Borderlines

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NEWSLETTER AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS



BLOWING ACROSS BORDERS

Dr Olivia Woolley, Associate Professor in Biolaw at Durham Law School, is an expert in environmental and energy law and has recently joined IBRU's Steering Committee. Here, she looks at offshore wind energy development as a driver for interstate collaboration on meeting energy needs.

I was a law masters students at the University of London in 2005 when I first encountered offshore wind energy. I wrote a dissertation on interactions between rights of navigation and decommissioning obligations under public international law and offshore wind farm development. Offshore renewable energy was in its infancy at that time, but has since seen substantial growth. The power producing capacity of offshore wind farms worldwide increased tenfold between 2010 and 2021. To date, offshore wind farms have mostly been fixed to the sea bed, limiting the water depths (around 70 metres maximum) and therefore the marine areas in which they can be constructed. Floating offshore wind technology, now nearing readiness for commercial deployment, can be used in deeper waters than fixed offshore wind and notionally anywhere in the world's seas and oceans as long as it is possible and financially viable to transmit the electricity produced to consumers. In this next phase in particular, offshore wind is poised to continue building new connections across borders while inscribing new divisions in our bordered world.

The growth and potential of offshore wind

Offshore renewables are seen by many states as a key player in their decarbonisation plans. The UK and China lead at present on offshore wind capacity. The EU envisages a near doubling of capacity to 60GW in this decade and a further five-fold increase by 2050 to 300GW. Other jurisdictions such as the US, India, and Japan are less advanced, but have major plans for establishing offshore power production capacities of around 30GW by 2030. In effect, the world's search for low carbon energy is driving a revolutionary shift in electricity production offshore.

Coastal states have sovereignty over offshore renewable resources in their territorial seas and exclusive rights to produce energy from them in their exclusive economic zones. The temptation may be to view offshore wind in the same way as static fossil fuel and mineral resources which individual states can benefit from by gathering and trading them as national economic assets. The presence or absence of such resources has been a major consideration in maritime boundary negotiations and following interstate relationships for several decades. However, characteristics of offshore wind energy and of electricity as an energy carrier considered below can challenge nationally-oriented perceptions of maritime zones, militating instead for approaches that transcend borders. This will particularly be the case for offshore wind in marine areas such as the semi-enclosed European seas where coastal states are adjacent.

Offshore wind and borders

One area where wind power can impact borders is in the transmission of offshore electricity to onshore consumers. Although states could concentrate on laying cables that connect wind farms only to their national electricity systems, high winds and peak consumer demand for electricity may not match, meaning that potential

electricity production would go to waste, because technologies for energy storage (e.g. through batteries or 'green' hydrogen) are not advanced enough for cost-efficient deployment at this scale. The alternative, which coastal states are increasingly adopting, is cross-border collaboration, where adjacent states share infrastructure connecting offshore generating plant to onshore electricity networks (potentially including landlocked states whose networks link with those of coastal state neighbours). That creates a more easily accessible and much larger real time market for clean electricity. Collaboration at the sea basin level also enables economic efficiency in network development and lower electricity costs.



Photo: Wind Turbine Power Station Credit: Pablo, Pixabay

The variability of wind power also provides an cross-border incentive cooperation. for Wind energy's availability varies significantly depending on the strength of winds, exposing electricity systems to risks of blackouts. Batteries and electrolysis would allow energy storage when wind power exceeds consumer demand, but these solutions are costly as noted above. Interstate collaboration on planning and developing offshore generating capacity and shared cable networks offers a potentially attractive alternative means of addressing the intermittency challenge. Such a network could enhance the mutual energy security of participating states by enabling them to take advantage of passing weather fronts, allowing electricity from areas experiencing the strongest winds to be transmitted to other states at that time (likely incentivised by higher electricity prices in less windy states) and vice versa as the weather front moves. Combining offshore wind electricity transmission cables interconnector cables linking onshore electricity systems also allows connected states to access more stable renewable sources of other states in the event of a shortfall and to yield economic efficiencies in development including by maximising the capacity usage of offshore cable networks.

