

Critical Maritime Infrastructure Protection: Promises and Perils of the EU's response

Professor Christian Bueger,

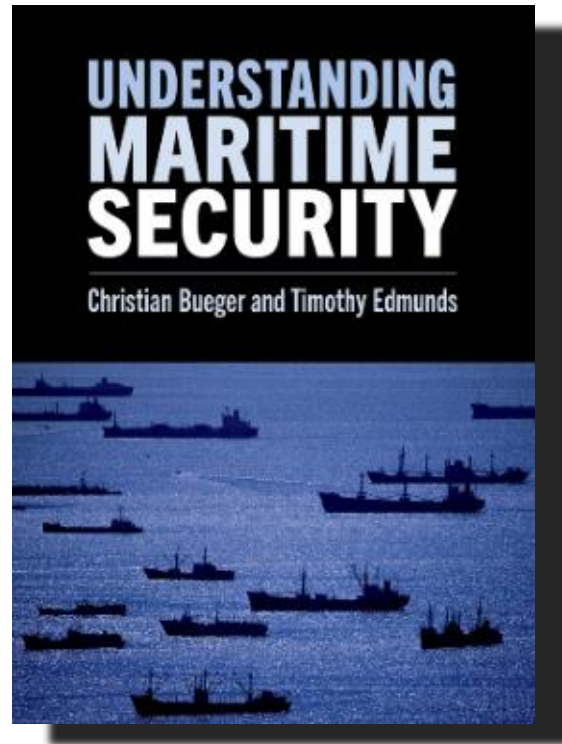
University of Copenhagen

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Charles Telfair Centre (Mauritius)

www.bueger.info

Background



Overview

- Core policy drivers in the EU
- Conceptual Challenges
- Dilemmas
- Pathways of action

EU Drivers

Strategic autonomy

China / BRI
US big tech
Global Gateway

CMIP

NIS2

Cyber attacks






EUMSS

Nordstream shock
Cable 'accidents'

Resilience

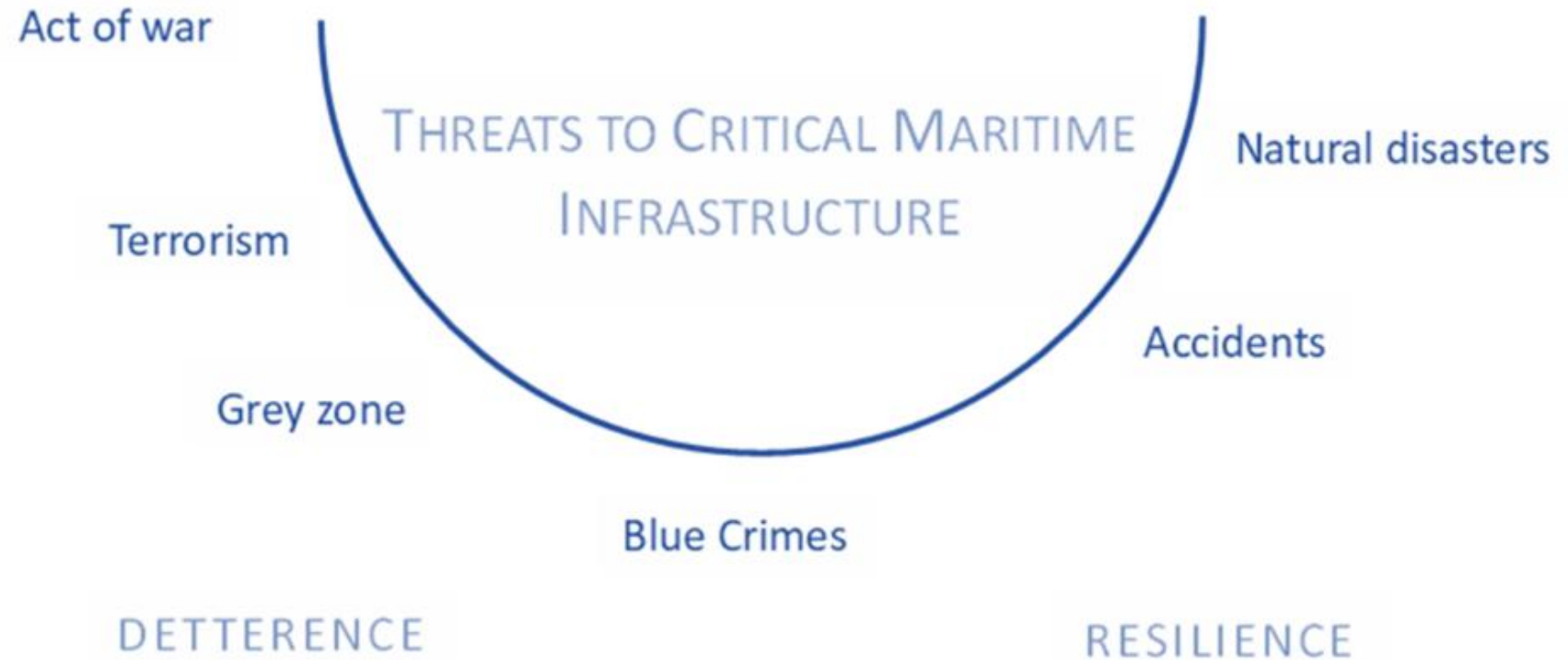
Maritime Security

Which Maritime Infrastructures?

