KERCH STRAIT · 25 NOVEMBER 2018

KERCH STRAIT, 25 NOVEMBER 2018: 24 SAILORS TAKEN AT SEA

On 25 November 2018 two Ukrainian navy artillery boats, the Berdiansk and the Nikopol, and the tug Yany Kapu sailed from Odesa for the Sea of Azov. Russian Coast Guard vessels blocked them at the Kerch Strait, held them for about eight hours, then chased them when they turned back, fired warning and then targeted shots, and seized all three with 24 servicemen aboard. Three were wounded. The UN's law-of-the-sea tribunal ordered their immediate release by 19 votes to 1. Russia freed the crews 286 days after the seizure, in a prisoner exchange; an arbitration on the detention is still pending.

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24

Ukrainian servicemen seized with three naval vessels; three crew members of the Berdiansk wounded [A]

ITLOS, Order on provisional measures, 25 May 2019, paras 31, 124

19–1

ITLOS vote ordering Russia to release the three vessels and the 24 servicemen immediately [A]

ITLOS, Order of 25 May 2019; ITLOS/Press 284

286

days the servicemen were held before release in a prisoner exchange on 7 Sep 2019 — 105 days after the order [C]

Hub calculation from ITLOS order (seizure 25 Nov 2018) and AP via PBS, 7 Sep 2019

66

states voted for GA resolution 73/194, which called for release of the vessels and crew (19 against, 72 abstentions) [A]

UN Digital Library, A/RES/73/194, 17 Dec 2018; UN press release GA/12108

BOTTOM LINE

A right of passage, met with gunfire. A 2003 agreement between Ukraine and Russia gives warships of both states freedom of navigation in the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait. On 25 November 2018 Russian Coast Guard vessels blocked three Ukrainian naval vessels, held them for about eight hours, and fired on them after they turned away.

An international tribunal ordered their release. On 25 May 2019 the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, by 19 votes to 1, ordered Russia to release the vessels and the 24 servicemen immediately. Russia did not appear at the hearing. The crews came home in a prisoner exchange on 7 September 2019; the vessels in November 2019, with equipment missing.

The detention is still before a tribunal. An arbitral tribunal under the Law of the Sea Convention held in 2022 that it has jurisdiction over the detention and over Russia's compliance with the ITLOS order. The merits have not yet been decided.

LEGAL QUALIFICATION IN THREE LAYERS

ORDER TO RELEASE THE THREE VESSELS AND 24 SERVICEMEN IMMEDIATELY (ITLOS, 19-1); ARBITRAL JURISDICTION OVER THE DETENTION AND COMPLIANCE (2022); GA RESOLUTIONS 73/194 AND 74/17 — ESTABLISHED

OBSTRUCTION OF TRAFFIC THROUGH THE KERCH STRAIT AND MILITARISATION OF THE BLACK SEA AND THE SEA OF AZOV, 2018 TO DATE — PATTERN

SEIZURE OF WARSHIPS OF A STATE WITH A TREATY RIGHT OF PASSAGE; UNLAWFUL DETENTION OF SERVICEMEN WITH IMMUNITY — HUB INFERENCE, POSITION

Established. ITLOS, 25 May 2019, by 19 votes to 1: Russia shall immediately release the naval vessels Berdyansk, Nikopol and Yani Kapu and the 24 detained servicemen and allow them to return to Ukraine; both parties shall refrain from aggravating the dispute. The Tribunal found prima facie that the use of force was 'in the context of a law enforcement operation rather than a military operation'. The Annex VII arbitral tribunal (27 Jun 2022, unanimous) has jurisdiction over the detention and over alleged breaches of the ITLOS order, but held the events of 25 November up to a point after the vessels left the anchorage to be military activities outside its jurisdiction; the merits are pending. The UN General Assembly (A/RES/74/17, 9 Dec 2019) expressed extreme concern at 'the unjustified use of force by the Russian Federation against Ukraine'. **Pattern.** The General Assembly records intentional obstruction of traffic through the Kerch Strait and the militarisation of the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait. **Position.** The hub's inference: the seizure of warships exercising a treaty right of passage, and the detention of their crews, breached the immunity the Law of the Sea Convention gives warships — pending the arbitral award.

