

Abstract

Hesham M. Helal

GLOBAL TERRORISM and MARITIME GOVERNANCE

Maritime security has recently introduced an additional element into safety equation, i.e. deliberate action by people with intent to cause harm. Security has always been a great concern for military fleet and safety routinely exercise precautions have always been there to maintain the security of navy ships. Commercial vessels routinely employ special security measures under certain circumstances to prevent piracy, smuggling, illegal immigration stowaways. Those crimes are usually economically motivated, where massive destruction is not the goal. Acts of terror are usually politically motivated, and ships are prime targets because of their mobility and high potential for causing extensive damage to life, property, the environment, and transportation and economic infrastructure. This paper discusses the role of the maritime community in realizing that ships must be made less vulnerable to security threats, both at sea and while in port, in other words more prepared and safeguarded against risks of terrorism.