ATLANTIC CENTRE

EVENT INFORMATION

VIII SEMINAR

Blue Crime: Transnational Challenges in the Atlantic

28 OCTOBER

NATIONAL DEFENCE INSTITUTE,
LISBON



idn Instituto da Defesa Nacional

FLAD FUNDAÇÃO LUSO-AMERICANA PARA O DESENVOLVIMENTO

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VIII Seminar Concept Note

Maritime crime is an increasingly complex and transnational challenge, affecting the security, stability, and prosperity of communities and States across the Atlantic. From drug trafficking and piracy to human trafficking, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, environmental crime, and the illicit exploitation of maritime resources, these activities are diverse in nature but interconnected in their impact.

The vastness and interconnectedness of the Atlantic maritime domain create opportunities for criminal networks to operate across jurisdictions, exploit gaps in law enforcement and governance, and adapt rapidly to evolving circumstances. Addressing these challenges therefore requires not only effective national responses, but also greater regional and international cooperation, information-sharing, and coordination.

Recognising Blue Crime as a Whole-of-Atlantic concern, the Atlantic Centre and its partners are contributing to a deeper understanding of the transnational nature of maritime criminality and its impact across different regions of the Atlantic. The "Blue Crime: Transnational Challenges in the Atlantic" research project examines the multidisciplinary dimensions of maritime crime and the ways in which different forms of criminal activity can intersect and reinforce one another.

The resulting research brings together perspectives from different Atlantic regions and disciplines, exploring issues including maritime security, international law, law enforcement, environmental protection, fisheries, organised crime, and regional cooperation. It aims to identify common challenges while recognising the specific realities and vulnerabilities of different Atlantic communities and States.

Through this initiative, the Atlantic Centre aims to foster a deeper understanding of Blue Crime as a shared Atlantic challenge and contribute to more effective, coordinated, and sustainable approaches to maritime security. Addressing these challenges collectively is essential to ensuring a secure, stable, and prosperous Atlantic community.

The VIII Atlantic Centre Seminar will take place, in Lisbon, at the National Defence Institute. Participation in the event is public, subject to prior online registration.

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VIII Seminar Schedule

09:00h | 09:30h — *Guests' arrival*

09:30h

Welcome Remarks

Isabel Ferreira Nunes, Director-General of the National Defence Institute
Commodore Rui Leite da Cunha, Atlantic Centre Coordinator

09:40h

Opening Remarks

H.E. Dr. Nuno Pinheiro Torres, Deputy Minister for Defence Policy

09:50h

Keynote Address

Commodore Mohammad Shettima, Commander Combined Maritime Task Force for the Gulf of Guinea

10:10h

Presentation of the Atlantic Centre's report "Blue Crime: Transnational Challenges in the Atlantic" + Q&A

Chair:
Prof. Pedro Seabra, Assistant Professor, Iscte - University Institute of Lisbon and Deputy Director of CEI-Iscte

Speakers:
Fatim Zohra Azouzou, Policy Center for the New South (Morocco)
Prof. Eric Driggs, William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric DefenseStudies (United States)
Captain (R) Samuel Rivera-Páez, Superior War College (Colombia)
TBD

11:20h — *Coffee Break*

11:40h

The Atlantic Security Award

Chair:
Mrs. Leonor Barroso, Transatlantic Relations Coordinator at FLAD

Speakers:
Caio César-Ribeiro, PhD, Assistant Researcher at CCMAR – Centre of Marine Sciences of the Algarve
Priscila Muniz Cunha, PhD, Rio de Janeiro State University
Bruno Cunha, PhD, Portucalense University

12:40h — *Closing Remarks*

12:50h — *End of Seminar*

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