

Policy Greenhouse: Project Brief

Armed conflict at sea-legal and policy revision

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Policy context

Quantum leaps in naval technology over the last 25 years have changed the way naval conflict can, and does, occur. As a consequence, one of the key international resources used by nations to understand the law of armed conflict at sea is in need of revision to avoid becoming outdated. An up-to-date, widely accepted, interpretation of the law applicable to armed conflict at sea is needed to inform naval practice by Australia and other nations.

Project

This project will form part of an international effort to update the highly regarded San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea.

ANU will host one of three global workshops that will undertake the academic research and policy consultations needed to complete the update project, and will work within the defence community to provide a contemporary understanding of our nation's obligations and responsibilities under international law in situations where armed conflict at sea occurs.

Expected outcomes

A revised and updated San Remo Manual will underpin more informed policy options and decision making by Australia and other nations on the use of naval force.