WHAT WE ASK

Russia must comply in full with the ITLOS order of 25 May 2019 and with every ruling of the arbitral tribunal, including the return of all equipment and weapons seized from the vessels. Freedom of navigation through the Kerch Strait and in the Sea of Azov must be respected. Cite the ITLOS order and the General Assembly resolutions in every statement on the Black Sea.

Sources: A — ITLOS, Order on provisional measures, 25 May 2019, and ITLOS/Press 284; ITLOS case page (Detention of three Ukrainian naval vessels); Permanent Court of Arbitration, case page and press releases of 11 Jul 2022, 9 Dec 2025 and 5 Jan 2026, Procedural Order No. 11 (6 May 2026); UN General Assembly A/RES/73/194 (via press release GA/12108, 17 Dec 2018) and A/RES/74/17 (9 Dec 2019); UN Digital Library voting records; UN News, 26 Nov 2018; UN Security Council Repertoire 2018. B — Ukrainian Navy, 18 Nov 2019 (via Ukrinform); President of Ukraine website, 21 Nov 2019; Luhansk Regional Military Administration, 5 May 2022 (via Ukrainska Pravda). C — AP via PBS NewsHour, 7 Sep 2019; VOA, 28 Nov 2018; unofficial translation of the 2003 agreement (University of Hamburg) and FAOLEX/ECOLEX record. RU — V. Putin, 28 Nov 2018 (via Interfax, TASS, Reuters/The Moscow Times). All accessed 5 Nov 2026.

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KERCH STRAIT HOW IT HAPPENED

THREE VESSELS, ONE STRAIT, EIGHT HOURS

The Kerch Strait links the Black Sea with the Sea of Azov, on which the Ukrainian port of Berdiansk lies. Crimea, on the strait's western side, has been under Russian occupation since 2014 — 'temporarily occupied Crimea', in the General Assembly's words.

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24 Dec 2003	Ukraine and Russia sign an agreement at Kerch: merchant ships and warships of both states 'enjoy freedom of navigation in the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait'. [C] — Agreement on cooperation in the use of the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait, art. 2(1) (unofficial translation, University of Hamburg; FAOLEX record)
25 Nov 2018	Artillery boats Berdiansk and Nikopol and tug Yany Kapu, sailing from Odesa to Berdiansk, are blocked at the Kerch Strait by Russian Coast Guard vessels and held for about eight hours. Ukraine says a Russian vessel rammed one of its ships. [A] — ITLOS Order, 25 May 2019, paras 31, 71; UN News, 26 Nov 2018
25 Nov 2018	When the vessels turn away, the Coast Guard chases them and uses force — warning shots, then targeted shots. Three crew of the Berdiansk are wounded; all three vessels and 24 servicemen are seized. [A] — ITLOS Order, 25 May 2019, paras 31, 73
26 Nov 2018	Security Council: a Russian proposal for the agenda fails, 4 in favour, 7 against, 4 abstentions. The Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs urges both sides to refrain from 'any ratcheting up of actions or rhetoric'. [A] — UN News, 26 Nov 2018
28 Nov 2018	Vladimir Putin calls the incident 'without doubt a provocation' and says the vessels 'entered our territorial waters'. [C] — Reuters via The Moscow Times; Interfax, 28 Nov 2018
17 Dec 2018	General Assembly resolution 73/194 (66–19–72) expresses concern at the seizure of three Ukrainian vessels on 25 November and calls for the release of the vessels and crew. [A] — UN press release GA/12108; UN Digital Library, A/RES/73/194
1 Apr 2019	Ukraine starts arbitration under Annex VII of the Law of the Sea Convention; on 16 April it asks ITLOS for provisional measures. Russia declines to take part in the hearing (30 Apr). [A] — PCA case page; ITLOS case page
25 May 2019	ITLOS orders, by 19 votes to 1, the immediate release of the three vessels and the 24 servicemen. [A] — ITLOS Order, 25 May 2019; ITLOS/Press 284
7 Sep 2019	The 24 servicemen are released in an exchange of 35 detainees for 35 and flown to Kyiv. [C] — AP via PBS NewsHour, 7 Sep 2019; President of Ukraine website, 21 Nov 2019
18–21 Nov 2019	Russia hands back the three vessels in the Black Sea; at the Ochakiv naval base the President of Ukraine says 'some weapons were missing'. [B] — Ukrainian Navy via Ukrinform, 18 Nov 2019; President of Ukraine website, 21 Nov 2019
9 Dec 2019	General Assembly resolution 74/17 (63–19–66) welcomes the release of the 24 crew members and calls on Russia to return all seized equipment and weapons 'unconditionally and without delay'. [A] — A/RES/74/17, paras 9–10; UN Digital Library
27 Jun 2022	The arbitral tribunal rules unanimously that it has jurisdiction over the detention and over compliance with the ITLOS order; the blocking and firing fall outside it as military activities. [A] — PCA press release, 11 Jul 2022
5 Jan 2026	The merits hearing set for 8–9 January 2026 is postponed after the Russian-appointed arbitrator withdraws (tribunal notice of 21 December 2025); a new hearing is set for 9–10 July 2026. [A] — PCA press release, 5 Jan 2026; Procedural Order No. 11, 6 May 2026
24 Aug 2026	After a second change of arbitrator (Nguyễn Hồng Thao withdrew on 30 May; Alberto Székely appointed on 24 July), the tribunal postponed the July hearing on 12 June and fixed the merits hearing for 30 November and 1 December 2026, in person at the Peace Palace in The Hague. [A] — Procedural Order No. 12, 24 Aug 2026

