

MAKALE TAHLİLİ / REVIEW ARTICLE

The Present Status of the Mediterranean Sea as to the Maritime Law

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Abstract

The Mediterranean Sea is quite a sensitive sea area in terms of regulation of rights and interests due to its location, intensity of use, the number of surrounding states and. Here, it is important to know the jurisdictional areas of surrounding States and related disputes. This descriptive study clarifies jurisdictional areas of surrounding States and related disputes as well as certain environmental issues.

Keywords: *The Mediterranean Sea, Maritime Jurisdictional Areas, Maritime Disputes, Mediterranean States.*

INTRODUCTION

The name “Mediterranean” is said to be derived from a combination of two Latin words “medi” (middle) and “terra” (territory). It is an enclosed sea area in the middle of three continents, namely Africa, Asia and Europe. It stretches 2,400 miles (3,900 km) in length and 1,000 miles (1,600 km) in width on average. Its deepest point is 14,450 ft (4,400 m), off Cape Mattapan, Greece. It is connected to the Atlantic Ocean by the Strait of Gibraltar (*Estrecho de Gibraltar* in Spanish). It has connection to the Black Sea through the Strait of Dardanelle (Turkey), the Sea of Marmara (Turkey), and the Bosphorus (the Strait of Istanbul, Turkey). Finally, the Mediterranean Sea is connected to the Red Sea by the Suez Canal. (see the entry “Suez Canal”)

Mediterranean Sea has been a place for various civilizations basically due to its central location between the three continents. It has therefore been at the

heart of various interests- including those maritime-oriented, of many communities and States.

There are 22 states whose shores are washed by the Mediterranean Sea. These are Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, the Republic of Cyprus (that comprises the Southern and the Northern Cyprus which are know actually and politically separated), Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, and Turkey.,

Since the end of the World War II, expansion of the jurisdictional areas in the oceans conferring sovereign rights to the coastal States over the natural resources created sensitive jurisdictional and environmental problems especially in the enclosed and semi-enclosed seas like the Mediterranean Sea. In Article 122 of the 1982 Convention, an enclosed or semi-enclosed sea is described as a bay, basin or sea surrounded by two or more States, connected to another sea or ocean by a narrow outlet”, and “consisting entirely or primarily of the territorial seas and exclusive economic zones of two or more coastal States”.

Since these maritime areas are relatively narrow and surrounded by many States, where the interests of surrounding States are much more likely to conflict, such areas are particularly sensitive in terms of maritime delimitation issues, exploitation of various natural resources, and protection of marine environment.

The Law of the Sea Convention provides special regulations to balance the interests of neighboring States in the living resources, environment and scientific research. Article 123 of the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention provides in part that “States bordering an enclosed or semi-enclosed sea should cooperate with each other in the exercise of their rights and in the performance of their duties under this Convention.”

The areas of cooperation include management, conservation, exploration and exploitation of the living resources, the implementation of their rights and duties with respect to the protection and preservation of the marine environment, and carrying out of scientific research. Therefore, party States are put under a conventional obligation to coordinate the management, protection, exploration, and exploitation of the area.

Extent of the maritime areas and delimitation of them between adjacent or opposite States are not actually creating a widespread tension in the region. However, there are some continuing controversies over maritime borders either in terms of extent like establishment of baselines, extent of territorial waters or delimitation like delimitation of continental shelf and/or exclusive economic zone.

The Mediterranean Sea witnesses at least tendencies, not yet realities, towards cooperation for possible joint exploitation of the maritime resources. There are delimitation agreements like the one between Cyprus and Egypt signed in 2003, which mention possible joint exploration and exploitation. The Mediterranean Sea also witnesses cooperation among the bordering States against the prevention of pollution.

MARITIME AREAS OF VARIOUS JURISDICTIONS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Baselines

The States around the Mediterranean Sea apply one or both of the methods of normal or straight baselines from which all the maritime spaces are measured seaward.

Most of the North African States apply the method of straight baselines, a technique that combines the outermost points on the coast, including the coastal islands or rocks. Algeria, Egypt, Morocco apply the said method. Tunisia applies both straight and normal baselines system (a technique which follows the coastline at the low-tide) where appropriate. Libya has enacted no particular regulation indicating that the method of straight baselines is adopted.

Most of the Middle Eastern countries apply the system of normal baselines. This might be seen as a natural result as their coasts are not much indented. Lebanon has clearly adopted normal baselines that follow the low-tide coastal line. Israel has not enacted any regulation to adopt straight baseline system. Only Syria has openly declared that it adopts straight baseline system.

