



U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND
INTERNATIONAL MILITARY LAW AND OPERATIONS CONFERENCE

MILOPS



37th ANNUAL CONFERENCE | 03-06 AUGUST 2026 | KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

Welcome to *MILOPS*!

Welcome to the 37th annual international Military Law & Operations strategic engagement

The United States is an Indo-Pacific nation, the Indo-Pacific being a key strategic priority for U.S. defense policy. Our framework is Peace through Strength, which relies on credible military power, forward-postured forces, and resilient alliances to deter aggression. Shared security requires shared responsibility, and allies and partners play a critical role in deterrence. The Department of War continues to prioritize the Indo-Pacific as the most consequential theater where the stakes for global security, economic prosperity, and strategic competition are most acute.

SAFE-GUARD THE RULE OF LAW



We are honored to be co-hosting this year's MILOPS with the Malaysian Ministry of Defense in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Furthermore, we are excited to have a record attendance at MILOPS this year. The strength of the alliances and partnerships reflected by your attendance today are based on concrete alignment of national interests and shared priorities: freedom of the seas and commerce, a safe and secure maritime domain, peaceful resolution of disputes, and respect for the sovereign rights of all nations.

The clarity of our shared interests fosters trust, maximizes resolve, and reflects our combined combat power and whole-of-government deterrent capabilities. This week's MILOPS will reinforce a foundational belief that must guide our actions. To preserve peace and prosperity, we must safeguard the Rule of Law as the bedrock of global stability and protector of sovereign rights. Each independent state has a voice and has a responsibility for peace.

PEACE IS NEVER PASSIVE

Effective deterrence ensures that aggression remains an irrational and prohibitively costly choice for any revisionist actor. The U.S. Joint Force achieves deterrence by building and maintaining a lethal, ready, and forward-deployed combat capability. But the United States does not stand alone. You, our allies and partners, represent our true strategic center of gravity and our greatest advantage against any would-be adversary. Hostile actors can build hulls and amass missiles, but they cannot build the organic trust, deep institutional bonds, and combat-capable interoperability represented by the 30-plus nations in this room. Events like MILOPS are not mere academic exercises; they send an unmistakable message of our combined capability, shared interests and our collective will to deter aggression across every square inch of this theater.

The Honorable Dr. Kao Kim Hourn,
Secretary General of ASEAN

This year we are delighted to host The Honorable Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, the Secretary General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The U.S. supports a strong and independent ASEAN and is committed to helping the organization implement its vision for a stable and prosperous region.

I thank you for your participation in MILOPS and hope you have a great week. I urge you all to protect peace, stability and security, through combat readiness, strong multinational cooperation, transparency, and unyielding legal strength. In this decisive decade, the difference between stability and catastrophic conflict may depend on the concrete actions, relationships, and the trust that you forge at MILOPS this week.

Thank you for your dedication, thank you for your service to your nations, and thank you for your commitment to our shared security.



Admiral Samuel J. Paparo, USN
Commander, U.S. Pacific Command



From the Seabed to Space: Advancing Security, Freedom, and Prosperity for All Across the Indo-Pacific.

USINDO-PACOM is forward-postured and executing daily deterrence operations with our allies. This posture ensures we are ready to respond to any aggressive action. Our network of strong alliances and partnerships is a decisive asymmetric advantage that our strategic competitors cannot match. It is the primary vehicle through which we amplify and uphold stability in the region.

we can respond deci-

our power

It is the primary vehicle through which we amplify and uphold stability in the region.



