

La construcción jurídica de un espacio marítimo común europeo. By J.M. Sobrino Heredia and G.A. Oanta (Coords.) (JM Bosch Editor, Barcelona, 2020) 1052 pp.

This book is the result of a previous international conference organized under the same heading by the Network of Excellence for Legal-Maritime Studies (REDEXMAR), which is a research network made up of four research groups from four Spanish universities: A Coruña, Córdoba, Santiago de Compostela and Vigo, comprised by almost fifty national and foreign researchers whose fields of research are related to the law of the sea, maritime law or labor law of the sea. Such international conference was the fifth of those already convened by this Network, held this time in A Coruña, in July 2019.

The present volume has been coordinated by José Manuel Sobrino Heredia and Gabriela A. Oanta, and brings together the contributions of more than 40 renowned scholars, coming from 11 different countries. Among other entities that have collaborated to make the edition possible is the *Association International du Droit de la Mer* (AssIDMer).

As the authors graphically express in the Preface, the EU is a true "*maritime peninsula*", with "*more sea than land*", which has consequently attained a strong position in the international arena and fuelled enormous interests that are reflected in the process of legal creation of that maritime space to which the book refers. This space of dynamic construction has a lot to do with the sectorial policies that the EU has been building in relation to the sea and the oceans (those related to fisheries, navigation and ports, marine environment, marine research, marine energy, marine spatial planning, shipbuilding, maritime safety and security, tourism and employment, protection of people of the sea, development of coastal regions and foreign relations in maritime affairs), and to the Integrated Maritime Policy that it has been developing since 2007, through which the EU is addressing, from an inter-sectorial and holistic approach, the varied and enormous challenges that Europe faces regarding the sea, both in the background and the foreground. Thus, as the authors also declare, this enterprise's leitmotif is the search and analysis of the legal-public and legal-private consequences, both national and international, resulting from the progressive creation by the EU of a common European maritime space where an integrated strategy to promote blue growth is to be developed.

The book is divided into three parts on the following subjects: the European Common Maritime Area as a confluence of the different maritime sectorial policies of the European Union (Part I), the European Common Area as the scene of work at sea and human rights in the maritime environment (Part II) and the European Maritime Area as an Area of Maritime Protection and Safety in an international environment (Part III). This book, published in Spanish, includes several relevant contributions in English, as well as some in French and Portuguese. In total, 42 chapters devoted to very diverse and heterogeneous aspects, although forming a very consistent unified whole. Let us follow its guiding thread.

Part I, referred to the European Common Maritime Area as the confluence of the different maritime sectorial policies of the European Union, is made-up of 13 chapters devoted successively to the following topics: scientific diplomacy in European Maritime Spaces (by Annina C Burgin); the management of migratory flows and their impact on labor relations on-board of merchant and fishing vessels (Laura Carballo); the solitude of Tunisian captains and fishermen in the Mediterranean (Patrick Chaumette); reflections on the question of the competences of the EU in relation to the UNCLOS (Miguel García García-Revillo); the preservation of the European maritime heritage through the control of atmospheric emissions from ships (Ruth García Llave and Juan Ignacio Alcaide); the 2019 fisheries agreement between EU and Morocco (Manuel Hinojo); the jurisdiction clauses and maritime contracts (Jacinto José Pérez Benítez); considerations on International Agreements in the framework of the European Maritime Space (Alice Pisapia); the limits to the principle of freedom in the seas (Ángel Rodrigo); the legal construction of a European maritime space: motivations and objectives regarding the Law of the Sea (Nathalie Ros); the “*tangle*” of Brexit in relation to the European Common Maritime Area (José Manuel Sobrino); the balance between the rights and duties of coastal States and those of other interested States with respect to living marine resources (Eva M. Vázquez); and the protection of underwater cultural heritage in a controversial legal area: The Strait of Gibraltar (Jesús Verdú).

The focus of Part II, as it has been already mentioned, is the Common European Space as a setting for work at sea and human rights in the maritime environment, which comprises 14 chapters, through which the following aspects are analysed: the social protection of workers of the maritime-fishing sector (Ignacio Camós); the Seafarers' working and living conditions and human rights (Joseph R. Carby-Hall); proposals to improve the social dimension of the sustainable fishing collaboration agreements negotiated by the EU with third countries (Xosé Manuel Carril); considerations on the occupational health and safety of self-employed fishermen (Belén Fernández Docampo); the role of intermediary agencies in determining the working and living conditions of seafarers (Irene Dozo); labor and Social Security peculiarities of the ship as a workplace (Marta Fernández Prieto); challenges and dysfunctions regarding fishermen salary from the perspective of International Labor law (Francisca Fernández Prol); the European Court of Human Rights as a place to address the protection of human rights at sea (Khagani Guliyev); occupational diseases in the fishing and aquaculture sector, emphasizing a gender analysis (Ana María Martín Romero); recognition of the professional contingencies of self-employed workers in the fishing sector (Nora María Martínez Yáñez); legal regime(s) for maritime labor in Portugal (María Regina Redinha); criteria for determining the causal link in the case of work accidents of the autonomous shellfish workers (Rosa Rodríguez Martín-Retortillo); the temporary legal regime for sea workers temporarily displaced in the context of Brexit (Emma Rodríguez Rodríguez); the

coordination of Social Security systems at sea and the determination of the applicable law (Andrés Ramón Trillo).

Part III, which deals with the European Maritime Area as a Maritime Safety and Protection Area in an international environment, consists of 15 chapters, through which the following topics are examined: maritime security and the use of European naval forces against the challenge of immigration (Miguel A. Acosta); a vision of exploitation of the seabed from the international governance of the oceans (Ana M. Badía); the statute of the EU in the International Maritime Organization (Saïda El Boudouhi); Gibraltar, landfills and the environment in the face of Brexit (Inmaculada González García); Black Sea, European Maritime Space and Geostrategic Implications (Gabriel-Liviu Ispas); the particularities related to the preventive seizure procedure for civilian vessels in the Romanian legislative system and the effects of establishing such a measure within the European space (Petruta-Elena Ispas and Madalina Dinu); the freedom of high seas as interpreted by the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in the case *M / V Norstar* (Panama v. Italy) (Eduardo Jiménez Pineda); position and influence of the European Union within the International Maritime Organization (Guillaume Le Floch); the failed EU ship registry (EUROS) in an attempt to create a communitarian flag (Ana María Maestro); the order of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in the case of Ukraine against the Russian Federation and its impact on the European Maritime Space (Artak Mkrtichyan); the legal framework for the establishment of marine protected areas beyond national jurisdiction (Laura Movilla); the participation of the EU in FAO and the effects of a possible withdrawal of one of its Member States (Gabriela A. Oanta); the EU action against marine waste (Belén Sánchez Ramos); the operation of Poseidon in the Aegean Sea and the developments in the governance of EU's maritime borders (Ioannis Stribis); Gibraltar waters and the question of whether it is a "*dry coast*" or a Spanish coast (Alejandro del Valle-Gálvez).

This book shows how the legal construction of the mentioned space presents enormous advances and successes, as well as difficulties and challenges, which are ultimately intertwined with European maritime governance itself and the blue growth of the EU. In short, it is a comprehensive writing, where both inter-disciplinarily across legal sectors and inner harmony succeed, since coherence is a distinctive feature throughout the book, along with the deep knowledge and expertise shown in relation to every topic. This edited collection is a great and useful read for experts, stakeholders and those interested in marine and maritime issues, including human rights and labour law.

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