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Gavin Simmonds served in the Executive Branch of the Royal Navy as a first career before taking a Master's degree in Maritime Economics at the London School of Economics (LSE) and starting a varied commercial career in shipping.

After wide international shipping experience including 10 years with the Sea Containers group of companies working in corporate planning and operational management roles Gavin Simmonds joined The UK Chamber of Shipping where he specialises in Defence and Security. He is Chairman of the UK's newly formed National Maritime Security Committee (Industry) and secretary of the joint industry and government Shipping Defence Advisory Committee (SDAC). He is closely involved with UK counter-piracy policy and with EUNAVFOR Operation Atalanta, Gulf of Guinea & SE Asia developments and is a regular contributor on defence and security issues both nationally and internationally.

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