The Honorable Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Bin Nordin
Minister of Defense, Malaysia

The Honorable YB Dato' Seri Utama Haji Mohamad bin Haji Hasan
Minister of Foreign Affairs Malaysia

The Honorable Atty. Gilberto C. Teodoro Jr.
Secretary of National Defense, Philippines

The Honorable Dr. Kao Kim Hourn,
Secretary General, Association of Southeast Asian Nations

The Honorable Ambassador Kevin Kim
United States Ambassador to the Association of
Southeast Asian Nations

The Honorable Thomas G. DiNanno
Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, U.S.
State Department

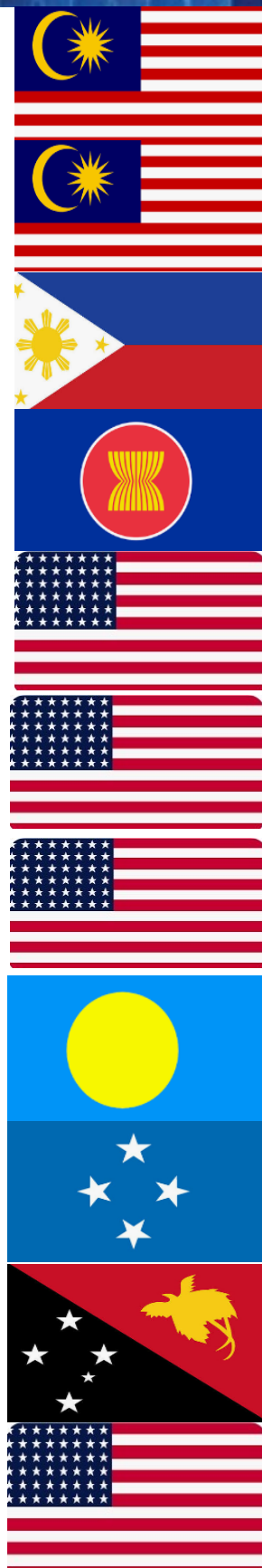
The Honorable Michael D. DeSombre
Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs,
U.S. State Department

The Honorable Jennifer S. Olegeriil
Minister of Justice, Palau

The Honorable T.H. Leonito Bcalando Jr.
Secretary for the Department of Justice and Attorney General,
Federated States of Micronesia

The Honorable Dame Meg Taylor
Former Secretary General Pacific Island Forum and
Member of Pacific Voice

The Honorable Earl G. Matthews
General Counsel, U.S. Department of War





Admiral Samuel J. Paparo

Commander, United States Pacific Command

General Tan Sri Dato' Seri Haji Malek Razak Bin Sulaiman,

Chief of Defense Force, Malaysian Armed Forces

Vice Admiral Aaron Beng

Chief of Defense Force, Singapore Armed Forces

Admiral Datuk Haji Mohd Rosli Bin Abdullah,

Director General, Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency

Admiral Tan Sri Dr. Zulhelmy Bin Ithnain

Chief of Navy, Malaysian Armed Forces

General Tan Sri Azhan Bin Hj Md Othman

Chief of Army, Malaysian Armed Forces

General Tan Sri Dato' Sri Haji Muhamad Norazlan Bin Aris

Chief of Air Force, Malaysian Armed Forces

Vice Admiral Justin Jones,

Chief of Joint Operations, Joint Operations Command,

Royal Australian Navy

Lieutenant General Derek Macaulay, Indo-Pacific

Senior Military Representative to the Indo-Pacific, Canadian Armed Forces

Rear Admiral Weniell A. Azcuna,

Commander of the Coast Guard Fleet,

Philippines Coast Guard

Rear Admiral Jay Tarriela,

Commander, West Philippine Sea Transparency Group

Lieutenant General Dato' Tengku Muhammad Fauzi bin

Tengku Ibrahim,

Joint Force Commander, Malaysian Armed Forces





U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND

MILOPS 2026



FROM THE SEABED TO SPACE: ADVANCING SECURITY, FREEDOM AND PROSPERITY FOR ALL ACROSS THE INDO-PACIFIC

U.S. Pacific Command's annual international Military Law and Operations strategic engagement supports candid dialogue, enhanced partnerships and strengthened cooperation for shared objectives including the Rule of Law, the peaceful resolution of disputes, freedom of navigation and overflight and advancing the security, freedom and prosperity of all nations.

