

Mr Nguyen Manh Dong (Viet Nam)
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Bio-sketch

Mr. Nguyen Manh Dong is the Head of Territorial and Border Affairs Section of the Department of International Law and Treaties, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam. He holds a Bachelor of Law (LLB) degree from the Faculty of Law, Hanoi National University (1994). In 1996, he started working for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Legal Expert, principally assisting senior colleagues to prepare for, and attend, bilateral negotiations on maritime boundaries between Viet Nam and its neighboring countries. From 2000-2003, Mr. Nguyen was posted at the Embassy of Viet Nam in the Republic of Indonesia where he served as Head of the Consular Section. He returned to Viet Nam in 2003 to resumed his work within the Department of International Law and Treaties. His current duties as Head include taking part in resolving the territorial and border issues between Viet Nam and the relevant countries, including the delimitation of maritime boundaries, law of the sea issues, as well as to provide legal advice on draft laws and regulations relating the implementation of the 1982 Convention on the Law of the Sea and other related Conventions.

Fellowship Host Institutions and Supervisors

1. Centre for Marine Law, Queensland University (Dr. Sarah Derrington)
2. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations

Research Abstract

Settlement of dispute under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea: The case of the South China Sea dispute.

The South China Sea dispute, of which the Spratly Islands dispute is a key element, has long been regarded by the international community as a potential flashpoint for armed conflict and will remain so if this dispute is not settled peacefully and amicably. Almost all the claimants to the Spratly islands have ratified the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and have dealt and continued to deal with numerous issues relating to the law of the sea, including the Spratly issue.

The goal of this paper is to examine the South China Sea dispute in the light of the 1982 UNCLOS as well as its effect, especially the provisions relating to the settlement of the South China Sea dispute and the possibility of applying these provisions to the dispute. The paper will pay particular attention to the Spratly islands dispute where ownership of the islands is claimed wholly or partly by Vietnam, China, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei or Taiwan.

Fellow Contact Information

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