WHAT THE RECORD SHOWS

The ITLOS order records that the Berdiansk and the Nikopol, artillery boats of the Ukrainian Navy, and the naval tug Yany Kapu left Odesa to transit the Kerch Strait to Berdiansk. Their status as Ukrainian naval vessels is not disputed.

Russian Coast Guard vessels blocked them and held them for about eight hours. When they turned away, the Coast Guard chased them and used force: warning shots, then targeted shots. The Berdiansk was damaged and three of its crew wounded.

WHO WAS TAKEN

24 servicemen — 22 sailors and two officers of the Security Service of Ukraine — were seized with the vessels and held in Russia. Russia opened criminal proceedings against them.

They were released 286 days later, on 7 September 2019, in an exchange of 35 detainees for 35. In 2022 one of the Yany Kapu crew was reported detained by Russian forces again, in occupied Svatove.

Sources: A — ITLOS, Order on provisional measures, 25 May 2019, and ITLOS/Press 284; ITLOS case page (Detention of three Ukrainian naval vessels); Permanent Court of Arbitration, case page and press releases of 11 Jul 2022, 9 Dec 2025 and 5 Jan 2026, Procedural Order No. 11 (6 May 2026); UN General Assembly A/RES/73/194 (via press release GA/12108, 17 Dec 2018) and A/RES/74/17 (9 Dec 2019); UN Digital Library voting records; UN News, 26 Nov 2018; UN Security Council Repertoire 2018. B — Ukrainian Navy, 18 Nov 2019 (via Ukrinform); President of Ukraine website, 21 Nov 2019; Luhansk Regional Military Administration, 5 May 2022 (via Ukrainska Pravda). C — AP via PBS NewsHour, 7 Sep 2019; VOA, 28 Nov 2018; unofficial translation of the 2003 agreement (University of Hamburg) and FAOLEX/ECOLEX record. RU — V. Putin, 28 Nov 2018 (via Interfax, TASS, Reuters/The Moscow Times). All accessed 5 Nov 2026.

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KERCH STRAIT THE EVIDENCE, BY TIER

A COURT ORDER, TWO ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS, A PENDING AWARD

The Kerch Strait seizure is one of the few acts of Russian force against Ukraine before 2022 to be examined by an international tribunal. The record is mostly Tier A.

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ESTABLISHED BY BODIES WITH A MANDATE

ITLOS, Order of 25 May 2019 (19–1): Russia shall immediately release the three vessels and the 24 servicemen; the passage of naval ships is not per se a military activity, and the dispute over the Kerch passage regime 'is not military in nature'. Annex VII arbitral tribunal, award of 27 June 2022: jurisdiction over the detention and over compliance with the order. A

UN General Assembly: A/RES/73/194 (17 Dec 2018) on the seizure and the release of the vessels and crew; A/RES/74/17 (9 Dec 2019) on 'the unjustified use of force' and the return of the vessels' equipment and weapons. A