3-6 AUGUST, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA



30+
NATIONS

37TH ANNUAL

55 GUEST SPEAKERS
& EXPERT PANELS



VISIT MILOPS
2026



Transparency is the ultimate
tool for
Accountability

Alliances and partnerships
are a vital deterrent to
conflict

We are stronger together

ALLIES² = EXPONENTIAL DETERRENCE

MILOPS empowers nations to address common challenges and to determine how we can better work together to deter and respond to coercion, aggression and legal warfare in the region. We are stronger together. By strengthening legal interoperability, expanding combined exercises, and enhancing information sharing, we are building a resilient, integrated security architecture capable of defeating aggression and maintaining regional stability.



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Sunday, 2 August, 2026

1200-1800	MILOPS Conference Registration	Collect Security Badge and Welcome Packet
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Monday, 3 August, 2026

0700-0730	MILOPS Conference Registration	Collect Security Badge and Welcome Packet
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0800-0815	MILOPS Introduction	Captain Dustin Wallace, SJA USPACOM
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0815-0830	Open Keynote: Welcome to Malaysia	The Honorable Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin Malaysian Minister of Defence
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0830-0900	Keynote: ASEAN Centrality in the Context of Maintaining Peace, Security and Prosperity in the Indo-Pacific	The Honorable Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast
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0900-0930	Philippine Perspectives on Regional Security Threats	The Honorable Gilberto Teodoro Jr.,
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0930-1000	The Strategy of the Commander of U.S. Pacific Command: Prevail Forward	Admiral Samuel Paparo, Commander USPACOM
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1000-1045	MILOPS Photo and Morning Tea	
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1045-1115	Arms Control and International Security	The Honorable Thomas G. DiNanno, Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, U.S. State Department
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1115-1145	Comprehensive Strategic Partnerships in the Indo-Pacific	The Honorable Michael G. DeSombre, Assistant Secretary Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, U.S. State Department
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1145-1215	Security Perspectives of Malaysia	General Tan Sri Dato' Seri Haji Malek Razak Bin Sulaiman, Chief of Defence Force, Malaysia
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1215-1330	Provided Buffet Lunch	MILOPS participants
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1330-1400	Partners in Prosperity	The Honorable Kevin Kim, U.S. Ambassador to ASEAN
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1400-1500	Panel: Operational Commanders: Cooperation and Interoperability for Security, Freedom and Prosperity for All across the Indo-Pacific	Moderator: CMDR Jacqueline Swinton, USPACOM Vice Admiral Justin Jones, Chief of Joint Operations, Australian Defence Force Vice Admiral Aaron Beng, Chief of Defence Force, Singapore Armed Forces Lieutenant General Dato' Tengku Muhammad Fauzi bin Tengku Ibrahim, Joint Forces Commander, Malaysian Armed Forces Rear Admiral Weniel A. Azcuna, Commander of the Coast Guard Fleet, Philippines Coast Guard
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1500-1530	Afternoon Tea	
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1530-1600	How to avoid War in the Indo Pacific	Dr. Collin Koh Swee Lean, S. Rajaratnam School of International Legal Studies, Singapore
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1900-2100	Welcome MILOPS Reception	Conference Room Foyer- Civilian Cocktail attire
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From the Seabed to Space: Advancing Security, Freedom, and Prosperity for All Across the Indo-Pacific

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Tuesday, 4 August, 2026

0830-0900 The Criticality of Maritime Domain Awareness: Understanding the Regional Maritime Picture Mr. Greg Poling, Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative

0900-0930 Why Should We Care About the Indo-Pacific? Mr. Ray Powell, Director SeaLight

0930-1000 Regional Maritime Dynamics in the Indo-Pacific Ms. Jen Parker, UNSW Canberra, National Security Law College, Australian National University

1000-1030 Morning Tea

1030-1200 Keynote Panel:
10th Anniversary of the 2016 Unanimous, Final and Binding South China Sea Arbitral Tribunal Award

