

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenges in Law Enforcement across Southeast Asian Waters</b> <b>A Comparative and Transdisciplinary Approach</b></p>
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**Convener**

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**Abstract – Brief Description of Panel (single session)**

After having balanced between only war and peace, IR (International Relations) literature is now focusing on a broad range of challenges, from traditional to non-traditional – or “human” – security. This is also the case at sea and especially in Southeast Asia, across major Sea Lines of Communication (SLOC) from the South China Sea to the Malacca Straits’ choke points. After works on the roots of the threats (land disputes, piracy, sea terrorism) and on naval responses as well, it is time to focus on land and on public policies, in a longer term perspective. In short, what about the law enforcement models or organisations at sea?

Because of the multifaceted state or criminal actors at sea, law enforcement agencies have now to be more flexible. After a first workshop at the French Naval Academy in June 2016, the aim of this panel is to follow up the discussion by highlighting not only the various initiatives – *i.e.* coordinating board (like in Indonesia), rival bodies (like in Malaysia), separated but cooperative agencies (like in Singapore), foreign aid and influence (Philippines) – but also the national factors: the so-called ‘maritime cultures’, legal systems, political and domestic agenda (like the “Global Maritime Fulcrum” in Indonesia), corruption, territorial claims (in South China Sea), equipments and budgets, etc. More generally, this issue touches upon the new role of police and armed forces in Southeast Asia, as policemen are increasingly involved in the defence of the sovereignty, while soldiers track not only foreign navies but also pirates and smugglers. Will both of them be able to work together?

Contributions will focus either on case studies, in countries or straits (*e.g.* Malacca, Makassar), or on transversal issues like fights against specific threats or regional cooperation.