



**Afternoon conference
organised by the Belgian Group of
the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War**

*Protecting critical infrastructure at sea
in accordance with international law*

20-03-2025

**Grand Hotel Casselbergh
Bruges**

- 13.30 – 13.40 ***Opening of the 2025 conference series of the Belgian Group of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War***
Ludwig VAN DER VEKEN, President of the Belgian Group of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
- 13.40 – 13.50 ***Opening of the conference***
Alfons VANHEUSDEN, Session Director of the Belgian Group of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
- 13.50 – 14.10 ***Updating security policies regarding critical infrastructure at sea***
Thomas LAMBERT, Permanent Representative of Belgium to the OSCE & Reserve officer of the Belgian Navy (OF-3)
- 14.10 – 14.30 ***Combating sabotage of submarine cables and pipelines beneath the high seas/Exclusive Economic Zones***
Thea COVENTRY, PhD Candidate in Public International Law, Leiden University & Researcher, T.M.C. Asser institute
- 14.30 – 14.50 ***Combating sabotage of submarine cables and pipelines at sea, in a context of grey zone conflict***
Frederik ROGIERS, PhD Candidate, Ghent Maritime Institute, Ghent University
- 14.50 – 15.10 Short break
- 15.10 – 15.30 ***A practitioner's view on the threats, challenges, and opportunities***
Captain (Navy – OF-5) Kristof VAN BELLEGHEM, Chief of Staff, Belgian Navy & Commander (Navy – OF 4) Ilja VAN HESPEN, Deputy Director of the Naval Policy Staff, Belgian Navy
- 15.30 – 16.15 ***Panel debate featuring the five presenters***
Chair: Prof. Dr. Louis LE HARDY DE BEAULIEU, Université Catholique de Louvain
- 16.15 – 16.20 ***Closing of the conference***
Alfons VANHEUSDEN, Session Director of the Belgian Group of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
- 16.20 ***Drink offered to all participants***

Postadres & Hoofdzetel/Adresse de correspondance & Siège:

Studiecentrum voor Militair Recht en Oorlogsrecht (vzw) – Centre d'Étude de Droit Militaire et de Droit de la Guerre (asbl)

Renaissancelaan/Avenue de la Renaissance 30 – 1000 Brussel/Bruxelles – België/Belgique

RPR Brussel / RPM Bruxelles – KBO/BCE 0410.653.953

Tel: +32 472 80 76 09 - E-mail: brussels@ismllw-be.org - Website: <http://www.ismllw-be.org/>