

Conference Call for Papers

Beyond the Anglosphere: maritime strategy and policy outside the English speaking world

Date: 30-31 October 2025

Venue: Maynooth University (Ireland).

This conference is the launch event for a research project designed to explore maritime strategy and policy 'beyond the Anglosphere'.

The project is the result of a collaboration between the Centre for Military History and Strategic Studies (CMHSS) at Maynooth University and the Escola de Guerra Naval (EGN) (Brazilian Naval War College) and is led by Professor William Moreira (EGN) and Professor Ian Speller (CMHSS).

The aim of the project, and of this conference, is to develop a deeper understanding of maritime strategy and policy by exploring theory and practice beyond the dominant narrative that is most commonly explored and expressed through the English language. We aim to share viewpoints and insights from multiple countries and regions 'beyond the Anglosphere', addressing these within their own right rather than interpreting them through the lens provided by a traditional 'Anglo-centric' approach. Through this project we will promote understanding of the true complexity of global theory and practice, grounded in non-English language debates and sources, and foster engagement with a topic that is richer and more complex than one might suspect from a mono-lingual perspective.

For the purposes of this project the 'Anglosphere' is defined as those countries where English is the first language. Evidently this includes the United Kingdom and the United States, and countries such as Australia, Canada and New Zealand but we do not propose to adopt a strict definition of those that are 'beyond the Anglosphere'. Our hope is to encourage contributions from non-English speaking countries in Europe, Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Americas, and this may include those countries where English is an administrative or 'working language'.

We invite proposals from anyone interested in presenting papers, or organising panels, related to this topic. We are interested in works that explore theories of maritime strategy and ideas about naval warfare, particularly from authors and authorities that generally escape the notice of English speaking commentators. Similarly, we welcome papers that explore the true diversity of contemporary naval policy and practice and that explore the challenges and opportunities facing navies today, and into the future, discussed from a national perspective and not solely from the lens provided by great-power competition. Of course, we are also interested in papers that explore the way in which great power competition may be understood and interpreted at a local level, and the responses that this promotes.

The working language for this event will be English, to support our aim of engaging the widest possible audience and introducing those within the Anglosphere to the work of those from without.

At this point we invite applicants to submit a short proposal (of no more than 500 words) for presentations of 15 minutes, accompanied by a one-page CV . Applications should be submitted no later than 30 November 2024 and successful candidates will be notified shortly thereafter.

It is intended to publish a selection of conference papers in an edited volume. Here chapter submissions should be c.6000 words long (excluding references). However, those presenting at the conference will not be required to contribute to this volume if they do not wish to and note that acceptance to give a presentation does not necessarily imply that the associated paper will be included in the eventual publication. The editors will discuss such matters with individual contributors in due course.

The conference will be followed, in 2026, by a seminar in Rio de Janeiro and we hope to undertake future events, outside the Anglosphere, in the years ahead. Those who wish to discuss potential future collaborations are welcome to contact Professors Moreira or Speller.

Conference title: ‘Beyond the Anglosphere: maritime strategy and policy outside the English speaking world’

Conference date: 30/31 October 2025

Conference venue: Maynooth University, Maynooth, County Kildare, Ireland

Contact: please send proposals for papers and/or panels, or requests for additional information, to Professor Ian Speller at ian.speller@mu.ie noting ‘Beyond the Anglosphere Conference’ as the Subject.

About Maynooth: Maynooth is a historic town situated just 25km from Dublin city centre and 35km from Dublin Airport. The airport can be reached in around 40 minutes by car/taxi and the university has good public transport links (bus, coach, rail) to both the city centre and the airport. The university campus lies in the heart of the town, adjacent to a thirteenth century castle. There are numerous hotels within easy reach of the university and accommodation can be booked on campus (subject to availability) using the following link, <https://www.maynoothcampus.com/>



Brazilian Naval
War College