The straight baseline system seems to be taken as the appropriate method by most of the European countries, given the fact that their Mediterranean coastlines are relatively more indented. Albania and Croatia have established straight baselines on their coasts. Similarly, France, Italy, Malta, and Spain all

apply straight baseline system. Slovenia and Serbia apply both straight and normal baselines where appropriate.

Turkey has made no regulation to establish a straight baseline system although there sometimes appeared unofficial maps indicating straight baselines on the Aegean coasts, like the one prepared and published in May 1965 by the Turkish Office of Navigation, Hydrography and Oceanography. Greece has similarly made no regulation so that it applies normal baseline system on its Aegean or other Mediterranean coasts. Greek side of the Cyprus (Southern Cyprus) seems to have adopted straight baselines around its coasts, as appeared on the map submitted to the United Nations in 1996.

Territorial Waters

Territorial waters, (see, entry “territorial waters) which constitute an integral part of a coastal State’s territory, can be declared up to 12 miles according to both Article 3 of the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention and the relevant customary rules of international law. That is to say that State may and really do declare narrower territorial waters.

North African States on the Mediterranean coasts have mostly declared 12 miles territorial waters. Algeria is one of them. However, unlike many other Mediterranean States, the relevant Algerian regulation provides that foreign warships shall not enter the territorial waters without the consent of the Government. Egypt, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia have similarly fixed its territorial waters at 12 nautical miles. On the Eastern Mediterranean coasts, Syria, Lebanon, and Israel have also declared 12 miles territorial waters.

Cyprus is a special issue in this respect due to its political status. Although it has declared 12-mile territorial waters, there are special regulations concerning the British Bases on the Island. As annexed to the Treaty concerning the Establishment of the Republic of Cyprus of 19 August 1960, Annex A regulates the borders of the two sovereign bases of the UK: the Akrotiri Sovereign Base Area and the Dhekelia Sovereign Base Area. According to the Section 3 of the Annex A, 1, “the Republic of Cyprus shall not claim, as part of its territorial sea, waters lying between Line I and Line II as described in paragraph 2 of this Section, or between Line III and Line IV as described therein.”

Most of the European countries apply 12 miles territorial waters. On the southeastern Europe, Albania, Croatia, Slovenia, apply 12 miles territorial

waters. During the time of former Yugoslavia, territorial waters of Serbia were fixed at 12 nautical miles and it seems to be still retained by Serbia.

Further west, France, Spain, Monaco, Malta, and Italy apply the limit of 12 miles. The situations of Greece and Turkey are a bit complicated. With the Law No. 230 of 17 September 1936, the extent of the Greek territorial sea was fixed at 6 nautical miles from the coast, without prejudice to provisions in force concerning special matters, with respect to which the territorial zone shall be delimited at a distance either larger or smaller than six miles.” Similarly, Turkey applies 6 miles territorial waters but retracts the right to apply wider territorial waters by taking into account all special circumstances and relevant situations therein, and in conformity with the principle of equity. The Council of Ministers, decided that, in view of the characteristics of the seas surrounding Turkey and the principle of equity, the situation prevailing in the Black Sea and in the Mediterranean before the entry into force of the aforementioned law with regard to the breadth of the territorial sea would be maintained.

Contiguous Zone

Contiguous zone is a maritime area contiguous to territorial sea that may be declared by a coastal State up to 24 miles measured from the baselines (see the entry “contiguous zone”). In this maritime pocket, coastal States may exercise the control necessary to prevent infringement of their customs, fiscal, immigration or sanitary laws and regulations within their territory or territorial sea; and to punish infringement of the above laws and regulations committed within its territory or territorial sea.

North African States did not mostly declare such an area. Only Algeria and Morocco declared contiguous zones in the Mediterranean Sea. Among the Middle Eastern countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea, only Syria declared a contiguous zone of 24 miles.

The European countries have not declared contiguous zone in the Mediterranean Sea except for Cyprus and Malta. The Republic of Cyprus proclaimed a 24-mile contiguous zone measured from the baselines with the aim of preventing the infringement of custom, fiscal, immigration, or sanitary law or regulations within the territorial waters as well as to control traffic of objects of an archaeological and historical nature found in that zone. Malta declared a contiguous zone for the purposes “acceptable in international law”.

Fisheries Zone

Fisheries zone is a maritime area in which, a coastal State exercises exclusively rights concerning the fishery resources. The region may extend up to 24 miles from the baselines.

