able to accept payment by most major credit and debit cards.

Full payment **MUST** be received prior to the workshop to guarantee the booking. If full payment is not received before the deadline date of **1 September 2025**, any provisional places booked will be removed.

Bookings made after 1 September will only be guaranteed with payment in full and if places and accommodation are still available.

REDUCED WORKSHOP RATE FOR LDC LIST COUNTRIES

For countries on the United Nations Least Developed Countries List (LDC), the cost of the workshop will be **£1,250** +accommodation per participant.

NOTE: Places will be restricted to only 2 places per LDC country per workshop at this reduced rate. Any additional places will be available at the full cost price. Places will be available on a first come first served basis.

How to book

Places are limited and early booking is highly recommended:

1. Contact the IBRU Team and complete the online booking form at www.durham.ac.uk/ibru
2. Acknowledgement of the provisional booking will be sent by email with information on how to pay.
3. If payment is not received by the deadline specified, the reserved place will be cancelled and your booking removed to a waiting list. Your place will only be confirmed when payment is received and if a place is still available.

PROGRAMME

Monday 15 September	0830-0900	Registration
	0900-1000	Welcome and Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The significance and value of maritime boundaries The global state of play Challenges in maritime boundary delimitation
	1000-1100	Maritime boundaries: the legal framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The evolution of international law on maritime jurisdiction Maritime areas under UNCLOS Boundaries under UNCLOS
	1100-1130	<i>Refreshments</i>
	1130-1300	Identifying and equitable solution 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The evolution of the three-stage approach to delimitation by judicial bodies Construction of the provisional equidistance line Relevant circumstances
	1300-1400	<i>Lunch</i>
	1400-1530	Identifying an equitable solution 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of proportionality in case law The significance and value of state practice Delimitation of the outer continental shelf
	1530-1600	<i>Refreshments</i>
	1600-1700	Practical exercise Participants will attempt to evaluate equitable solutions in a range of geographical contexts
	1830-2100	<i>Dinner at Durham Castle</i>
Tuesday 16 September	0900-1100	Technical aspects of maritime delimitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of the technical expert Making sense of technical issues Constructing equidistance lines and other potential boundary lines Geographical tools and data resources for maritime boundary delimitation
	1100-1130	<i>Refreshments</i>
	1130-1230	Negotiating maritime boundaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building and preparing a negotiating team Negotiation and strategy tactics Drafting a maritime boundary agreement
	1230-1330	<i>Lunch</i>
	1330-1530	Practical exercise Working in teams, participants will seek to delimit an equitable and technically robust maritime boundary between two neighbouring states.
	1530-1600	<i>Refreshments</i>
	1830-2100	<i>Dinner at Hatfield College</i>
Wednesday 17 September	0900-0930	Practical exercise debrief
	0930-1100	Options for resolving maritime boundary disputes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dispute resolution mechanisms under UNCLOS Advantages and disadvantages of different dispute resolution mechanisms
	1100-1130	<i>Refreshments</i>
	1130-1245	Round table discussion This session will address maritime-related topics not examined elsewhere in the programme and issues raised during the workshop. Potential topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Islands and 'rocks' under UNCLOS Article 121 Provisional arrangements of a practical nature Sources of assistance for maritime delimitation
	1245-1300	<i>Wrap up</i>

Venue and Accommodation

The Venue

The workshop teaching will take place at **Durham Law School**, Palatine Centre, Stockton Road, Durham DH1 3LE

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/departments/academic/law/>

Workshop Bed and Breakfast Accommodation

The workshop accommodation will be Hotel Indigo in Durham, a 10 minute walk from the workshop venue.

The fee includes 3 nights of bed and breakfast accommodation from Sunday 14 September

Accommodation for additional nights can be booked at additional cost. To book additional nights you must contact the hotel directly to make a booking.



In addition to tuition and all course materials, the fees cover the following:

- Accommodation in a single en-suite room at Hotel Indigo Durham for the nights of Sunday 14th, Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th
- Lunch and refreshment breaks on 15th, 16th and 17th September
- Evening dinner on Monday 15 September at Durham Castle
- Evening dinner on Tuesday 16 September at Hatfield College
- Optional tour of Durham Cathedral on Wednesday 17 September

Additional information

Travel

You are expected to organise your own travel arrangements to Durham. Please be aware that if you require a visa to visit the United Kingdom, you will be required to apply for your own visa for entry in to the country. Please allow enough time for your visa to be processed before the start of the workshop. A letter on invitation can be provided to support your visa application.

Language

Teaching and workshop materials will be in English. We regret that we are unable to provide translation or interpreting services.

Cancellations

Cancellations must be received in writing not later than the **1 September 2025** and will be subject to a £250 cancellation fee, unless a substitute participant is offered. After this date the full registration fee will be charged for all cancellations.

Programme changes

IBRU reserves the right to modify the programme as necessary without notice to participants.



The J.R.V. Prescott Scholarship

Thanks to a generous donation from the estate of international boundaries scholar JRV Prescott, IBRU is pleased to offer the JRV Prescott Student Scholarship Programme, to support postgraduate attendance at IBRU training workshops.

Each year, IBRU will award one person a scholarship covering workshop registration, plus up to £500 towards expenses, to attend one of that year's regularly scheduled training workshops. To be eligible an individual must be enrolled in a current postgraduate course of study or have completed a postgraduate qualification in the last 5 years in any discipline.

This workshop is eligible for the Prescott Scholarship.



Contact Information

If you have any questions about the workshop please contact the IBRU Team.

IBRU: Centre for Borders Research, Department of Geography, Durham University, DH1 3LE, United Kingdom

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