

## WORKSHOP

# The Legal Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage

23 April 2015

The workshop is organized within the framework of the SeArch project. This is an interdisciplinary research project that aims to develop an efficient assessment methodology and approach towards a Belgian sustainable policy and legal framework for archaeological heritage in the North Sea.

The goal of the workshop is to bring together experts in the legal protection of underwater cultural heritage and invite them to present the legislation of the protection of underwater cultural heritage in their country. In the morning session (and early afternoon) each expert will be given 30 minutes to present the legal framework of his/her country concerning the legal protection of underwater cultural heritage, as well as explain to what extent and in what way this protection is applied in practice to shipwrecks and any other form of underwater cultural heritage. The objective is to:

- Become familiar with the legislation on underwater cultural heritage in the selected countries and how this legislation is being applied in practice.
- Be able to make a comparison between the different legal approaches to protect underwater cultural heritage.
- Critically assess this national legislation towards its conformity with the UNESCO 2001 Convention.

These presentations will be followed by a group discussion of which the objective is to:

- Identify the best practices in order to create some guidelines that can be helpful to make new national legislation on the protection of underwater cultural heritage or to improve the existing national legislation on this topic.
- Draw conclusions based on these best practices that can help states with the implementation of the UNESCO 2001 Convention.

## PROGRAM

### 23 APRIL 2015

#### MORNING SESSION

- 8u30-9u00** Registration and welcome coffee  
**9u00-9u15** Welcoming the guest speakers and introduction to the workshop  
**9u15-9u30** Presenting the SeArch project

#### PRESENTATIONS

- 9u30-10u00** The legal framework, policy and practice on the protection of underwater cultural heritage in the United States – **Ole Varmer**  
**10u00-10u30** The legal framework, policy and practice on the protection of underwater cultural heritage in the United Kingdom – **Sarah Dromgoole**  
**10u30-11u00** The legal framework, policy and practice on the protection of underwater cultural heritage in Spain – **Mariano Aznar**  
**11u00-11u30** Coffee break

### PRESENTATIONS

**11u30-12u00** The legal framework, policy and practice on the protection of underwater cultural heritage in Germany – **Birgitta Ringbeck**

**12u00-12u30** The legal framework, policy and practice on the protection of underwater cultural heritage in France – **Alexandre Piquet**

**12u30-13u30** Lunch

### AFTERNOON SESSION

### PRESENTATIONS

**13u30-14u00** The legal framework, policy and practice on the protection of underwater cultural heritage in the Netherlands – **Andrea Klomp**

**14u00-14u30** The legal framework, policy and practice on the protection of underwater cultural heritage in Belgium – **Thary Derudder**

### DISCUSSION

**14u30-17u30** Group Discussion

**17u30** End of the workshop

**19u00** Dinner with the guest speakers and SeArch partners

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### LOCATION

Faculty Board Room / Facultaire Raadzaal  
University of Ghent  
Volderstraat 3  
9000 Ghent

### ROUTE DESCRIPTION

[www.ugent.be/re/epir/en/researchgroups/public-international-law/department/maritimescience/directions.htm](http://www.ugent.be/re/epir/en/researchgroups/public-international-law/department/maritimescience/directions.htm)

### FLOOR PLAN OF THE UNIVERSITY

The Faculty Board Room/Facultaire Raadzaal is number 11 on the floor plan:  
[www.ugent.be/re/nl/contact/plattegrond/leslokalen.htm](http://www.ugent.be/re/nl/contact/plattegrond/leslokalen.htm)

### LANGUAGE OF THE WORKSHOP

English

### THE PARTICIPANTS

The workshop is upon invitation only. On one side there will be the experts (guest speakers) in the protection of underwater cultural heritage and on the other side the members of the SeArch project. By keeping the number of participants low, we hope to have a number of interesting presentations in the morning (early afternoon) and a profound debate between experts in the afternoon.

### PARTICIPATION COSTS

There are no costs for the guest speakers and invitees.