Only Libya among the North African States has declared a fisheries zone, under the name “fisheries protection zone”. However, the extent of the fisheries zone has been set at 62 nautical miles measured from the limit of the territorial waters, thus failing to comply with the relevant rules of international law.

Among the European States, Spain has declared a fisheries protection zone, in which Spain shall have sovereign rights for purposes of conservation of living marine resources, as well as for the management and control of fishery activities, without prejudice to the measures for protection and conservation of resources that have been or may be enacted by the European Union.

Continental Shelf

There is no legal requirement that the coastal States should declare continental shelf to acquire the entailing rights. In the zone of the continental shelf, which covers the seabed and subsoil up to at least 200 nautical miles, coastal States have exclusive rights of exploring and exploiting all the natural resources therein.

Some of the Mediterranean States enacted internal regulations as the exercise of these rights in that area. Egypt made a regulation concerning the continental shelf which provides that “no foreign person, natural or juridical, may exploit the natural resources indicated in the second article, prospect or search for them or undertake any research whatsoever in the continental shelves unless by a decision of the President of the Republic.”

Cyprus enacted legislation and regulated all the aspects of the continental shelf areas such as exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf. Malta made a regulation in 1966 concerning the continental shelf areas.

France regulated its continental shelf areas with the Act No. 68-1181 of 30 December 1968 relating to the exploration of the continental shelf and the exploitation of its natural resources according to the Geneva Convention on the Continental Shelf of 29 April 1958. It has been amended with the Act No. 77-

485 of 11 May 1977 to accord to the regulations at the level of the European Economic Community.

Exclusive Economic Zone

Unlike the continental shelf, there is a legal requirement for a coastal State to declare exclusive economic zone to be able to have the entailing rights. This is a maritime area beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea, which can be declared up to 200 miles from the baselines, in which coastal States have exclusive rights over the all natural resources such as sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources, whether living or non-living, of the waters superjacent to the seabed and of the seabed and its subsoil, and with regard to other activities for the economic exploitation and exploration of the zone, such as the production of energy from the water, currents and winds; marine scientific research; and, the protection and preservation of the marine environment.

It seems that a few Mediterranean States have declared exclusive economic zone. This is mainly due to the fact that the Mediterranean Sea is a narrow and semi-enclosed sea that could inevitably lead to complicated maritime delimitation disputes. Moreover, it may be preferable for the Mediterranean States to enjoy the fishery resources of the Sea without the divisions. Cyprus, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Croatia, Spain and France are those States which have declared EEZ in the Mediterranean Sea.

Delimitation of Maritime Areas

Due to the fact that the Mediterranean Sea is a narrow and semi-enclosed sea area, relatively wider maritime zones such as continental shelf and exclusive economic zone are needed to be delimited between the opposite or adjacent Mediterranean States. Moreover, as there are many States around the Mediterranean Sea whose coasts are adjacent to each other, the narrower maritime zones such as territorial waters, fisheries zone or contiguous zones have to be delimited too.

Algeria and Tunisia delimited their maritime areas by an agreement in 2002. However, this will be without a prejudice to the final delimitation of the maritime boundaries between the two countries. This agreement shall remain in force for 6 years following the date of exchange of the instruments of ratification between the two Parties. During this period, the Parties shall

conduct an evaluation of the implementation of this Agreement. At the end of the period specified above, the two parties undertake to conclude a final agreement on the delimitation of maritime boundaries. Alternatively, the two Parties agree to extend the period of the validity of this Agreement or to revise it.

Tunisia and Libya had made an agreement partially establishing the boundary between the continental shelf areas of the two sides in 1971. They disagreed on the rest of the boundary and brought the dispute to the ICJ in 1984, which was eventually settled through this way. Libya and Tunisia have also made an agreement in order to implement the Judgment of the International Court of Justice in the Tunisia/Libya Continental Shelf Case on 8 August 1988 by dividing the area into two sectors and specifying the coordinates of the boundary.

Egypt has concluded an EEZ delimitation agreement with Cyprus in 2003 which adopts the median line, every point of which is equidistant from the nearest point on the baseline of the two Parties.

Libya and Malta concluded an agreement on 10 November 1986 to implement Article III of the Special Agreement signed between the two countries on 23rd May, 1976, and the Judgment of the International Court of Justice, rendered on 3rd June, 1985, in the case concerning the continental shelf. The agreement also regulates the exploitation of possible resources straddling the boundary.