UKRAINIAN INVESTIGATION

Ukrainian Navy, 18 Nov 2019: the return of the Nikopol, the Berdiansk and the Yany Kapu begins in the Black Sea (via Ukrinform). B

President of Ukraine, 21 Nov 2019, at Ochakiv: equipment and some weapons missing from the returned vessels; 22 sailors and two Security Service officers had been held. B

INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS

AP, 7 Sep 2019: the 24 sailors among 35 Ukrainians flown from Moscow to Kyiv in the exchange (via PBS NewsHour). C

VOA fact check, 28 Nov 2018: Putin's claim that the vessels 'entered our territorial waters' rated false, citing the 2003 agreement. C

THE NUMBERS — EVERY SOURCE, AS PUBLISHED

Figure	What it counts	Source · date · tier
24 · 3	servicemen seized · of them wounded	ITLOS Order, 25 May 2019 · A
19–1	vote ordering immediate release	ITLOS, 25 May 2019 · A
286	days in Russian detention	Hub calculation (ITLOS; AP) · C
66 · 63	states voting for GA resolutions 73/194 and 74/17	UN Digital Library · A

The facts of the day are taken from the ITLOS order, which was made at the provisional-measures stage; Russia did not appear and set out its view in a written memorandum. The arbitral tribunal has not yet ruled on the merits. The GA resolution 73/194 wording is taken from the UN press release of 17 December 2018.

Sources: A — ITLOS, Order on provisional measures, 25 May 2019, and ITLOS/Press 284; ITLOS case page (Detention of three Ukrainian naval vessels); Permanent Court of Arbitration, case page and press releases of 11 Jul 2022, 9 Dec 2025 and 5 Jan 2026, Procedural Order No. 11 (6 May 2026); UN General Assembly A/RES/73/194 (via press release GA/12108, 17 Dec 2018) and A/RES/74/17 (9 Dec 2019); UN Digital Library voting records; UN News, 26 Nov 2018; UN Security Council Repertoire 2018. B — Ukrainian Navy, 18 Nov 2019 (via Ukrinform); President of Ukraine website, 21 Nov 2019; Luhansk Regional Military Administration, 5 May 2022 (via Ukrainska Pravda). C — AP via PBS NewsHour, 7 Sep 2019; VOA, 28 Nov 2018; unofficial translation of the 2003 agreement (University of Hamburg) and FAOLEX/ECOLEX record. RU — V. Putin, 28 Nov 2018 (via Interfax, TASS, Reuters/The Moscow Times). All accessed 5 Nov 2026.

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KERCH STRAIT RESPONSIBILITY

A COAST GUARD OPERATION, DEFENDED FROM THE TOP

The vessels were stopped, fired on and seized by Russian Coast Guard vessels — Russia's 'border service', in Putin's words. Russia's President defended the seizure three days later. Russia, as a state, is the respondent before the tribunals.

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Who	Role in the case	Proceedings	Sanctions · courts
Russian Coast Guard of the Border Service	Blocked, chased, fired on and seized the three vessels (ITLOS order)	No individual proceedings located	—
Russian investigators and courts	Opened criminal proceedings against the 24 servicemen (ITLOS order)	ITLOS did not order the proceedings suspended; release ordered	—
Vladimir Putin President of the Russian Federation	Called the incident 'without doubt a provocation' and said the vessels 'entered our territorial waters' (28 Nov 2018)	Not a party; statement only	—
The Russian Federation	Respondent; did not appear before ITLOS; contests the arbitral tribunal's jurisdiction	ITLOS order, 25 May 2019; arbitration pending on the merits	—

CHAIN OF RESPONSIBILITY

The vessels were seized by state vessels of the Russian Coast Guard; the detention and prosecution were carried out by Russian state authorities. Responsibility rests with Russia as a state, which is why the case is state against state.

Russia's own account treats the incident as military: its memorandum to ITLOS called it 'manifestly a dispute concerning military activities'.

THE RUSSIAN STATE'S OWN ACTS

Russian memorandum to ITLOS, May 2019: a 'non-permitted "secret" incursion' into Russian territorial waters; Russia declined to take part in the hearing (note verbale, 30 Apr 2019).

Russian representative at the Security Council, 26 Nov 2018: Ukraine violated the border in an area described as Russian territory before 2014 (UN Security Council Repertoire, 2018).

