The Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy is an international collegial institution that offers a three-week summer course in Rhodes, Greece. The basic objective of the Rhodes Academy is to promote the rule of law in the world’s oceans. The Academy provides an educational forum for discussion of the principles of modern oceans law and policy, thereby fostering a broader common understanding of and adherence to the rule of law as set out in international agreements and state practice.

The Rhodes Academy is a cooperative undertaking sponsored by the Center for Oceans Law and Policy, University of Virginia School of Law (Charlottesville, USA); the Aegean Institute of the Law of the Sea and Maritime Law (Rhodes, Greece); the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland (Reykjavik, Iceland); the Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law (Heidelberg, Germany); The Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea, Utrecht University (Utrecht, The Netherlands); and the Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore (Singapore). The Korea Maritime Institute (Busan, Republic of Korea), and the Research Center of the Sea and Maritime Law and Policy at Ankara University (Turkey) are associate sponsors. The current directors are Robert Beckman, Tomas H. Heidar, John Norton Moore, Alex Oude Elferink, Nikos Skourtos, and Rüdiger Wolfrum. Administrative activities outside Rhodes are coordinated by the Center for Oceans Law and Policy, while the Aegean Institute coordinates local arrangements.

BACKGROUND

The foundations of ancient maritime law are linked to the development of the Rhodian Sea Code (Lex Rhodia), dating to around the 8th century B.C. The roots of modern oceans law are often traced to the early 17th century treatise by the Dutch scholar Hugo Grotius titled Mare Liberum (Freedom of the Seas). As maritime relations evolved, the concept of the freedom of the seas became the guiding principle under which nations conducted their activities in the oceans.

The basic rules of oceans law underwent a transformation in the 20th century, beginning in 1930 when the subject of the law of the sea was taken up by the League of Nations as part of its codification work on international law. The period following World War II saw a proliferation of expanded maritime claims over ocean space as well as advances in marine technology. These developments led to an extensive diplomatic negotiation through the United Nations spanning three international conferences, culminating in the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in 1982.

The 1982 Convention establishes an umbrella agreement for contemporary oceans law by setting out rules governing the rights and jurisdiction of nations in various maritime zones and the seabed area beyond national jurisdiction. These include rights over living and non-living resources, and the rights of freedom of navigation enjoyed by the entire international community. Built around existing international agreements and state practice, the 1982 Convention covers virtually all activities in the oceans. The Convention thus provides the framework for the progressive development of international law for the oceans and their uses.

The 1982 Convention currently has 168 parties, and is widely considered as reflective of customary international law in almost all respects. Global acceptance of the Convention places increased importance on promoting a common understanding of the principles and rules embodied in the Convention. It also highlights the need for more uniform adherence to the rule of law in the oceans as reflected in the Convention and in a growing number of implementing agreements as well as in state practice and judicial decisions.
THE 2020 SESSION

The twenty-fifth academic session of the Rhodes Academy comprises an intensive three-week program of lectures and workshops given by a world renowned faculty of leading scholars and jurists. The outline for the 2020 program (subject to minor change) scheduled for June 28–July 17 is as follows:

**Week 1**

**LOS OVERVIEWS, NAVIGATION, AND MARINE SCIENCE**
Territorial sea, UNCLOS, navigation and passage regimes, exclusive economic zone, freedom of navigation, shipping and the environment, marine science, deep seabed regulations, straits and archipelagic regimes, continental shelf regime, submarine cables, sea floor mapping, oceans and climate change, and regime of islands.

**Week 2**

**MARITIME DELIMITATION, CONTINENTAL SHELF, BIODIVERSITY, AND FISHERIES**
Maritime delimitation, baselines, outer limits of continental shelf, common heritage of mankind, biodiversity, FAO fisheries instruments, high seas fisheries, EEZ fisheries, central Arctic Ocean fisheries, port state jurisdiction, marine mammals, and sovereign state litigation.

**Week 3**

**MARINE ENVIRONMENT, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, AND DEEP SEABED**
Marine environment, climate change (legal perspective), marine pollution, maritime safety, arbitration, deep seabed mining, ISA regulations, ITLOS advisory opinions, conciliation under UNCLOS, and international litigation.

**LECTURERS**
The lecturers for the twenty-fifth session in 2020 are drawn from an international cross-section of prominent and knowledgeable scientists, scholars and judges in the field of oceans law and policy. Interaction between students is emphasized in workshops focused on specific subjects. Workshops encourage the exchange of competing ideas and the application of information presented in the lectures.

