

Continental Shelf Claims in the South China Sea: A Critique

Jay Batongbacal

E-mail Address: jay.batongbacal@gmail.com

Last May 2009, Vietnam and Malaysia filed with the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf their submissions for continental shelf areas in the South China Sea. These submissions prompted responses from the Peoples' Republic of China and the Philippines, which were duly rejoined. The submissions for continental shelf areas in the South China Sea, as expected, have introduced some complications to the South China Sea issues among the littoral ASEAN States and China. This paper examines the sequence of events and official statements made by the relevant States Parties and offers some commentary and critique of their wider implications, especially as they relate to the resolution of the long-standing issues in the South China Sea.



23-27 November • Manila, Philippines