Moderator: Mr. Robert B. Harris, U.S. State Department
Mr. Larry Martin, U.S. Senior Counsel for the South China Sea Arbitration
Professor Jay Batongbacal, University of the Philippines College of Law

1200-1230 Contested Logistics in the Indo-Pacific Mr. Jose Cora, General Counsel, Defense Logistics Agency

1230-1330 Provided Buffet Lunch MILOPS participants

1330-1500 Panel : Coast Guard Cooperation: Maritime Security across the Indo-Pacific Moderator: CDR Karl Mueller, U.S. Coast Guard

First Admiral, Vincent Rajamony, Deputy Director Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency
First Admiral Askari, Director for Cooperation, Indonesia Coast Guard, Bakamla
Rear Admiral Jay Tarriela, Commander– West Philippine Sea Transparency Group, Philippines Coast Guard

1500-1530 Afternoon Tea

1530-1700 Panel: Countering Transnational Crime at Sea Moderator: CAPT George Howell, USN, Joint Interagency Task Force West

Mr. Charlie Brown, United Against Nuclear Iran (Fuel Smuggling in East Asia)
Brigadier General Emmanuel Boiteau, French Armed Forces (Counter-Narcotics)
Mr. Allan Rahari, Director Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (Illegal Unregulated Unreported Fishing)
First Admiral (M) Sharef Steve MacQueen bin Abdullah, Director Maritime Criminal Investigation Division, Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency

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Wednesday, 5 August, 2026

0830-0900	Legal Support across Full Spectrum Operations	The Honorable Earl Matthews, General Counsel, U.S. Department of War
0900-0930	Cultural Warfare and the Plundering of Marine Resources	Dr. Ian Ralby, Maritime Expert, President, Auxilium Worldwide
0930-1000	Information Operations, Digital Authoritarianism and the Rule of Law	Ms. Athena Tong, University Tokyo and Pacific Forum
1000-1030	Morning Tea	
1030-1145	Panel: The Future Security of the Polar Regions	Moderator: Professor Kate Friedman, Ted Stevens Centre for Arctic Security Studies Dr. Elizabeth Buchanan, Australian Strategic Policy Institute Professor Anne Marie Brady, University of Canterbury, New Zealand Lieutenant General Derek Macaulay, Indo-Pacific Regional Representative to Chief of Defence Staff, Canadian Armed Forces
1145-1230	TJAG Panel: Advancing Indo-Pacific Security- The U.S. JAG Role in Multi-Domain Deterrence	Moderator: CDR Timothy Boyle, U.S. Seventh Fleet Major General David J. Bligh, The Judge Advocate General U.S. Navy Major General Bobby Christine, The Judge Advocate General U.S. Army Major General Christopher Tolar, Staff Judge Advocate to the Commandant of the Marine Corps
1230-1330	Provided Buffet Lunch	MILOPS participants
1330-1500	Pacific Island Security and Prosperity: Perspectives of the 'Big Ocean States'	Moderator: Dame Meg Taylor, Papua New Guinea, Former Secretary- General Pacific Island Forum and Member of Pacific Island Voice The Honorable Jennifer S. Olegeriil, Minister of Justice, Palau The Honorable T.H. Leonito Bacalando Jr. Secretary at the Department of Justice and Attorney General, Micronesia Mr. Douveri Henao, Geopolitical Analyst and Foreign Policy Advisor, Papua New Guinea Mr. Benedict Philip, Lead Analyst, Office of the National Security Advisor, Vanuatu
1500-1530	Afternoon Tea	
1530-1600	Modern Application of the Geneva Conventions	Mr. Sylvain Vite, Senior Legal Advisor, International Committee of the Red Cross
1600-1630	Supply Chain Resilience and Cross-Border Strategies	Ms. Apoorba Banerjee, ASEAN Strategy Lead for Osborne Engineering
1630-1700	Cognitive Warfare: Countering Coercion, Interference and Legal Warfare	Dr. Joanna Siekiera, University College of Professional Education, Poland