The marine environment

The marine ecosystems that host turbines transcend borders as well. The effects of offshore renewable development in areas subject to different national jurisdictions interact and combine with each other and with impacts of other offshore activities to have cumulative effects. Marine ecosystems have limited capacities to absorb human disturbance which, if exceeded, will see a diminution in their ability to

support life, including by yielding 'services' such as the availability of food and carbon sequestration. The ecological impacts of one state's actions may limit another's access to the resource as well as impacting negatively on matters of mutual value. States must therefore cooperate on exploitation in order to promote environmental efficiency.

Finally, the climate change context promotes state collaboration on power production from renewable resources where this would help with maximising greenhouse gas emission avoidance whilst minimising the creation of additional stresses on ecosystems whose functioning are already threatened by planetary change. All states have common interests in eradicating the causes of climate change whilst bolstering the resilience of threatened socio-ecological systems.

Policy developments and challenges

Policy and legal developments in the European Union show recognition by its Member States that offshore renewables are best developed through interstate collaboration, with planning at the level of entire marine ecosystems. Political agreement between North Sea states on offshore power and grid development has been in place since 2010. Further political agreements were reached in 2023 for the EU's other marine areas. The need for collaboration led the UK to sign a renewable energy cooperation agreement with the EU and North Seas countries in December 2022. 2022 Trans-European EU's Infrastructure Regulations promote infrastructure development in its several marine basins at a regional level. Amendments proposed to its Renewable Energy Directive in 2021 also require Member States to work together at the sea basin level to enable massive growth in offshore wind. Joint working is to include cooperation on planning network development for transporting offshore electricity and on marine spatial planning explore how development might be accommodated with environmental duties and other sea uses.

The strong EU thrust toward formulating and implementing offshore wind plans for whole seas and marine areas is in part a product of the highly developed political and legal relations between the European Union and its Member States. However, it is also motivated by factors identified above which promote collaboration on exploiting offshore renewable energy resources. The EU's experiences with policies and laws on renewables are often, because of its proactivity on decarbonisation, a useful source of knowledge and precedent for other states that choose to pursue the same paths subsequently. I and other Durham IBRU colleagues will be following the EU offshore wind experience with interest to explore what insights it may yield for the evolving perception of maritime boundaries and their role in a decarbonising world. This is most definitely a [marine] space to be watched

> Cover Image: Wind Turbine in the Wadden Sea Credit: Erich Westendarp, Pixabay

2022 Raymond Milefsky Award winner Dr Haim Srebro

In 2022, IBRU awarded the fifth annual Raymond Milefsky award to Dr Haim Srebro, to honour his long career as Director General of the Survey of Israel and his founding of the Working Group on International Boundaries of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG). IBRU's Philip Steinberg interviewed Dr Srebro.

What is the role of the surveyor in negotiating and delimiting boundaries? How is FIG advancing that role?

Surveyors prepare a preliminary geospatial database for decision makers on both sides in order to create a common boundary allocation and to initiate the beginning of a process that will end in a boundary agreement. They utilize coordinates, a geodetic reference system, maps, and other required materials.

Proper comprehensive and active involvement of surveyors in the boundary-making process prevents

boundary disputes that may arise because of technical and practical reasons.

As a professional international organization, FIG is advancing that role by sharing methodologies and the actual practice of states, as reflected in FIG Publication 59 on International Boundary Making and FIG Publication 76 on International Boundaries on Unstable Ground. A proper professional boundary documentation, together with ongoing boundary maintenance, supports long-term boundary stability, which prevents disputes, friction, and even wars.

The Israel-Jordan Joint Boundary Commission's Joint Team of Experts is now almost 30 years old. What tasks remain for it, now that the boundary has been delimited?

International boundaries require continuous maintenance and overhaul services. Otherwise, their condition deteriorates. The Israel-Jordan boundary follows a land section with sand dunes and seasonal water floods (the Aravah Valley), unstable river sections (the Jordan and Yarmouk Rivers), a lake that's contracting due to global warming and over-exploitation (the Dead Sea), and a marine section (the Gulf of Aqaba/Eilat)

The river boundary has proved particularly challenging. The wording of the peace agreement indicates that the boundary line should follow natural, gradual changes but not man-made changes in rivers. In one case a high river bank collapsed, blocking the river, which was diverted for hundreds of meters. In another case, a dam was built on the river, to create a reservoir in order to divert a large volume of the river's water to one of the sides. In another case, the river had to be temporarily diverted vertically (through pipes) in order to dig a canal for a crossing gas pipe and other obstacles. Since these rivers are boundary rivers, each case requires numerous professional activities, including many meetings and decision-making events, as well as monitoring and field inspection.