The faculty expected for 2020 includes:

**Kent Bressie**
International Cable Protection Committee

**Maria Gavouneli**
Associate Professor, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens

**Tomas H. Heidar**
Judge, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, and Director, Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland

**Albert Hoffman**
Judge, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

**Nong Hong**
Executive Director and Senior Fellow, Institute for China-America Studies

**Todd Huntley**
Director, National Security Law Program, Georgetown University Law Center

**Andrew Jacovides**
Former Ambassador, Republic of Cyprus

**Hakan Karan**
Director, Research Center of the Sea and Maritime Law and Policy, Ankara University

**Ronán Long**
Director, Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute, World Maritime University

**Larry Martin**
Sovereign States Advocate, Private Practice

**Nele Matz-Lück**
Professor, University of Kiel

**Larry Mayer**
Director, Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping, University of New Hampshire

**Fernanda Millicay**
Minister Plenipotentiary, Argentine Embassy to the United Kingdom

**Alina Miron**
Professor, Université d’Angers

**Erik Molenaar**
Deputy Director, Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea

**John Norton Moore**
Director, Center for Oceans Law and Policy, University of Virginia

**Arif Havas Oegroseno**
Indonesian Ambassador to Germany

**Jin-Hyun Paik**
President, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (Republic of Korea)

**Clive Schofield**
Professor, Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute, World Maritime University

**Maria Telalian**
Legal Advisor, Greece Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Tullio Treves**
Former Judge, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (Italy)

**Rüdiger Wolfrum**
Former President, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (Germany)
ADMISSION/ATTENDANCE FEE/TRAVEL GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

There is no fee to apply for admission to the Rhodes Academy but class size is limited to approximately 50 students. Prospective students are required to submit a complete application together with two brief, signed Letters of Reference (http://colp.virginia.edu/sites/colp.virginia.edu/files/pdf-refletters.pdf). Applicants should fill out an application online and send it (e-mail strongly preferred) to the Center for Oceans Law and Policy (COLP), University of Virginia School of Law. Applications may be found at http://colp.virginia.edu/Rhodesacademy. Applicants will need to fax or e-mail the materials necessary to complete the application process.

The deadline for applications is 10 April 2020. Incomplete or untimely applications will not be considered, absent extraordinary circumstances. Applicants will be informed of the Board’s decision on scholarships no later than 5 May 2020. The attendance fee is $1,650. Full payment must be received by 1 June. The attendance fee includes all fees and all course material. This fee is non-refundable after 1 June.

A limited number of scholarships and an even more limited number of travel grants are available to students, based on high academic merit and financial need. The scholarships are largely for applicants from developing nations. Scholarships cover the attendance fee as well as accommodations and half board (i.e. daily breakfast plus one other meal) expenses. Students receiving scholarships will be expected to share a double room. Applicants for travel grants or scholarship assistance are required to provide a verified statement of financial need in support of their application.

Winners of the ICPC Writing Award for a publishable paper on the topic of submarine cables are eligible for a full scholarship to the Rhodes Academy (travel, hotel, breakfast plus one meal daily). Alumni of the Academy will be awarded cash £4,500. Details are available on the websites of The Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea (NILOS), the Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore (CIL), and the Center for Oceans Law and Policy (COLP).

On a case by case basis, the Academy may consider applicants who cannot attend the full three weeks. Such applicants are not eligible for travel grants or scholarships or to receive the Diploma or Attendance Certificate.

All final decisions on student admissions, travel grants and scholarships are made by the Directors.

ADMISSION/VISAS

Formal applications to the Academy are to be made through the Center for Oceans Law and Policy. The Aegean Institute assists accepted students with visa applications to Greece. The application form is available at http://colp.virginia.edu/Rhodesacademy

ACCOMMODATIONS

Classes and accommodations are located overlooking the Mediterranean Sea near Old Town, Rhodes. Accommodations and half board (breakfast plus one meal daily) for an anticipated 21-day stay (check-in 28 June, check-out 18 July, 2020) in Rhodes are approximately €1,400 Euros for a single room and approximately €1,100 Euros for a shared room. Additional nights and meals cost extra.

RHODES ACADEMY WEB PAGE

The application and additional information are available at http://colp.virginia.edu/Rhodesacademy, including a complete roster of former students and recent faculty. Individual questions may be sent via e-mail to Ms. Judy Ellis at jellis@law.virginia.edu

FOR INQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:

Ms. Judy Ellis
Center for Oceans Law and Policy
University of Virginia School of Law
580 Massie Road
Charlottesville, VA 22903, USA
Tel: 1-434-982-2799 / Fax: 1-434-924-7362
E-mail: jellis@law.virginia.edu

Mr. Spiros Loupis
Aegean Institute on the Law of the Sea and Maritime Law
Ippoton Str., GR-85100 Rhodes, GREECE
Tel: 30-22410-77110 / Fax: 30-22410-77111
E-mail: loupis@rhodes.aegean.gr

The 25th anniversary session of the Rhodes Academy is under the auspices of the Region of the South Aegean which is also providing additional financial support.

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