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Thursday, 6 August, 2026

0830-0900	The Law of Armed Conflict and Advanced Technology	Professor Masahiro Kurosaki, Tohoku University School of Law
0900-0930	The Evolution of Space Law	Major Steve Garman, United States Space Command
0930-1000	The Wayfarer Manual	Professor Dale Stephens, University of Adelaide
1000-1030	Morning Tea	
1030-1200	Panel: Senior Regional JAGs—Contemporary Legal Challenges and Opportunities in the Indo-Pacific	Moderator: CDR Timothy Boyle, USN U.S. Seventh Fleet
	Air Commodore Chris Taylor, Director General Military Legal Service Major General Robin Holman, Judge Advocate General, Canadian Armed Forces Colonel Kitione 'Tui' Tunaosara, Director Legal, Royal Fijian Military Forces Commander Alban Merlin-Aubert, Head of Law Enforcement at Sea, French Armed Forces Captain Isamu Kaji, Legal Affairs General, Japan Joint Staff Brigadier General James Kennedy-Good, Head Legal Services, New Zealand Armed Forces Colonel Saturnino S. Diaron Jr., Chief, International Law & Special Projects, Armed Forces Philippines Colonel Kajoon Song, Judge Advocate, Republic of Korea Air Force Air Commodore Kevin Sanders, Deputy Director Legal Service, Royal Air Force, United Kingdom	
1200-1230	MILOPS26 in Review	Captain Dustin Wallace Staff Judge Advocate, USPACOM
1230	Collect MILOPS Group Photo, Coin and Certificate	MILOPS participants
1230-1330	Provided Buffet Lunch	MILOPS participants
1430-1700	Multilateral Counter-Lawfare Working Group	All welcome

MILOPS 2026: OFFICIAL PHOTO ACCESS

Thank you for attending the 37th Annual MILOPS Conference.
Access and download high-resolution event photos here.



SCAN TO ACCESS

1. Open your camera app.
2. Point at the code.
3. Tap the link to view and download photos.

For questions or support, please visit the Public Affairs desk.

**Thank you for your participation.
Access and Download all of the
MILOPS photos here!**

From the Seabed to Space: Advancing Security, Freedom, and Prosperity for All Across the Indo-Pacific

The 10th Anniversary of the Unanimous, Final and Binding South China Sea Arbitral Award

On **12 July 2016**, an Arbitral Tribunal lawfully constituted under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provided a unanimous, final, and legally binding arbitral award (the "Award") rejecting many of China's sweeping SCS maritime claims as unlawful.

China continues to reject the binding decision and pursue their unlawful, expansive maritime claims in violation of UNCLOS and the Arbitral Award. China's coercive, aggressive and dangerous actions are destabilizing the region and infringing on the sovereignty and sovereign rights of its neighboring states as well as all states entitled to UNCLOS freedoms of the high seas.

Joint Statement by 14 countries shows unwavering support for UNCLOS and the Award

The Governments of the United States of America, Australia, Canada, Estonia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, New Zealand, the Republic of the Philippines, Romania, Slovenia, and the United Kingdom showed their support in a Joint Statement, reaffirming:

1. their unwavering commitment to maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific that is peaceful, stable, and rules-based, anchored in international law;
2. that maritime disputes must be resolved peacefully and in accordance with UNCLOS and that the Award is a significant milestone and is final, legally binding, and definitive between China and the Philippines with respect to the maritime entitlements and claims addressed by the Arbitral Tribunal.
3. the decision that there is no legal basis for China's expansive maritime claims in the South China Sea, including those based on "historic rights", underscoring the importance of upholding freedom of navigation and overflight, as well as other internationally lawful uses of the sea, as reflected in UNCLOS.
4. strong opposition to any destabilizing or unilateral actions, including by force or coercion, that threaten peace and stability in the region. And reaffirm strong opposition to the use of coast guard, military, and maritime militia forces to harass, obstruct, or intimidate lawful operations by other States at sea or in the air, and in so doing endanger the safety of personnel and fishermen and seriously degrade regional peace and security.
5. They urge the parties to abide by the Award and resolve disputes peacefully through dialogue and other lawful mechanisms in accordance with international law.