You've recently been involved in maritime boundary negotiations between Israel and Lebanon, two states that are technically at war with each other. How were negotiators able to overcome this tension?

Whenever I negotiate international boundary settlements, I view the representatives of the other side as partners and colleagues and not as enemies. Of course, we all know that they represent another state and that each state has its own interests and needs, but the main goal is to bridge gaps in order to achieve a logical and fair solution that favours both states and both peoples. Any agreed solution is more important than any unilateral position, since the main goal of the negotiations is not to produce papers, but instead, to achieve stability in both regions. I believe in joint work and in a joint agreement. That is why I

always require that a joint professional team like the JTE be formed at the beginning of the process. This was the way it was done with my Egyptian colleagues from 1979 onwards, with my Jordanian colleagues from 1994 onwards, and with my Cyprian colleague in 2010. I consider all of them as friends.

There is always the need to coordinate with the politicians. However, once there is a basic understanding between the politicians that there are grounds for negotiation because of mutual interests on both sides, the task of building trust between the professional partners is much easier, as long as we act honestly and fairly towards each other.

This was also the case with our Lebanese partners. I clarified with them at the beginning that our common goal is to achieve stability, that stability is required for the people in Lebanon as much as it is required for the people in Israel, and that I am concerned about the future of the children in Lebanon and not only about the future of the children in Israel. We live in the same neighbourhood; therefore, we must solve our problems together. Thus, I don't see a big problem to overcome preliminary tensions between states when negotiating with Lebanese professional representatives, despite the formal status of war between Israel and Lebanon. Unfortunately, this is not the case regarding the political representatives of the two states, as well as between professional representatives when politicians ban them.¹

Legal professionals often portray boundary delimitation as more of an 'art' than a 'science'. As a surveyor, would you agree?

I think that the boundary delimitation itself is mainly a scientific process, taking into account legal considerations; however, it involves a lot of creativity and willingness to succeed. The negotiation process itself, including the negotiation towards an agreed delimitation, requires a lot of creativity and positive psychology, so I would portray that part as an art.

But cartography as well has artistic elements. As Director General of the Survey of Israel, I initiated delimitation of a marine cadastre in Israeli territorial waters in the Mediterranean Sea. During the delimitation process, the design of a cadastral block was needed around an island whose nickname is: "the island of love". The delimitation of the boundaries of this block can be thought of as a piece of art, and since it is located 3-4 miles from the maritime boundary with Lebanon, it can be considered as a message of love...



¹IBRU intended for Dr Srebro to share the 2022 Milefsky Award with a representative of the Lebanese delegation, but this was stymied by Lebanon's prohibition on its citizens engaging in activities with Israeli citizens.

Borders in the news 2022

In January, **India** expressed reservations that a new bridge being built by **China** in the tense Himalayan border area would make it easier for China to deploy troops.

Indonesia's Foreign Minister announced in January they wanted their border issue with Malaysia resolved in 2022.

Turkey warned **Greece** against extending their Territorial Waters from six to 12 nautical miles, calling for peaceful dialogue.

In February, work began on a 116-mile border wall along the **Poland - Belarus** border. Prompted by concerns about an influx of primarily Middle Eastern migrants from Belarus, the Polish government began construction on the huge wall across its eastern border.

Turkey opened a new dispute over sovereignty over east Aegean islands claimed by Greece.

Mauritius formally challenged Britain's ownership of the Chagos Islands in February, with Mauritius' ambassador to the UN raising the country's flag above the atoll of Peros Ranhos

Kenya raised concerns about Somalia giving out exploration contracts for resources in an area whose ownership is still in dispute.

Pakistan and India held talks in Islamabad to resolve water issues between the two countries, in the 117th session of the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC).

Ghana and **Côte d'Ivoire** Boundary Commissions met in Accra in February.