Delimitation of the maritime areas between Israel and Jordan in the Gulf of Aquaba was made with an agreement on the basis of the method of equidistance in 1996.

As annexed to the Treaty concerning the Establishment of the Republic of Cyprus of 19 August 1960, Annex A regulates the borders of the two sovereign bases of the UK the Akrotiri Sovereign Base Area and the Dhekelia Sovereign Base Area. According to the Section 3 of the Annex A, the Republic of Cyprus shall not claim, as part of its territorial sea, waters lying between the defined lines described therein.

The continental shelf area between Greece and Italy was delimited with the Agreement on the Delimitation of the Respective Continental Shelf Areas of the two States on 24 May 1977. With this agreement, they decided to establish

the boundary line between the respective continental shelf areas of the two States according to the principle of the median line.

Monaco and France delimited their respective maritime areas with the Convention on Maritime Delimitation between the Government of His Most Serene Highness the Prince of Monaco and the Government of the French Republic, 16 February 1984.

All maritime areas between the French Republic and the Government of Saint Lucia have been delimited by the Agreement on Delimitation between the Government of 4 March 1981.

An agreement was signed between Albania and Italy in 1992 to determine the division line of the border between the respective areas of the continental shelf in the Adriatic Sea and in the Otranto Canal. The line was determined on the basis of the principle of equidistance.

The boundaries of the continental shelf of the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Italy have been laid down by the 1968 Agreement between Italy and the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia signed an agreement to delimit their borders in 1999 in order to divide “the land, the sea and interior bodies of water, as well as the air space and underground space of the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.” As to the border at sea, the agreement provides that “the state border on the sea stretches along the central line of the sea between the territories of the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina in accordance with the 1982 UN Convention on Sea Rights.” Therefore, the parties have agreed on the equidistance line.

The areas of continental shelf were delimited between Italy and Spain by an agreement on the basis of the method of equidistance in 1974. Italy’s another delimitation agreement is with France in the Strait of Bonifacio in 1986. Delimitation agreement between Italy and the former Yugoslavia in 1971 concerned the delimitation of continental shelf areas in the Adriatic Sea and was based on arcs of the great circle between the points defined in values of latitude and longitude set forth in the other article of the treaty. Italy’s final delimitation agreement was with Tunisia in 1971 and concerned the continental shelf areas. The boundary was based on median line.

MARITIME DISPUTES

Maritime boundaries in certain sections of the Mediterranean Sea have not yet been established between the related States, which eventually leads to some maritime boundary disputes. One dispute concerns the status of the Gulf of Surt (Libya). Libya made an announcement (*Libya National Legislation - DOALOS/OLA - United Nations*) indicating that

“... As the Gulf penetrates Libyan territory and forms a part thereof, it constitutes internal waters, beyond which the territorial waters of the Libyan Arab Republic start. Through history and without any dispute, the Libyan Arab Republic has exercised its sovereignty over the Gulf... In view of the aforementioned facts, the Libyan Arab Republic declares that the Gulf of Surt, defined within the borders stated above, is under its complete national sovereignty and jurisdiction in regard to legislative, judicial, administrative and other aspects related to ships and persons that may be present within its limits. Private and public foreign ships are not allowed to enter the Gulf without prior permission from the authorities of the Libyan Arab Republic and in accordance with the regulations established by it in this regard.....”

However, some other States do not accept the Gulf as an historical bay and oppose to the Libyan move to close the mouth of Gulf of Surt and to reserve its waters as part of Libyan internal waters. (see the entry “Bays and Gulfs”)

Another undelimited boundary is between Italy and Albania concerning their respective EEZ areas, although there is one such delimitation line for the respective continental shelf areas, agreed on in 1992.

A similar delimitation boundary is necessary for the respective continental shelf areas of Serbia and Montenegro. The Republic of Croatia shall, for the time being, enjoy the sovereign rights in that zone up to the median line proceeding to the outer limit of the territorial sea in starting from the entrance of the Boka Kotorska Bay in the direction of the open sea.

A recently flared-up maritime dispute is the one between the Republic of Cyprus and Turkey. As Cyprus signed an EEZ delimitation agreement with Egypt on February 17th, 2003, Turkey opposed it with the argument that the delimitation line interfered into possible maritime areas of Turkey in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. Hence, maritime areas between Turkey and the Republic of Cyprus are yet to be delimited. Turkey and Syria, whose coasts are adjacent, had to establish their adjacent line to delimit the territorial waters as

well as the continental shelf and possible EEZ areas of the two countries in Eastern Mediterranean Sea.

