About the Presentation

In the context of the current situation with piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Indo-Pacific region, particularly off the Horn of Africa and in Southeast Asia, this talk will discuss how some ships are more vulnerable to attack than others. Sub-standard ships are more likely to be successfully attacked than quality vessels and the situation is not helped by the relative ineffectiveness of Port State Control (PSC) regimes in parts of the world, including areas where acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships are prevalent. Issues will be identified that might be addressed by the shipping industry and ship owners, as well as by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). In addition to being a victim of piracy, the shipping industry could be adding to the problem by laying up ships in vulnerable areas, reducing wages and sizes of crew and employing sub-standard ships. This situation could be symptomatic of wider problems in international shipping that throw doubt on the effectiveness of current regimes for ship safety, security and marine environmental protection.

About the Presenter

Professor Sam Bateman
Professorial Research Fellow, ANCORS

Dr Sam Bateman is a Professorial Research Fellow at the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS), where he was first Director (then the Centre for Maritime Policy). He is also a Senior Fellow in the Maritime Security Programme at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Professor Bateman retired from the Royal Australian Navy as a Commodore where his naval service included four ship commands ranging from a patrol boat to guided-missile destroyer. Amongst his many achievements, Sam has written extensively on defence and maritime issues in Australia, the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean.

About ANCORS

ANCORS has an established reputation for expertise in ocean management and law, fisheries law and policy, and maritime security, in Australia, throughout the Asia-Pacific region and farther afield.

ANCORS undertakes academic research and education, and also provides professional training, research services and other assistance to policymakers and regional organisations. For more information about ANCORS, visit www.ancors.uow.edu.au.

Wollongong is a major regional city situated between pristine beaches and the picturesque Illawarra Escarpment. Wollongong is conveniently located just 1.5 hours south of Sydney & Sydney airport and 2.5 hours from Canberra.