REFUTING CHINA'S CLAIMS: THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ARBITRAL AWARD

CHINA SAYS...

- Award is "nothing but a piece of wastepaper"
- Award is "null and void"
- Award has "no binding force"
- The nine-dash line is a legitimate legal claim of China's sovereignty and jurisdiction via 'historic rights'.
- China will resolve disputes through peaceful bilateral negotiations and cooperation.
- The Arbitration initiated by the Philippines was a provocation and is destabilizing the region.

INTERNATIONAL LAW SAYS...

- The Award is unanimous, final and binding decision of an international court
- The Award is final and legally binding on China in accordance with Article 296 UNCLOS
- China signed UNCLOS in 1982 and ratified it in 1996. China is legally bound by the UNCLOS provisions and dispute mechanism features; China has a duty to comply under international law; China's non-compliance is dishonorable.
- The nine-dash line, and any sovereignty or jurisdictional claims within, is unlawful so far as it is inconsistent with the relevant provisions of UNCLOS.
- China is using coercive, aggressive and dangerous actions in the South China Sea that are destabilizing and infringing on the sovereignty and sovereign rights of its neighboring states as well as all states entitled to UNCLOS freedoms of the high seas.
- Philippines had a lawful right to initiate dispute resolution mechanisms under UNCLOS. The Philippines sought to resolve the maritime dispute peacefully and in accordance with international law. China's non-compliance since 2016 is destabilizing the region.

2016 ARBITRAL AWARD

14 NATIONS SAY CHINA'S SOUTH CHINA SEA CLAIMS REMAIN ILLEGAL

The US, UK and 12 other countries have backed the 2016 South China Sea arbitration ruling against China. The joint stance sharpens pressure on Beijing and underlines rising alarm over coercive actions at sea.



Counter-lawfare seeks to deny potential adversaries from using “legal warfare” as a tool for coercion, intimidation, or false legal pretext for aggression, by exposing and opposing the misuse, abuse and/or manipulation of the law. In practice, counter-lawfare rests on three lines of effort: legal vigilance (monitoring and responding to trends in the legal environment), support to operations in the information environment, and legal diplomacy to build legal consensus, resilience, and strength in numbers.

TOGETHER WE CAN EXPOSE AND OPPOSE THE MISUSE AND
MANIPULATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

Thursday, 6 August from 1430-1700, Mandarin Oriental Conference Room

- **Tactical Aids (TACAIDs)**- TACAIDs are the Center's signature briefing product — short, rapid-turn analyses of international law, including the Law of the Sea and the Law of Armed Conflict, used to counter false narratives or assess operational incidents in near-real time. Published topics have included the Taiwan Strait, marine data collection, high-altitude balloons, Freedom of Navigation Operations, and the Sierra Madre/Second Thomas Shoal and broader South China Sea gray-zone activity.

- ◆ **Weekly Legal Vigilance Updates**— the Counter-Lawfare Center's weekly Legal Vigilance product functions as a continuous early-warning radar — tracking legal maneuvers as they emerge so that commanders, diplomats, policy advisors, and legal advisors across the joint, interagency, and multinational community can identify and preempt false narratives and legal manipulation—and thereby deter coercion or aggression.

Join the Weekly Legal Vigilance Update List - uspacom.hmsmith.pcj0.list.j06-oplaw@us.navy.mil



USINDOPACOM Legal Vigilance Update
Issue #63, 10 April 2026

#USINDOPACOM



UNITED STATES INDO-PACIFIC COMMAND
COUNTER-LAWFARE CENTER

Preserving legitimacy and building legal consensus while exposing and opposing abuse of the law for coercive ends that threatens the freedoms, security, and prosperity of all States.

Transmitters:
Below please find the 6th edition of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command's (USINDOPACOM) (IATU). To access previous IATUs, please visit <https://www.paccom.mil/Doc/Advocacy/>.