Sanctions column: no designations checked for this case; a dash means none was verified. The individual commanders of the Coast Guard vessels are not named in the sources checked.

Sources: A — ITLOS, Order on provisional measures, 25 May 2019, and ITLOS/Press 284; ITLOS case page (Detention of three Ukrainian naval vessels); Permanent Court of Arbitration, case page and press releases of 11 Jul 2022, 9 Dec 2025 and 5 Jan 2026, Procedural Order No. 11 (6 May 2026); UN General Assembly A/RES/73/194 (via press release GA/12108, 17 Dec 2018) and A/RES/74/17 (9 Dec 2019); UN Digital Library voting records; UN News, 26 Nov 2018; UN Security Council Repertoire 2018. B — Ukrainian Navy, 18 Nov 2019 (via Ukrinform); President of Ukraine website, 21 Nov 2019; Luhansk Regional Military Administration, 5 May 2022 (via Ukrainska Pravda). C — AP via PBS NewsHour, 7 Sep 2019; VOA, 28 Nov 2018; unofficial translation of the 2003 agreement (University of Hamburg) and FAOLEX/ECOLEX record. RU — V. Putin, 28 Nov 2018 (via Interfax, TASS, Reuters/The Moscow Times). All accessed 5 Nov 2026.

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KERCH STRAIT FACT-CHECK · WHAT RUSSIA SAYS ABOUT 25 NOVEMBER

'THEY ENTERED OUR TERRITORIAL WATERS'

Three days after the seizure Vladimir Putin called it a provocation and said the Ukrainian vessels had entered Russian territorial waters. The 2003 agreement Russia signed, and the order of an international tribunal, say otherwise.

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VLADIMIR PUTIN · VTB CAPITAL 'RUSSIA CALLING!' FORUM, MOSCOW · 28 NOV 2018

"[They] entered our territorial waters."

Interfax, 28 Nov 2018

FALSE

Under the 2003 agreement, warships of Ukraine and Russia enjoy freedom of navigation in the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait (art. 2(1)). The General Assembly treats Crimea as temporarily occupied Ukrainian territory (GA/12108, 17 Dec 2018). ITLOS ordered the vessels released (19–1).

What the claim concedes: The waters are 'ours' only if the occupation of Crimea is accepted — which the General Assembly has refused.

VLADIMIR PUTIN · 28 NOV 2018

"It was without doubt a provocation."

Reuters, via The Moscow Times, 28 Nov 2018

NO EVIDENCE PRESENTED

The vessels were held for about eight hours and fired on after they turned away (ITLOS order, paras 71, 73). The General Assembly called it 'the unjustified use of force by the Russian Federation' (A/RES/74/17).

What the claim concedes: Nothing about why vessels turning back were chased and fired on.

FAIR TO SAY

The arbitral tribunal held that the events of 25 November up to a point after the vessels left the anchorage — including the firing — are military activities outside its jurisdiction. No tribunal will rule on the lawfulness of the firing in this case.

Putin's words are quoted in English translations by Interfax and Reuters; the official kremlin.ru transcript has not been checked for this draft.

Sources: A — ITLOS, Order on provisional measures, 25 May 2019, and ITLOS/Press 284; ITLOS case page (Detention of three Ukrainian naval vessels); Permanent Court of Arbitration, case page and press releases of 11 Jul 2022, 9 Dec 2025 and 5 Jan 2026, Procedural Order No. 11 (6 May 2026); UN General Assembly A/RES/73/194 (via press release GA/12108, 17 Dec 2018) and A/RES/74/17 (9 Dec 2019); UN Digital Library voting records; UN News, 26 Nov 2018; UN Security Council Repertoire 2018. B — Ukrainian Navy, 18 Nov 2019 (via Ukrinform); President of Ukraine website, 21 Nov 2019; Luhansk Regional Military Administration, 5 May 2022 (via Ukrainska Pravda). C — AP via PBS NewsHour, 7 Sep 2019; VOA, 28 Nov 2018; unofficial translation of the 2003 agreement (University of Hamburg) and FAOLEX/ECOLEX record. RU — V. Putin, 28 Nov 2018 (via Interfax, TASS, Reuters/The Moscow Times). All accessed 5 Nov 2026.

