

Towards a European Research Agenda for Ocean Governance

An Expert Workshop

5 May 2015, 15.00-17.30

Permanent Representation of Portugal to the EU
Avenue de Cortenbergh 12, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

Investments from the EU and its Member States into the Blue Economy continue to be on the rise. To turn the “blue wealth” of the ocean and seas into an asset with long-lasting economic, social and environmental benefits, future ocean governance has to respond to the risks associated with a growing world population, profound pressures on ecosystems, rapid technological advances and the complexity of fragmented governance systems. What the consequences of new ocean and deep sea activities such as deep sea mining or bioprospecting will be and how they ought to be regulated requires research, debate, and ultimately a governance response, not least to provide actors in the blue economy with a clear and stable regulatory framework for investments and innovation.

This workshop will explore the interplay of current trends and challenges – be they political, economic, social, technological, environmental or legal – and discuss their implications for the adaptation of the global ocean governance system and seek to identify critical needs and priorities for ocean governance research in Europe.

Programme

12.00-14.30 *Lunch Briefing “Governing Ocean Resources: What role for Europe?”*

14.30-15.00 *Coffee break*

15.00-15.15 *Workshop Introduction*

Science and ocean governance: defining the nexus

Jan-Stefan Fritz, KDM

Towards an ocean governance research agenda

Sebastian Unger, IASS Potsdam

15.15-15.30 *Research needs and priorities*

Flash presentations:

Conservation and sustainable use of areas beyond national jurisdiction

John Brincat, DG Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, European Commission

Governance of deep-Sea mining

Jeff Ardron, IASS Potsdam

Ocean governance, society and people

Achim Schlüter, ZMT and KDM Forum Social Sciences

Research for ocean governance

Sieglinde Gruber, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission

15.30-17.15 *Discussion of future needs and priorities*

17.15-17.30 *Concluding Remarks*