ALL AT SEA:
RESCUE, INTERCEPTION AND POLICY RESPONSES TO MARITIME MIGRATION

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Migrants arriving on the island of Lesbos, Greece
FIVE CASE STUDIES

- The Mediterranean
- The Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea
- The Caribbean
- The Bay of Bengal, Andaman Sea and Straits of Malacca
- The Maritime Approaches to Australia
A Disaster in the Mediterranean
April, 2015
Maritime Migration Routes to Europe

Source: Kathleen Newland et al., All at Sea: The Policy Challenges of Rescue, Interception, and Long-Term Response to Maritime Migration (Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute, 2016), 45.
Skiff carrying 85 Somali and Ethiopian Migrants in the Gulf of Aden, 2010
Sixty-one were rescued, but 24 were missing or drowned
Maritime Migration between the Horn of Africa and Yemen

Source: Kathleen Newland et al., All at Sea: The Policy Challenges of Rescue, Interception, and Long-Term Response to Maritime Migration (Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute, 2016), 128.
A sailing boat carrying Haitian migrants in the Caribbean, 2004
Cuban migrants converted a 1959 Buick into a raft, 2004
Central America and the Caribbean

Source: OpenStreetMap.

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Migrants packed into an old commercial vessel used by smugglers in the Bay of Bengal
Maritime Migration Routes in SE Asia

The Australian Navy prepares to return a migrant boat
Maritime Smuggling Routes to Australia
Commonalities

- Unintended consequences
- Engineered helplessness
- Blind men and elephants
- Squeezing balloons
- Wicked problems
Policy responses (I)

RESCUE

- Humanitarian response
- Refugee protection
The pictures of Alan Kurdi’s body generated a new wave of humanitarian polices....but not for long
Policy Responses (II)

INTERCEPTION

- Border Protection
- National Security
- Organized Crime
Zero-tolerance Enforcement

If you come here by boat without a visa

YOU WON'T BE SETTLED IN AUSTRALIA
Migrant detention center on Nauru
International Cooperation

(Unilateral

- Only works for remote and/or island states)

Regional

- European Union
- Southeast Asia
- Caribbean

International

- Bilateral
- Global
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All at Sea is available for purchase at bit.ly/MPIAllAtSea

www.migrationpolicy.org