

# **IMPACTS OF LANGUAGE: CREEPING JURISDICTION AND ITS CHALLENGES TO THE EQUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF UNCLOS**

Niquole, ESTERS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
King's College London  
niquole.esters@kcl.ac.uk

## **Abstract**

With the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea the international community attempted to create a comprehensive governance regime for maritime activities that would serve to benefit both coastal and non-coastal states. However the vague nature of some of the Convention's provisions have led to the creeping jurisdiction of coastal states. Claims to extended jurisdiction beyond which is expressly allowed within the Convention has led to its varied application within the international community. This paper will describe the creeping jurisdiction phenomenon as it relates to each of the major legal regimes of the treaty as well as the potential impact of such activities on the equal implementation of the Convention across all states a party to it.