		On the sea	In the sea	On land
	Transport	Ships, shipping lanes,	Emissions	Ports
	Energy	Platforms	Platforms, electricity cables, pipelines	Ports, landing stations, repair facilities
	Communication	Repair ships	Data Cables	Landing stations, repair facilities
	Fishery	Ships, fishing zones	Fishing gear, aquaculture	Ports, aquaculture
	Eco-systems	Biodiversity	Biodiversity, carbon sink, carbon storage	Coastal areas, beaches

Source: Bueger&Liebetrau. Critical Maritime Infrastructure Protection: What's the trouble?, Marine Policy, 155: 105772, 2023

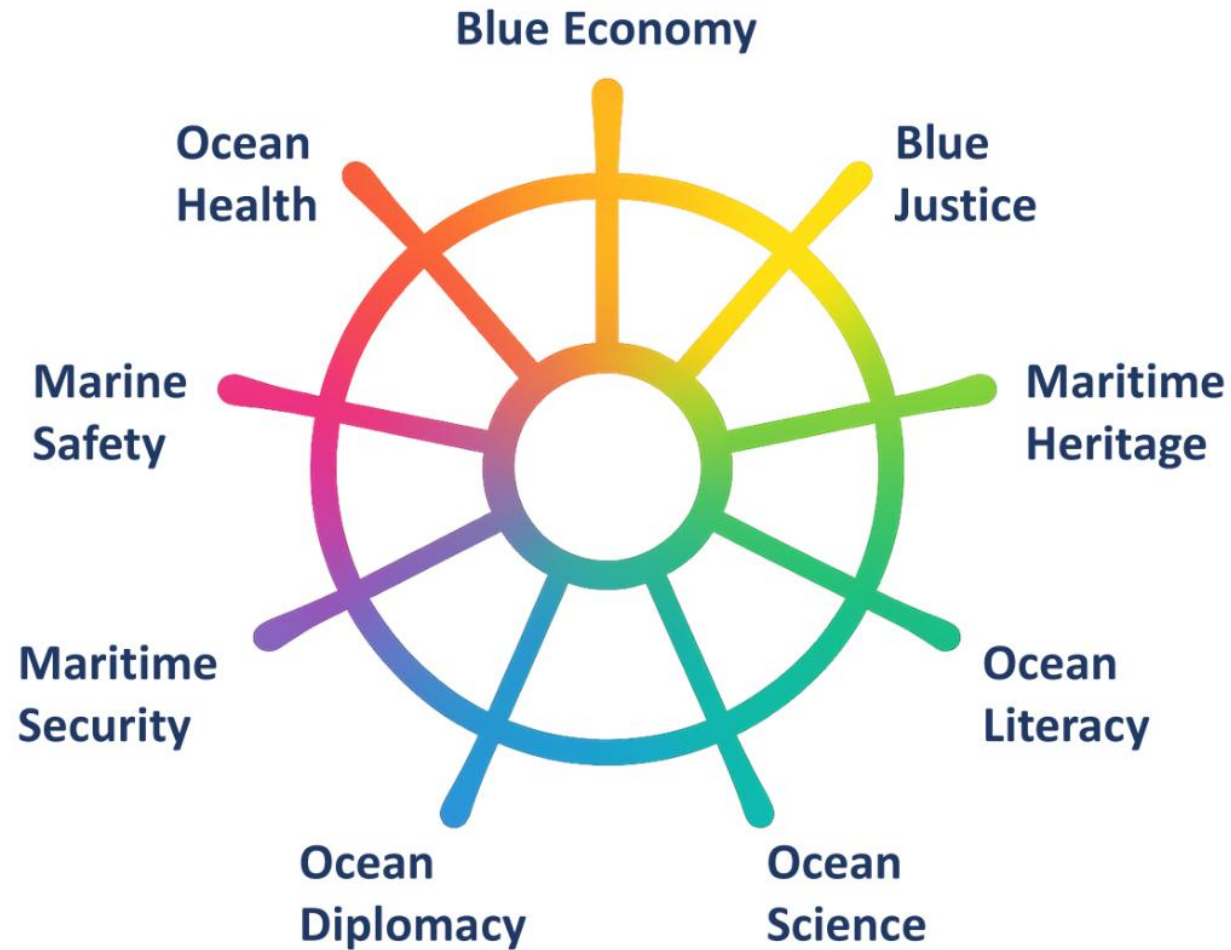
What are the threats?



Dilemmas

- **Securitization dilemma**
 - Short term threat logic vs. sustainable economic investments
 - High political attention vs. technical needs
- **Militarization dilemma**
 - Dual use logic, can lead to dominating role of military organizations
- **Public-private dilemma**
 - Unclear responsibilities
 - public interventions, undermine market logics
- **Patchwork dilemma**
 - Too many initiatives from different directions (NATO, EUs, industries)
 - Regional seas vs. continental

Action step 1: beyond 'dual use'



Action step 2: improve consultative fora

- **Enhance transparency**
 - Mapping of initiatives
- **Learning across regional seas**
 - (Nordic-Baltic, Med, Atlantic, beyond)
- **Industry leadership**
 - Cross-industry conversations
- **Educate political elites**
 - ICPC as template

Pathways for action

- Fuzzy agenda
- Securitization risks
- Counter 'dual-use' agenda
- Industry leadership
- Awareness strategies

Stay in touch

