

Training Workshop Programme 2026

Maritime Boundary Delimitation

14 – 16 September 2026, 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.

Mr Coalter Lathrop
Principal,
Sovereign Geographic,
Inc.



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



Dr Brendan Plant
Barrister, Twenty Essex
and Hopkins Parry
Fellow in Law, Downing
College, Cambridge



**Professor
Martin Pratt**
Director,
Bordermap
Consulting Ltd



Ms Amy Sander KC
Essex Court
Chambers



**Professor Philip
Steinberg**
Director, IBRU:
Centre for Borders
Research



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.

Bookings made after 14 August 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 **£1,685** 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 or complete the online booking form at <https://www.durham.ac.uk/research/institutes-and-centres/ibru-borders-research/training-and-workshops/professional-training-workshops/>
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 14 September	0830-0900	Registration
	0900-1000	Welcome and Introduction - The significance and value of maritime boundaries - The global state of play - Challenges in maritime boundary delimitation
	1000-1045	Maritime boundaries: the legal framework - The evolution of international law on maritime jurisdiction - Boundaries under UNCLOS
	1045-1115	<i>Refreshments</i>
	1115-1300	Identifying and equitable solution - The three-stage approach to delimitation by judicial bodies - Significant case law - Discussion: - does the three-stage process lead to predictable outcomes? - does the three-stage approach work in a negotiation setting? - are there other ways of achieving an equitable solution?
	1300-1400	<i>Lunch</i>
	1400-1500	Baselines and basepoints in maritime delimitation - The importance and function of baselines in defining maritime space - Baselines and base points in maritime delimitation - Baselines and sea-level rise
	1500-1530	State practice in maritime delimitation - The significance and value of state practice - Creative solutions in boundary agreements
	1530-1600	<i>Refreshments</i>
Tuesday 15 September	1600-1700	Practical exercise Participants will attempt to evaluate equitable solutions in a range of geographical settings
	0900-1000	Technical aspects of maritime delimitation - 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
	1000-1100	Practical exercise: constructing equidistance lines Participants will practice constructing equidistance lines between opposite and adjacent coastlines using geographical methods
	1100-1130	<i>Refreshments</i>
	1130-1230	Negotiating maritime boundaries - Building and preparing a negotiating team - Negotiation and strategy tactics - Drafting a maritime boundary agreement
	1230-1330	<i>Lunch</i>
Wednesday 16 September	1330-1700	Practical exercise Working in teams, participants will seek to delimit an equitable and technically robust maritime boundary between two neighbouring states.
	0900-0930	Practical exercise debrief
	0930-1100	Options for resolving maritime boundary disputes - 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: - 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 13 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 13th, Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th September 2026
- Lunch and refreshment breaks on 14th, 15th and 16th September
- Evening dinner on Tuesday 15 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 **14 August 2026** 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

Tel: +44 (01)191 334 1965 Email: ibru@durham.ac.uk Web: <https://www.durham.ac.uk/ibru>

