

THE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC LAW (CIPL)
ANU COLLEGE OF LAW PRESENTS:



PUBLIC FORUM

THE SIEV 36 INCIDENT

The Legal Issues and Policy Responses

Thursday, 7 May 2009, 6-7.30pm

Law Theatre, ANU College of Law

Bldg 5, Fellows Rd

The Australian National University

Enquiries to T: (02) 6125 0454

This event is free and open to the public.

Please RSVP by cob Monday 4 May to E: rsvp@law.anu.edu.au

On 16 April 2009, Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel (SIEV) 36 exploded and sank near Ashmore Island after having been detained by the Australian Border Protection Command. Tragically, five persons lost their life during this incident, and many sustained very serious burns and injuries. The subsequent repatriation of the injured to mainland Australia for hospitalisation and treatment was part of a significant medical evacuation operation involving both military and civilian authorities.

The SIEV 36 Incident unleashed an extensive debate within Australia as to the Rudd Government's current policy position with respect to asylum seekers coming to Australia by boat, the pursuit of people smugglers, and the factors which have contributed to a significant upsurge in boat arrivals from Indonesia during the course of 2009.

This CIPL Forum aims to address the significant legal and policy issues arising from these events especially as they relate to Australian refugee law and policy, the factors contributing to the greater numbers of asylum seekers attempting to reach Australia, the investigation into the SIEV 36 incident and the potential for criminal charges to be laid, and Australia's bilateral initiatives with Indonesia to deal with people smuggling.

SPEAKERS:

Mr Kerry Murphy: Migration Law Specialist & Partner –D'Ambra Murphy Lawyers, Sydney

Mr Richard Towle: Regional Representative, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Regional Office for Australia, NZ, PNG and the Pacific

Dr Gregor Urbas: Criminal Law Specialist & Senior Lecturer, ANU College of Law, The Australian National University

Dr Robin Warner: Senior Research Fellow, Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS), University of Wollongong

The views expressed in this seminar are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University.

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