Quote of the Week
"Today, Iran sells billions of dollars' worth of oil every month across China."

Tehran's Asian partner has dramatically increased the sanc sanctions have gotten tighter. It now takes nearly every drop from around 20% a decade ago. To make those purchases possible, clo closely with Iran to expand what U.S. officials and researchers sa world's largest sanctions evasion networks.

Payments are routed through smaller Chinese banks that a and less to lose if they are sanctioned by the U.S., making it hard companies established by Iran in Hong Kong and elsewhere hel Chinese refineries, known as "tankers," have become the primary China's state-owned energy giants, wary of upsetting Washington invoices and mislabeled crude have further disguised the trade.

All these moves—laid out in U.S. sanctions documents, pub by Western officials and researchers—have allowed Iran to ear revenue every year from China, and then launder it so it can be China is Iran's "chief partner in sanctions evasion," said Ma for Defense of Democracies, a Washington-based think tank. "Ira this war without the years of support that it has received from Ch

How China Helped Iran Circumvent the Ban on Oil

Barry Jones, Brian Spiegle, & Aze

Legal Vigilance Dispatch
USINDOPACOM Counter Lawfare Center

Remember the Rule of Law to Secure a Free and Open Indo-Pacific

A Wave of Cable Incidents Shone Light on Critical Undersea Infrastructure



Incidents:
- Cable cuts in the South China Sea
- Cable cuts in the Indian Ocean
- Cable cuts in the Persian Gulf
- Cable cuts in the Red Sea
- Cable cuts in the Mediterranean
- Cable cuts in the Black Sea
- Cable cuts in the Baltic Sea
- Cable cuts in the North Atlantic
- Cable cuts in the Arctic
- Cable cuts in the Antarctic

Incidents:
- Cable cuts in the South China Sea
- Cable cuts in the Indian Ocean
- Cable cuts in the Persian Gulf
- Cable cuts in the Red Sea
- Cable cuts in the Mediterranean
- Cable cuts in the Black Sea
- Cable cuts in the Baltic Sea
- Cable cuts in the North Atlantic
- Cable cuts in the Arctic
- Cable cuts in the Antarctic

Example: China's "Legal Warfare"

Method of warfare used to create a veneer of legitimacy to justify the China's unilateral actions. China seeks to gain "legal preponderance superiority" as a tool for coercion or pretext to justify legitimate aggressions.

China's coercive lawfare leverage

- Information → false misleading legal positions
- Barbed legal exploitation → "grey zone" operations to exploit loopholes of others;
- Intimidation → domestic coercion and co-opting opposition of high level;
- Indoctrination → broad dissemination of misinterpreted/misjudged, sovereignty rights;
- Pretext → legal action through 3rd parties to achieve coercive ends.

COUNTER-LAWFARE PROGRAM: COERCIVE MISUSE OF LAW

USINDOPACOM's Counter Lawfare Center seeks to build legitimacy through consensus and deny potential adversaries from gaining legal superiority.

Method USINDOPACOM's Counter Lawfare program focuses on three approaches

- Legal Vigilance: Study another country's actions in the legal domain to detect abuse of the law and mobilize partners' support.
- Legal Diplomacy: Engage with partner nation legal offices and academics on efforts to promote and uphold rule of law (e.g. build consensus on a partnership)
- Counter Lawfare: Engage with partner nation legal offices and academics on efforts to expose and counter lawfare (e.g. support for transparency, rule of law, and norms and international treaty actions that undermines law and order Indo-Pacific (e.g. Legal Vigilance Dispatch, Toolkit, also "TACARD")

Death of Diplomacy: Deteriorated of relations from undermining sovereignty and prosperity of all States, thereby preventing a free and open region.



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INTERNATIONAL MILITARY LAW AND OPERATIONS CONFERENCE



From the Seabed to Space:

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*“Celebrating 37 years of MILOPS,
thanks to our host nations from across the globe.”*

