EU Maritime Policy

UN-Nippon Foundation Law of the Sea Fellows
Asia Pacific Alumni Meeting
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Dr. Ronán Long,
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Albert Einstein

Concern for man and his fate must always form the chief interest of all endeavours

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Overview

1. Background
2. European Maritime Policy
3. Are there lessons for other ocean regions?
Europe

- 27 Member States
- Enclosed & Semi-Enclosed Seas
- Regional Seas
- International Straits
- Coastline – 100K KM
- Sea Area – 3.9 million sq. KM
European Union

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European Legal Order

- Common Institutions
- EC Law Supreme
- Law-making is Complex
- Party to the 1982 LOS Convention
Maritime Policy
Origin & Evolution

all-embracing maritime policy
Commission Objective 2005-2009

Commisioner Borg
Fisheries & Maritime Affairs

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Blue Book

- **Member States**…integrated maritime policies
- Networks **exchange of knowledge and experiences**
- **Guidelines** for national policies
- **Road map** for maritime spatial planning
- **Stakeholder consultation** structure

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What is Integration?

- Refers the integration of **objectives**
  
  & integration of the **instruments** to meet those objectives
  
  ...means the integration of all relevant **policy areas**, sectors, and levels of administration.
  
  ...includes **terrestrial** and marine components

European Commission (2000)
Policies Integration

- Research
- Industry
- Transport
- Employment
- Security
- Fisheries
- External relations
- Environment
Why Integration?

- 16% Population Live on the Coast
- 85% Coast is Developed
- Climate change
  - Sea-Level Rise – 3 mm per year
- 90% External Trade goes by Sea
- European ship owners control almost 40% of the world fleet
- New Activities
  - Wind / Ocean Energy
  - Aquaculture
  - New Resources

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Why Integration?

- Policy Failure
  - Fisheries

- Trans-Boundary Problems
  - Pollution

- Treaty Overlap

- Require Policy Coherence
  - Ecological
  - Normative
  - Implementation

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EU Ocean Policy Objectives

- Maximise sustainable use of the oceans
- Build a knowledge and innovation base
- Improve quality of life in coastal regions
- Promote Europe’s leadership in international affairs
- Raise visibility for Maritime Europe

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Regional Implementation & Initiatives

- Artic Sea Communication 2008
- Baltic Sea Strategy 2009
- Communication Mediterranean 2009
Why regionalisation

- Regional Seas are different
  - Geography
  - Political context
  - Economic situation
  - Social situation
  - Environmental challenges
Progress
Some Highlights

- DG Fish and Maritime Affairs
- Working with:
  - Regional Seas Conventions
  - Existing Instruments
Key Actions -2009

- European Marine Observation & Data Network Action Plan in 2009
- Maritime Spatial Planning
- Maritime surveillance
  - Pilot project in the Mediterranean and Atlantic
- European Atlas of the Seas
Key Dates!

2007
Council

May 2008
Maritime Conference

22 May 2009
European Maritime Day

May 2009
First progress report

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Member States

- France,
- Germany
- Portugal,
- Netherlands
- Slovenia
- United Kingdom
- Sweden
- Greece/Spain

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Obstacles to Integration

- Fragmentation
- Institutional Structures
- Divided Legal Competence
- Enforcement & Compliance
- Complexity
Lessons?

1. Integration…regionalisation

2. New Tools & Principles
   - Ecosystems Approach
   - Precautionary Principle

3. Normative Framework
   1982 LOS Convention

4. Member State action
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