

Securing Britain's Seas: The Bristol IdeasLab on UK Maritime Security

University of Bristol
28 February 2020

Rationale and objectives

As a nation of islands, maritime security is of critical importance to the UK. Maritime security comprises a range of important issues, including fisheries management, the migration of people, the fight against narcotics and people trafficking, marine environmental protection, the protection of critical infrastructure and counterterrorism at sea. Yet, while the UK remains a major naval power, its independent capacities for the management of maritime security in home waters are underdeveloped. UK maritime security also faces a series of new challenges in consequence of the Brexit process.

The IdeasLab will facilitate expert discussion, dialogue and coproduction on the challenges of ensuring UK maritime security, drawing on contributions from academics, policy makers and other maritime security stakeholders. It will be organised around three 90-minute sessions: 1) on threats, risks and opportunities; 2) on borders, boundaries and maritime regions; and 3) on governance and coordination. Each session will be introduced by three short position papers (10-15 minutes) followed by a structured discussion focused around pre-prepared questions.

The IdeasLab will take place under the Chatham House Rule. Participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.



Provisional Programme

10:15-10:45	Arrival and registration
10:45-11:00	Welcome and introduction
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Tim Edmunds, University of Bristol, SafeSeas
11:00-12:30	Brexit 1: Threats, risks and opportunities Chair: Professor Tim Edmunds, University of Bristol, SafeSeas
	<p><u>Position papers (10-15 minutes each)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan O'Mahoney, Director, UK Joint Maritime Operations and Coordination Centre (JMOCC) • James Driver, Head of Maritime Security and Resilience Division, DFT • Dr Sofia Galani, University of Bristol <p><u>Organising questions for discussion:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key threats, risks and opportunities in UK maritime security? • How prepared is the UK to meet these challenges? • How and where should UK maritime security capacities be strengthened?
12:30-13:30	Lunch

13:30-15:00	<p>Brexit 2: Boundaries, borders and maritime regions Chair: Professor Bridget Anderson, University of Bristol, MMB</p>
	<p><u>Position papers (10-15 minutes each)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Sir Malcolm Evans, University of Bristol • Cdr Des Hirons, Deputy Director NMIC/CO Maritime IX Group • Ann Singleton, University of Bristol <p><u>Organising questions for discussion:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the UK maritime region? Where does it start and where does it stop? • How should maritime security efforts be balanced between home waters and the wider UK maritime region? • How should UK maritime borders be managed effectively and humanely?
15:00-15:15	<p>Tea and coffee</p>
15:15-16:45	<p>Brexit 3: Governance and coordination Chair: Professor Christian Bueger, University of Copenhagen, SafeSeas</p>
	<p><u>Position papers: (10-15 minutes each)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caroline Cowan, Fisheries Lead, Scottish Government • Capt. Phil Haslam, Director of Operations, Marine Management Organisation • Dr Margherita Pieraccini, University of Bristol <p><u>Organising questions for discussion:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the primary challenges of UK maritime governance? • What capacities, practices and relationships should be strengthened, and how? • How can relations with partners in UK maritime governance best be sustained and strengthened?
16:45-17:00	<p>Wrap up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Tim Edmunds, University of Bristol

