



The Project Medimare: Mediation in Maritime Disputes is continuing at good pace. New scholarship holders and collaborators have joined the project and will help develop its forthcoming outputs, mainly the Online Course on Maritime Mediation, soon to be prepared.

PROJECT'S RESEARCH INTERVIEW

The Project MediMARE continued its activities through the month of August: researchers from the Project Team have been developing the project in several fronts. The research interview study has already been developed and is ready to start being applied. The interviews will be applied in Portugal, Spain and Norway (which have already started by the end of August).

The Project aims to interview Insurance Companies and banks; regulators and policy makers; important actors of the industry; experts in the field (such as professors and researchers); and, shipowners and maritime lawyers. Interviews will take place within the next months.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF MARITIME MEDIATION CURRICULUM

The maritime mediation interview study will provide input to the development of a curriculum for a Maritime Mediation Course, as well as to understand the inclination of the actors in maritime disputes to use mediation as their alternative dispute resolution forum. Understanding what kind of experience the participants have with mediation will support findings, as well as the understanding of what types of disputes they believe would fit to be best solved through mediation (which shall be made both by the participants naming freely the types of disputes and by classifying suitability on listed types of disputes). Additionally, the research will provide input on the characteristics of the conflicts they believe to be ideal to be solved through mediation: where parties have a history of cooperation; where the number of participants is limited; where parties have a moderate hostility in the conflict; where there will be on an ongoing relationship; or where there is a high desire for settlement.

The interview study will also provide input on what capabilities should the mediators trained by the course acquire in the course development by identifying what are the skills and abilities the participants believe a mediator should have. Some of the skills could be: neutrality, listening abilities, confidence building skills and empathy, and as to the abilities: to understand the conflict, list the disputed issues, and create options to support the parties creation of a solution.

The structure of the interview study is developed by the Project Team, in particular Jon Ivar Håvold and Kristine Vedal Størkersen. The development of the curriculum will also count with close collaboration of Ursula Caser

EXTENSIVE COLLABORATION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN THE PROJECT'S ACTIVITIES

The MediMARE Project includes students at universities in Portugal and Norway. Last semester, one of the students to develop her work in this area was Pernille Haukås, undergrad student on Political Science at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (whose photo is shown below). In her bachelor (undergrad) thesis, she analyzed how the United States is avoiding conflict while not involving themselves in the global maritime legal framework. The title is “Why President George W. Bush wanted ratification of the UNCLOS. The United States position related to the United Nations Law of the Sea”. Ms. Pernille will participate in a workshop to be held during the next weeks. Her thesis can be accessed through <https://www.dropbox.com/s/4k4z19bpk4ij3if/thesis-3.pdf?dl=0>.



Photo1: Picture of Ms. Pernille Haukås. Picture submitted by the author, with permitted use.

SOCIAL MEDIA

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