

**Ms Anna Mihneva Natova (Bulgaria)**  
**2005 United Nations – The Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellow**

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Bio-sketch

Ms. Natova graduated in 1995 from Sofia University in Law. Since 1998, she has been a Legal Adviser for the International Law Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She is also a member of the Bulgarian Association of International Law since 2000, and the Bulgarian Association on Maritime Law since 2001. Some of Ms. Natova's international activities include participation in bilateral and multilateral negotiations as a member of governmental delegations, including sessions of the UN General Assembly, Meetings of State Parties to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, and other meetings within the UN System. She also has served as a member of the Bulgarian delegations on maritime delimitation matters with Turkey and Romania, as well as to several sessions of the Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organization.

Fellowship Host Institutions and Supervisors

1. Center for Ocean Law and Policy, University of Virginia Law School (Prof. John Moore)
2. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations

Research Abstract

**The Relationship between United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the IMO Conventions**

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) adopted a number of important maritime principles which already incorporated in International Maritime Organization treaty instruments adopted before the drafting of the 1982 Convention. Beginning from the principal objective of the Convention on the law of the Sea, as stated in its Preamble “to establish a legal order for the seas and oceans...marine environment” and the reflection of this noble objective of the aims and purposes of International Maritime organization (IMO). UNCLOS is a legal and political confirmation to the regulatory regimes developed by IMO. UNCLOS implicitly recognizes IMO as the legitimate international forum in which states are expected to develop new international standards and regulations or revise existing rules on these subjects. Why is IMO recognized as the only international organization responsible for establishing and adopting measures on an international level? Why did the drafters want the single settings of standards?

Fellow Contact Information

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