In March, **Nigeria** and **Benin** began meetings to resolve their dispute over oil-rich Toungegi Island

The **Russian** invasion of **Ukraine** had far reaching implications for the world, with impacts felt in geopolitics, in Europe, the Arctic, and further afield.

Japan renewed its claims in a territorial dispute with Russia over the Pacific archipelago of the Southern Kuril Islands / Northern Territories. Russia subsequently ended decades of peace talks with Japan over the dispute as a result of sections with Ukraine.

Turkey and Greece agreed in talks in March to improve ties as a result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, despite long-running disagreements between the two countries.

China stepped up activity along its Himalayan border with India as the new 'Land Border Law' came into effect, with the 15th round of border talks to resolve the border dispute also taking place in March.

Guyana announced it would be submitting its written pleadings to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the ongoing border dispute with **Venezuela** in March.

In April, **Bolivia** presented its first round of oral arguments, including counter claims, in the Dispute over the Status and Use of the Waters of the Silala in the case **Chile v Bolivia** before the ICJ.

In April, tensions escalated between **Nigeria** and **Cameroon** after border signs were erected several kilometres into territory claimed by Nigeria during the boundary demarcation work following the October 2010 ICJ judgment, which ceded some Nigerian territories to Cameroon.

In April the **UK** and **France** reached an agreement over fishing rights in the English Channel which had arisen after the UK left the EU and limited the number fishing licences for French fishing boats.

The ICJ found that **Colombia** had violated **Nicaragua**'s sovereign rights and jurisdiction in Nicaragua's exclusive economic zone in the case concerning violations of Sovereign Rights and Maritime Spaces in the Caribbean Sea in an April ruling.

In April **Mauritius** asked Google to label the **Chagos Islands** as part of its territory.

In May, in the **Ghana-Togo** Boundary Dispute, the African Union led efforts to construct 50 identifiable pillars to mark their shared border.

Greece and **Turkey** accused each other's military of airspace violations in their long-standing sea and air boundary disputes.

Ghana announced in May that it is working to resolve all boundary demarcation challenges with **Togo** and **Burkina Faso** by the end of 2022.

In June **Canada** and **Denmark** agreed on a landmark deal over disputed Hans Island. The two countries agreed on a land border that divides the island, which is equidistant from Greenland and Nunavut.

Talks mediated by the US, between **Lebanon** and **Israel** to end their maritime border dispute, saw progress in June and moves towards a deal being made.

Greece announced plans in June to triple the length of the fence on its border with **Turkey** due to a sudden surge in refugees attempting to cross into the country. Greece was expected to add 80 additional kilometres of barbed wire and steel to its 40-kilometre fence.

In June, the ICJ fixed the time-limits for the filing of the Reply and Rejoinder in the case concerning Guatemala's Territorial, Insular and Maritime Claim in the case Guatemala v Belize.

Bangladesh made a formal objection to the UN Secretary-General over certain maritime issues with India that are continuing even after their settlement in 2014. Bangladesh's issues pertain to the baseline and continental shelf used by India in the 25,602 square kilometres of disputed waters in the Bay of Bengal.

In August, an update was given on the new mapping of the 1,630 kilometre long Swedish-Norwegian border which was started in 2020 and is to be completed in 2024. When the previous mapping was done, GPS technology did not exist. Many of the cairns that mark the border have existed for several hundred years and have not been precisely placed.

In September, it was announced that maritime boundary talks between Lebanon and Israel were moving in the right direction despite the presence of "thorny and complex issues". To date five rounds of talks had been held; however, they came to a halt due to fundamental differences.

In October, **Lebanon**'s president approved an historic **Israel** maritime border deal. The US-brokered agreement marked a major breakthrough in relations between the two countries which have formally been at war since Israel's creation in 1948.

It was announced that the EU will begin a two-month civilian mission to define the boundary between **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** in an effort to resolve a long-running dispute.

In October the oral arguments began at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) in the dispute concerning the delimitation of the maritime boundary between Mauritius and The Maldives.

In November, **North Korea** and **South Korea** fired missiles near their disputed sea border as hostilities escalated.

