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UNIVERSITY
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Advanced Studies

Global Issues

PLPR



INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC ASSOCIATION
ON PLANNING, LAW, AND PROPERTY RIGHTS
ANNUAL PLPR CONFERENCE 2018 IN NOVI SAD

MIGRATIONS – IMPACTS, LAW, AND SPATIAL PLANNING
Rectorate of the University of Novi Sad, 2018, February 19th – 23rd

**WHO SHOULD OWN THE SEA? INVESTIGATING THE TRENDS AND
PERCEPTIONS OF ENCLOSURE AND PRIVATISATION IN SCOTTISH SEAS**

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Contribution type: PhD Workshop

This research focuses on the current movements of enclosure and privatisation of ocean space/resources, as ongoing attempts are made to solve conflicts between environmental protection and economic development by way of redistributing property rights. The research has particular focus on the situation in Scotland's seas, where increased drive for economic exploitation in the marine sector, as well as the forever changing political landscape and the potent threat of climate change, are creating heavy demands on the marine spaces and resources. These demands are subsequently being policed by ever-increasing enclosure through various methods. The investigation aims to explore both the trends of rights reallocation through a political ecology lens, as well as the perceptions of stakeholders in maritime industries whose rights may be, or have already been, changed.

An exploration into the fluctuating trends in rights allocation has been achieved by tracking the trajectory of changing policy, using examples at both national and local scope to demonstrate the breadth of the enclosure movement at sea, and the extent to which actual property rights are being created in a previously open-access or state-management environment. This analysis of policy involves an in-depth evaluation of the actors within the political and legal systems and the role of those agents in power to change the nature and structure of rights.

Attitudes towards changes in policy and rights are being analysed via Q methodology. This requires the collection of the discourse by way of extensive literature review and semi-structured interviews from stakeholders. This data is then collated and analysed to construct a list of statements, which are then given to a sample of respondents to arrange in order of how much they agree with the statement. Statistical analysis follows to group individuals with similar attitudes.

These two analyses are applied to two separate case studies, concentrating on spatial enclosure via maritime spatial planning and the tools used to implement MSP like zoning, and financial enclosure within the commercial fisheries industry which use rights-based management (e.g. quotas) as a means of creating exclusivity.

Keywords: property rights, enclosure, marine planning, fisheries