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KERCH STRAIT THE LAW AND WHAT WE ASK

WARSHIPS HAVE IMMUNITY; STRAITS ARE NOT WALLS

ITLOS found Ukraine's claim to immunity for its warships and servicemen plausible and ordered them released. The question now before the arbitral tribunal is whether Russia's detention of them breached the Law of the Sea Convention.

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ESTABLISHED — BY BODIES WITH A MANDATE

ITLOS, Order of 25 May 2019 (19–1): Russia shall immediately release the naval vessels and the 24 servicemen and allow them to return to Ukraine; both parties shall refrain from aggravating the dispute. Immunity of the vessels and servicemen found plausible (paras 97–98).

Annex VII arbitral tribunal, award of 27 Jun 2022 (unanimous): jurisdiction over the detention and over the alleged breaches of the ITLOS order; the events of 25 November up to a point after the vessels left the anchorage excluded as military activities.

UN General Assembly: A/RES/73/194 (17 Dec 2018) and A/RES/74/17 (9 Dec 2019), calling for the release of the vessels and crew and the return of all seized equipment and weapons.

PATTERN — WHAT THE RECORD SHOWS

The General Assembly records 'intentional obstruction of traffic through the Kerch Strait' (A/RES/74/17, para 8) and condemns the construction of the Kerch Strait bridge and the increasing Russian military presence in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov (GA/12108, 2018).

Russia's account — 'Russian waters' before 2014, a Ukrainian provocation — was put to the Security Council on 26 November 2018 and repeated by Putin on 28 November.

POSITION — UKRAINE'S QUALIFICATION

Ukraine claims that the detention breached the immunity of its warships and servicemen under the Law of the Sea Convention, and that Russia failed to comply with the ITLOS order; the merits are pending.

The hub's inference: the seizure of warships exercising a treaty right of passage, and the 286-day detention of their crews, were unlawful — pending the arbitral award.

THE RULES THAT APPLY

UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, arts. 29, 32, 95 and 96: definition and immunity of warships and government non-commercial ships (as applied by ITLOS, 25 May 2019).

Agreement between Ukraine and the Russian Federation on cooperation in the use of the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait (Kerch, 24 Dec 2003), art. 2(1): freedom of navigation for warships of both parties.

WHAT WE DO NOT KNOW

When the award on the merits will come: the hearing is set for 30 November – 1 December 2026 at the Peace Palace (Procedural Order No. 12, 24 Aug 2026).

Whether all equipment and weapons removed from the vessels were ever returned.

The fate of the Yany Kapu crew member reported detained again in 2022.

WHAT WE ASK

Comply with the ITLOS order and the arbitral rulings. Russia must comply in full with the order of 25 May 2019 and every ruling of the arbitral tribunal, and return all equipment and weapons seized from the vessels, as the General Assembly demanded.

Keep the Kerch Strait open. Respect freedom of navigation through the Kerch Strait and in the Sea of Azov, as the 2003 agreement and the General Assembly require.

Put the record on the record. In the Third Committee and in every Black Sea debate, cite the ITLOS order of 25 May 2019 and resolutions 73/194 and 74/17.

Support the arbitration to its end. Back the tribunal's completion of the merits and the publication of its award.

Sources: A — ITLOS, Order on provisional measures, 25 May 2019, and ITLOS/Press 284; ITLOS case page (Detention of three Ukrainian naval vessels); Permanent Court of Arbitration, case page and press releases of 11 Jul 2022, 9 Dec 2025 and 5 Jan 2026, Procedural Order No. 11 (6 May 2026); UN General Assembly A/RES/73/194 (via press release GA/12108, 17 Dec 2018) and A/RES/74/17 (9 Dec 2019); UN Digital Library voting records; UN News, 26 Nov 2018; UN Security Council Repertoire 2018. B — Ukrainian Navy, 18 Nov 2019 (via Ukrinform); President of Ukraine website, 21 Nov 2019; Luhansk Regional Military Administration, 5 May 2022 (via Ukrainska Pravda). C — AP via PBS NewsHour, 7 Sep 2019; VOA, 28 Nov 2018; unofficial translation of the 2003 agreement (University of Hamburg) and FAOLEX/ECOLEX record. RU — V. Putin, 28 Nov 2018 (via Interfax, TASS, Reuters/The Moscow Times). All accessed 5 Nov 2026.

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