The most serious of such disputes in the Mediterranean Sea seem to concern the maritime areas in the Aegean Sea between Greece and Turkey. Both countries disagree on various aspects of the maritime areas in this section of the Mediterranean Sea. Turkey opposes Greek possible move to extend its territorial waters from the current 6 miles to 12 miles. Both countries also disagree on the boundary that would delimit their respective continental shelf areas, and most probably EEZ areas if declared, basically on the effect of the hundreds of the Greek Aegean islands on a possible delimitation line.

PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Since the Mediterranean Sea is an enclosed sea with a water exchange period of 80 years, water temperature and climatic conditions make the risk of pollution particularly dangerous therein. (see the entry “Regional Seas, Environmental Protection”) It is also one of the richest areas of biological and landscape diversity in the world, with unique ecosystems and endemism, which makes it a global biodiversity hotspot.

There are actually international regulations exclusively made to protect the marine environment (see entry “marine environment) of the Mediterranean Sea. The most important of them is the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, otherwise known the Barcelona Convention. It has been signed on 16 February 1976 and put into force on 12 February 1978. This Convention has been revised in Barcelona, Spain, on 10 June 1995 under the name “the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean”. Moreover, some protocols have been added to the Convention.

The first protocol is the Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft, Barcelona 1976. The second is the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from the Land-Based Sources, Athens 1980. The third is the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas in the Mediterranean, Geneva 1982. The final protocol is the Protocol Concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Case of Emergency.

The European Union have also made some efforts specifically designated to protect the Mediterranean Sea environment. The European Commission proposed a long-term environmental strategy for cleaning up and protecting the Mediterranean Sea. The Strategy's key aims are to reduce pollution levels across the region, to promote sustainable use of the sea and its coastline, to encourage neighbouring countries to cooperate on environmental issues, to assist partner countries in developing effective institutions and policies to protect the environment and to involve NGOs and the public in environmental decisions affecting them.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Because of its extensive usage for various purposes and the fact that it is an enclosed sea surrounded by many States, the Mediterranean Sea has been a sensitive maritime area in terms of maritime rights of the States and protection against pollution.

States bordering the Mediterranean have mostly declared 12 miles territorial waters and only a few of them have declared contiguous zone. Most of them apply the system of straight baselines as opposed to the system of normal baselines. And, only a few of them have declared EEZ although they all have *ibso facto* and *ab inito* continental shelf areas, as recognized by the relevant rules of international law.

Although most of the States have demonstrated respect for the maritime areas declared by other surrounding States, there are still disputes concerning the extent of maritime areas in certain parts of the Mediterranean Sea, such as in the Aegean Sea and in the Gulf of Surt. More common maritime disputes concern the maritime delimitation, e.i. establishment of maritime borders between two or more States, especially in relation to relatively wider maritime areas such as continental shelf and EEZ. If more Mediterranean States had declared EEZ, maritime delimitation disputes may have create even more common problems in the region.

Despite the fact that certain international regulations have been established for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea, maritime pollution is still a problem basically because of its intensive use for navigation and the fact that it is sorrounded by many States.

List of National Legislation Referred

(National Legislation - DOALOS/OLA - United Nations | accessed on 06/10/2007)

(<http://www.un.org/Depts/los/LEGISLATIONANDTREATIES/index.htm>)

Algeria

-Decree No. 84-181 of 4 August 1984.

-Decree No. 63-403 of 12 October 1963.

-Decree No. 72-194 of 5 October 1972 for the Peacetime Regulation of the Passage of Foreign Warships through the Territorial Waters and of their Calls.

-Presidential Decree No. 04-344 of 23 Ramadan 1425 (6 November 2004) Establishing a Zone Contiguous to the Territorial Sea.

Albania

-Decree No. 4650, as amended by Decree No. 7366, dated 9 March 1990, on the State Border of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. Law of the Sea Bulletin No. 16 (Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations), p. 2.

Croatia

-The 1994 Maritime Code.

-The Croatian Parliament's EEZ Declaration, 3 October 2003.

Cyprus

-The Territorial Sea Law, No. 45 of 1964.

-A law dated 2nd April 2004. The legislation has entered into force on 21.03.2003.

-Continental Shelf Law, Law No. 8 of 5 April 1974.

Egypt

-The Decree of the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, No. 27 (9 January 1990).

