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01/08

KEY CONCEPT 006

Maritime Strategy

Choosing purposes, means and action over time.

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02/08

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

What deserves priority?

What maritime purposes
deserve priority,
with which means,
and at what cost?

Every choice leaves alternatives behind.

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CONCEPT EXPLAINED

Choosing how to act over time

Maritime strategy connects purposes with means and courses of action. It sets priorities, sequences choices and confronts uncertainty.

Within the Theory of the Maritime State, strategy examines how priorities and social support translate—or fail to translate—into decisions, effective capabilities and contributions to well-being.

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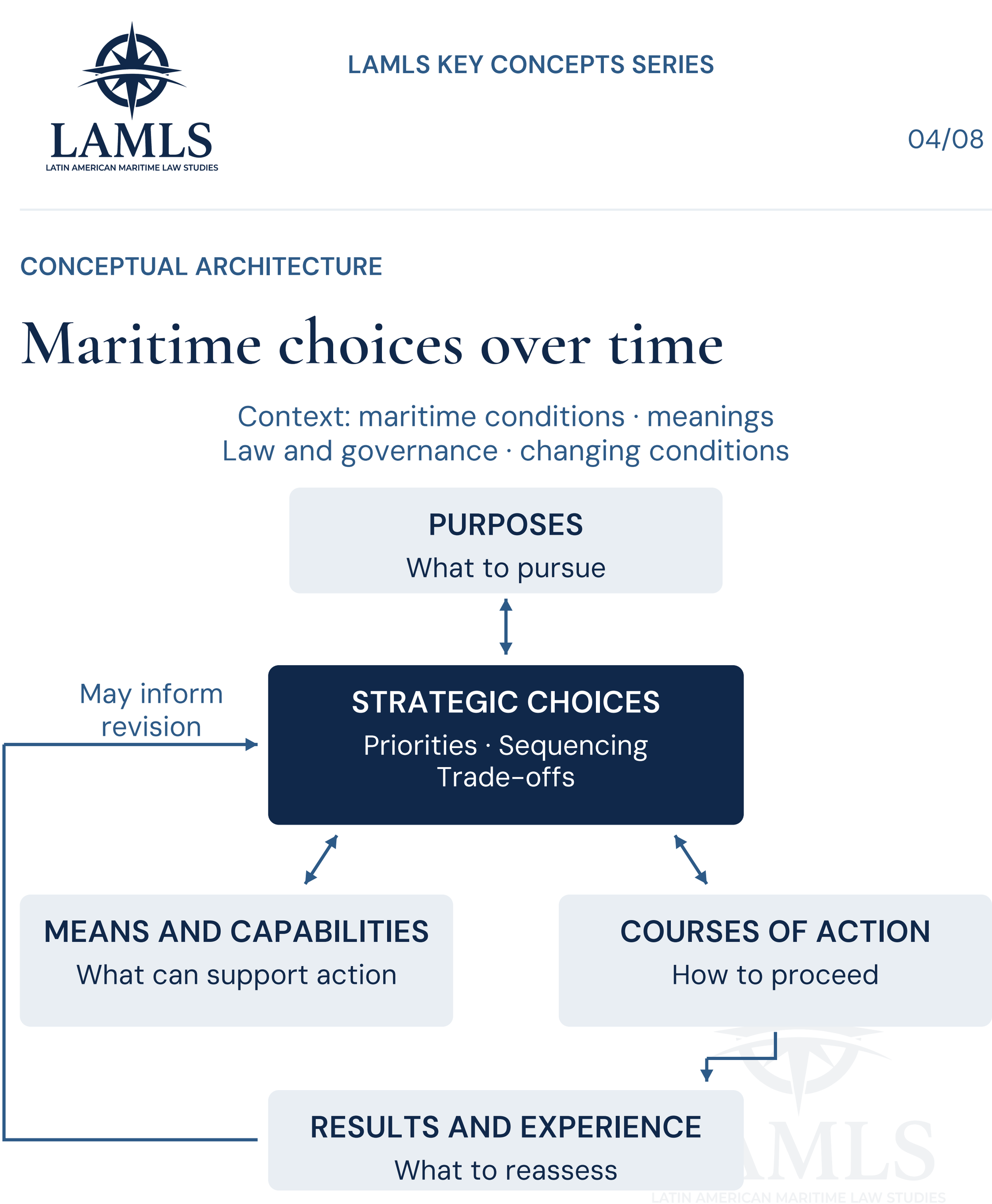
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CONCEPTUAL ARCHITECTURE

Maritime choices over time

Context: maritime conditions · meanings
Law and governance · changing conditions



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COORDINATED ACTION

Different roles, connected choices

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

Public priorities, lawful powers and continuity.

PRIVATE SECTOR

Investment, operations and innovation.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Participation, knowledge and scrutiny.

Include affected communities and scientific institutions. Coordination must address disagreement and identify responsibilities.

Within the Theory of the Maritime State, particular attention is given to how the State formulates and conducts its maritime strategy, within its competences and in relation to other actors.

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06/08

DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES

Six dimensions of maritime development

Assessing outcomes, not defining strategy.

01 **Material and operational**

02 **Human capital and its integration into employment**

03 **Economic integration**

04 **Institutions and effective law**

05 **Social benefits and human development**

06 **Environmental impacts and sustainability**

All regions should participate and benefit according to their verifiable possibilities, including inland regions.

Theory of the Maritime State, section 3.2

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FORMAL DEFINITION

Maritime Strategy

Maritime strategy is a set of choices through which an actor connects purposes concerning the sea and its linkages with means and courses of action.

It establishes priorities and sequences over time under uncertainty, risk and trade-offs, and guides the use and development of capabilities.

Its assumptions and choices may be explicit or inferred from practice, and may be maintained, revised or abandoned as circumstances and results change.

Strategic choice does not itself confer legal authority.

Roberto Arriola García, Teoría del Estado Marítimo (2026), annex, KC006.
English formulation approved on 6 October 2026.

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CLOSING QUOTE

“Maritime strategy should make clear which purposes guide action, what is committed, and what remains open to reconsideration.”

— LAMLS Key Concepts Series

Doctrinal basis: Roberto Arriola García, Teoría del Estado Marítimo (2026), annex, KC006.
Closing quote: LAMLS editorial formulation.

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