In November, a group of indigenous people in Indonesia announced their intention to sue Australia over its ownership of the Territory of

Ashmore and Cartier Islands, underlining the unresolved and delicate border issues between the two neighbouring countries in the area, following the independence of East Timor in 2002.

Venezuela opened the second round of oral arguments before the ICJ on its preliminary objections raised concerning the Arbitral Award of 3 October 1899 in the case of Guyana v

In December, the ICJ declined to issue a decision in the **Chile-Bolivia** dispute over the Silala River, one of several water-related issues that have spurred tensions between Chile and Bolivia.

In December, the ICJ held public hearings in **Nicaragua v. Colombia**, concerning the Question of the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf beyond 200 Nautical miles from the Nicaraguan coast.

Greece was optimistic that **Albania** would agree to refer their exclusive economic zone (EEZ) dispute to the ICJ. Greece and Albania have had contesting maritime claims in the Ionian Sea for decades.

In December, **Russia** deployed mobile coastal defence missile systems on a northern Kuril island, In its continued dispute with **Japan**.

Indian troops prevented Chinese soldiers from entering Indian territory in early December during a border scuffle that led to injuries on both sides. In response, the US encouraged India and China to utilise existing bilateral channels to discuss their disputed boundaries, strongly opposing any "unilateral attempts" to advance territorial claims across the border at the established Line of Actual Control.

Canada filed an addendum to its 2019 Arctic Ocean continental shelf submission with the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf. See the latest IBRU Arctic Map Series for the new claims.

Late in December, **Vietnam** and **Indonesia** reached an agreement on the boundaries of their EEZs, paving the way for greater collaboration between ASEAN states on overlapping territorial claims.

Prescott Scholarship Awardee

In 2022, VÍCTOR ALEJANDRO RIENOSO was the first recipient of the JRV Prescott Scholarship Award, which enables postgraduate students to attend IBRU professional training workshops.

Alejandro is a Peruvian Diplomat who currently serves as Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Peru in Israel while completing a series of master's degrees.



We spoke to Alejandro about what receiving the scholarship and attending the IBRU workshop on 'Boundary Demarcation & Maintenance' meant to him.

Tell us about the postgraduate course you are studying and how this will develop your career.

In Israel I had the opportunity to study an MA in Conflict Resolution and Mediation (Tel Aviv University) and an MA in Smart Cities and Urban Informatics (Hebrew University of Jerusalem). I also have a postgraduate diploma in New Trends in the Digital World from the Diplomatic Academy of Peru and another in Space Technology from the Peruvian Space Agency in conjunction with the Superior School of War of the Peruvian Air Force. I am currently applying for an M Sc. in Geodesy and Geoinformatics in Berlin, Germany with which I consider completing my training in the field of Geomatics, in which I have been specialising since I finished University, including during my diplomatic work in border demarcation activities.

What made you apply for the Prescott Scholarship Award and how did you feel when you were awarded the scholarship?

The field of border work is an exciting one and one of the basic elements that provides security and development for States. A clear and visible border allows both sides to interconnect optimally and to integrate socially and economically. Borders are the skin of countries and are the drawings that are made all the time when the shape of a state is drawn. During my work at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I remember receiving an invitation to one of the IBRU workshops (not me, but my office), however I was not very clear about what it consisted of, and at that time I was in South America. Later, when I was in Israel, I investigated more and the spectacular work they do in research and doctrine generation, very useful tools for the resolution of territorial conflicts in our still troubled world. When I found out about IBRU I was able to learn about the scholarship (from the website) and the benefits it offered. When I read the requirements, I felt that I fit the profile I was looking for and I decided to apply (being a postgraduate student of the MA Smart Cities and Urban Informatics). When I received the acceptance, I felt excited and satisfied for an achievement that I had not received for a long time, because in the constant day to day, as one advances in the profession and in the responsibilities, it is sometimes difficult to open spaces for academic and professional improvement.

How do you think the IBRU workshop on 'Boundary Demarcation & Maintenance' has helped you in both your studies and your

I had the chance to see first-hand the working experiences of other borders and to become aware of the historical and geographical particularities they present. The topics discussed and presented were within the expectations I had, as I reviewed material from law, history, geography, and geoinformatics and

how these disciplines are articulated to be able to translate real solutions to issues of priority interest in the field and in cartography. I would like in the future to work in this field but in the United Nations, with international commissions that can find these peaceful solutions thanks to the use of technological tools and the experience of those who have been in the field.

