

## **Harnessing Indigenous Knowledge and Technology for Sustainable Maritime Security in the South Atlantic**

*Thursday, 19 June 2025 15:00 (1h 30m)*

This roundtable explores the integration of indigenous knowledge within maritime governance and security frameworks across the South Atlantic and Caribbean, drawing from diverse case studies that illustrate broad regional experiences. The discussion highlights how traditional knowledge systems, combined with technical cooperation and technological innovations, contribute to resilient and sustainable security practices across the region. Interagency collaborations among South Atlantic and Caribbean nations, including recent contributions from Colombia, showcase efforts that leverage local expertise and technology to tackle complex challenges like smuggling, piracy and armed robbery at sea, human trafficking, and illegal fishing. Experiences from African, South American, and Caribbean contexts emphasize how indigenous and local insights and the deployment of technological tools can create effective, locally adapted security solutions. Indigenous and local knowledge in this context includes the deep understanding, practices, and cultural perspectives developed by communities closely connected to their environments over generations. These perspectives extend through coastal and riverine communities, bringing valuable insights into ocean currents, fishing areas, navigation techniques, and community-based security. The roundtable envisions a shift toward a security framework for the South Atlantic and Caribbean that respects local perspectives and fosters regional self-sufficiency. Exchanges of case-based insights aim to inspire a collaborative security paradigm rooted in indigenous and local knowledge and adaptable, technology-enhanced solutions across maritime security.

**Track Classification:** Africa and International Studies Working Group