-The Decree Concerning the Territorial Waters of the Arab Republic of Egypt of 15 January 1951, as amended by Presidential Decree of 17 February 1958.

-The Presidential Decision No. 1051 of 3 September 1958 concerning the Continental Shelf.

European Union

-Communication from the Commission of 5 September 2006 entitled: "Establishing an Environment Strategy for the Mediterranean" (COM. 2006, 475. Not published in the Official Journal)

France

-The Decree of 19 October 1967.

- Law No. 71-1060 of 14 December 1971.

-Law No. 76-655 of 16 July 1976 relating to the Economic Zone off the coasts of the territory of the Republic.

Greece

-Compulsory Law, No 230 of 17 September 1936. Text in, Limits in the Seas, No. 36, p. 61.

Israel

-Territorial Waters (Amendment) Law, 5750-1990, of 5 February 1990.

-Interpretation Law No. 5741/1981,

-Territorial Waters Law, 5717/1956, as amended by the Territorial Waters (Amendment) Law, 5750-1990, of 5 February 1990.

Italy

-Navigation Code of 30 March 1942, as amended by Law No. 359 of 14 August 1974.

Lebanon

-Legislative Decree No. 138 concerning territorial waters and sea areas, of 7 September 1983.

Libya

-Act No. 2 of 18 February 1959 concerning the delimitation of Libyan territorial waters.

-The Declaration of a Libyan Fisheries Protection Zone in the Mediterranean Sea, 24 February 2005.

Malta

- The Territorial Waters and Contiguous Zone Act. 10th December, 1971(1).
- Continental Shelf Act. 29th July, 1966(1).

Monaco

Sovereign Ordinance No. 5094 delimiting the Territorial Waters of Monaco, of 14 February 1973.

Morocco

-The Act No. 1.73.211 establishing the Limits of the Territorial Waters and the Exclusive Fishing Zone of Morocco, of 2 March 1973.

-The Act No. 1-81 of 18 December 1980, Promulgated by Dahir No. 1-81-179 of 8 April 1981, establishing a 200-nautical-mile Exclusive Economic Zone off the Moroccan coasts.

Serbia

-The Act concerning the Coastal Sea and the Continental Shelf of 23 July 1987.

Slovenia

-The Maritime Code No. 1582, Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia No 26 of 12 April 2001, p. 2677.

Spain

- Act No. 10/1977 of 4 January 1977.
- Royal Decree 1315/1997, of 1 August 1997, establishing a Fisheries Protection Zone in the Mediterranean Sea.
- Act No. 15/1978 on the Economic Zone of 20 February 1978.

Syria

-Law No. 28, 2003.

Tunisia

- The Act No. 73-49, delimiting the territorial waters of 2 August 1973.
- The Decree No. 73-527 of 3 November 1973.
- Act No. 50/2005 dated 27 June 2005.

Turkey

-Act No. 2674 of 20 May 1982, on the Territorial Sea of the Republic of Turkey.

-Decree by the Council of Ministers No. 8/4742.

List of Agreements Referred

(Delimitation Treaties Infobase | accessed on 06/10/2007)

(<http://www.un.org/Depts/los/LEGISLATIONANDTREATIES/index.htm>)

- The Agreement on Provisional Arrangements for the Delimitation of the Maritime Boundaries between the Republic of Tunisia and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria 11 February 2002.
- The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Tunisia and the Government of the Italian Republic concerning the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf between the two Countries 20 August 1971.
- The 1976 Convention on the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (UN legislative Series, ST/LEG/SER.B/19, 459, reprinted in 15 International Legal Materials, (1976), p. 290.
- The Agreement between the Republic of Cyprus and the Arab Republic of Egypt on the Delimitation of the Exclusive Economic Zone 17 February 2003.
- The Maritime Boundary Agreement Between the Government of the State of Israel and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 18 January 1996.
- The Agreement between Albania and Italy for the determination of the continental shelf of each of the two countries, 18 December 1992.
- The Treaty on the State Border between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, 30 July 1999.
- Convention between Spain and Italy on the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf between the two States 19 February 1974.

- The Agreement between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Italian Republic on the Delimitation of the Maritime Boundaries in the Area of the Strait of Bonifacio, 28 November 1986.
- The Agreement between Italy and Yugoslavia concerning the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf between the two Countries in the Adriatic Sea. 8 January 1968.
- The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Tunisia and the Government of the Italian Republic concerning the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf between the two Countries 20 August 1971.

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