

Law of the Sea

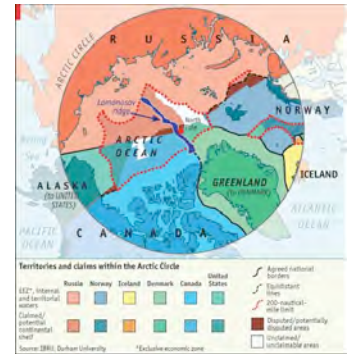
Exclusive Economic Zone



Law of the Sea

What extent of seafloor can be claimed by States?

- 1982 UNCLOS: up to 200 nm from coastline
- Special clause – up to 350 nm till continental shelf



Law of the Sea

- UNCLOS covers seabed mineral resources
 - Set up the International Seabed Authority at bequest of developing nations to ensure high seas resources are for the "common heritage of mankind"
- Living resources are not governed beyond the EEZ → open access (ie first come, first serve")
- 1995 UNFSA voluntary agreement helps to manage Highly Migratory Species
 - Data-driven, conservative precautionary management
 - Ecosystem approach, recognizing effects of fishing

Marine Science Research

- Many deep-sea habitats are 'untouched' by our economic activities or destructive tendencies
- Scientists are stakeholders
- Conservation of unique habitats as a 'living library' of knowledge

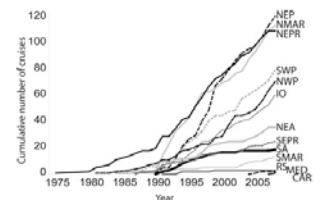


Figure 4. Number of scientific cruises to hydrothermal vents from 1976 to 2009 by biogeographic provinces reported in the InterRidge Cruise database (<http://www.interridge.org/IRcruise>) (CAR, Caribbean Sea; IO, Indian Ocean; MED, Mediterranean Sea; NEA, Northern East Atlantic; NEP, Northeastern Pacific; NEPR, Northern Eastern Pacific Rise; NMAR, Northern Mid-Atlantic Ridge; NWP, Northwestern Pacific; RS, Red-Sea and Gulf of Aden; SA, South Atlantic; SMAR, Southern Mid-Atlantic Ridge; SEPR, Southern East Pacific Rise; SWP, Southwestern Pacific).