How important was the Prescott Scholarship to you?

The importance of the scholarship, on a personal and economic level, was a great help to be part of this network of participants who have had the opportunity to be trained, but also on a professional level as a sign of recognition of the work I have done and the potential as a young professional both for my current service and for the options I can envision in the future. Thank you very much IBRU and Durham University for the opportunity.

The JRV Prescott Scholarship is awarded annually to one enrolled postgraduate student and covers workshop registration plus up to £500 to defray expenses. More information and application instructions can be found on our website:

https://r.dur.ac.uk?c3b13b_Prescott



2023 TRAINING PROGRAMME

IBRU's unique boundary training programme has been running since 1996, attracting over 1,700 participants from 124 countries around the world. Our professional training workshops are led by teams of expert tutors and provide a relevant combination of background theory and practical application in an informal teaching environment. Numbers are limited to maximise interaction between tutors and participants, so we advise you book early to guarantee your place.

Professional Training Workshop

Professional Training Workshop

31 May – 2 June 2023 London, UK

Price: £2,340 per person*

Evidence & Archive Research for Boundary Dispute Resolution

International territorial disputes usually arise due to differing interpretations of a wide range of complex historical, geographical, political and legal information. The key to success in negotiations or third-party adjudication to settle such disputes is the effective use of evidence to support your claims and build a more convincing case than your neighbour. In addition, most countries' archives contain a wealth of material relating to international boundaries, much of which can be crucial to the understanding of boundary and territorial disputes. However, the size and complexity of many archives means that finding relevant material and compiling an accurate picture of the key issues is rarely a straightforward task.



This workshop, led by experienced archivists, researchers and case managers, is designed to help participants appreciate how evidence and archive material can be used to help build a case, and to provide practical guidance on how to make the best possible use of time available for gathering evidence and archive research.

The workshop will be held at The Royal Geographical Society and will include a visit to The National Archives.

Professional Training Workshop

Professional Training Workshop

11–13 September 2023 Durham, UK

Price: £2,730 per person**

Technical Aspects of Maritime Boundary Delimitation

Clearly defined maritime boundaries are essential for good international relations and effective ocean management, yet few coastal states have agreed all their maritime boundaries with their neighbours. Part of the reason for this is that boundary delimitation requires a range of specialist legal and technical skills which are not always readily available to governments.

The programme will be structured around a full-day boundary negotiation exercise in which participants will work in teams to resolve a boundary dispute based on a real-world scenario. The course will also include practical instruction on building and preparing a negotiating team, negotiation strategy and tactics, and drafting an agreement.

This workshop, led by some of the world's most experienced boundary negotiators, is designed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills required to conclude a successful maritime boundary agreement.



Professional Training Workshop

Professional Training Workshop in partnership with Freshfields LLP

25-27 October 2023 New York, USA

Price: £1950 per person***

(Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

International Boundaries & Transboundary Resources

Many of the world's international boundaries run through areas rich in natural resources, for which there is ever-increasing competition. Most States agree in principle that transboundary resources should be shared in an equitable manner and managed as efficiently as possible. However, in practice it is often very difficult to establish effective regimes that achieve these goals.

Control over natural resources is also an issue that underlies many unresolved inter-State disputes concerning sovereignty over territory, maritime areas associated with that territory, and international boundaries on land and at sea.

Led by a team of expert tutors, this innovative workshop will identify strategies and tools for the effective management of transboundary resources on land and at sea. This will cover issues arising between States,



and issues arising between States and companies wishing to exploit resources in both delimited and undelimited areas. This workshop will also address inter-State disputes affecting areas where there are, or are thought to be, hydrocarbons or other natural resources. In particular, it will address recent developments arising from attempts to resolve such disputes by negotiation, conciliation, arbitration and litigation.

IBRU is delighted to be running this workshop in partnership with Freshfields LLP.

To make an enquiry about our workshops, please contact the IBRU Events Team

Tel: +44 (0)191 334 1965 Email: ibru@durham.ac.uk

Find out more and book online at:

https://r.dur.ac.uk?c3b13b_trainingworkshops

* price does NOT include accommodation and is inclusive of UK VAT (£1,950 +VAT)

** price includes 3 nights accommodation at the Durham Marriott Hotel and is inclusive of UK VAT (£1,950 +VAT + accommodation)

*** price does NOT include accommodation and is not subject to VAT.

IBRU's online training courses complement our world-renowned professional training workshops. They feature IBRU and Durham University academics, as well as invited expert guest practitioners, and provide broad introductions to core topics in international boundaries. They are a great way to learn more about specific topics or simply refresh your knowledge in areas where you may already have some experience. They can be taken on their own or in preparation for attending one of our more focused, practitioner-led, face-to-face workshops. IBRU's online courses are designed to be completed at your own leisure, at a time and place convenient to you.

Online Training

Price: £215 per person

Start at any time. Runs throughout the year.

Available in English or French.

Introduction to International Boundaries: Definition, Delimitation and Dispute Resolution

International boundaries are a major source of friction between neighbouring states. Many land boundaries remain poorly defined and fewer than half of the world's potential maritime boundaries have been fully agreed. Governments recognise the value of clearly defined boundaries, yet the political, economic and social complexities of boundary regions, as well as the details of topography and history, often make resolving competing territorial and jurisdictional claims extraordinarily difficult.

This online training course provides a simple, contextual overview of international boundaries and the practical measures that can be taken to resolve international boundary disputes. Through a series of short online lectures and a final practical exercise, the course explores the relevance of borders and looks at land and maritime boundary disputes, before covering methods available for dispute resolution.

The videos can be watched in your own time and will be available for review as long as your licence is active. You will not need to complete the course in one go but can fit it around your schedule as required.

To book your place on the online course please visit our website and follow the instructions.

https://r.dur.ac.uk?c3b13b_onlinetraining



JRV Prescott Student Scholarship Programme

Thanks to a generous donation from the estate of international boundaries scholar JRV Prescott, IBRU is pleased to announce a scholarship programme to support postgraduate attendance at IBRU professional training workshops.

IBRU will award the annual Prescott Fellowship to one deserving postgraduate student to attend an IBRU training workshop.

The annual Prescott Fellowship recipient will receive a full waiver of workshop registration fees (typically around £2,000) as well as access to up to £500 to offset costs associated with travel and subsistence.

For more information, including instructions on how to apply, see: https://r.dur.ac.uk?c3b13b_Prescott

The deadline for applying to attend a 2023 training workshop is 1 May 2023.

Nominations for the 2023 Raymond Milefsky Award

being conducted all over the world by boundary scholars and practitioners. Ray Milefsky was a frequent tutor at IBRU workshops and a great supporter of IBRU's mission of encouraging peaceful settlement of border disputes through education and research.

Ray was one of the leading lights of border studies community and he was kind enough to endow an annual award, to be administered by IBRU, to honour a leading border practitioner. Specifically, the award is for an individual or organisation who:

- Has advanced knowledge of boundary-making or cross-border cooperation, OR Has implemented a programme over that past year that has contributed substantively to boundary-making or cross-border cooperation.

The awardee will receive an award of £745, as well as a profile in the next edition of

IBRU is requesting nominating letters of no more than one page in length. They should briefly detail what the individual or organisation has contributed to boundary-making or cross-border cooperation, and how they meet the criteria noted

Nominations should be sent to IBRU's email address (ibru@durham.ac.uk) and must be received by 1 July 2023.

Selection of the awardee will be made by a committee consisting of the members of the IBRU Steering Community, plus one external representative

Find out more about past winners https://r.dur.ac.uk?c3b13b_Milefsky



Borderlines is the newsletter of IBRU, the Centre for Borders Research at Durham University. It has a readership of more than 3,500 boundary scholars, practitioners and enthusiasts

Since its founding as the International Boundaries Research Unit in 1989, IBRU has been the world's leading research centre on international boundary making and dispute resolution. Today, IBRU brings together work in international boundary law with the geographic study of borders and bordering in the 21st century.

For more information about IBRU visit our website at: https://www.durham.ac.uk/research/institutes-and-centres/ibru-borders-research/

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