

FRANCE

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Dec 1971	Law No. 71-1060 on Delimitation of Territorial Waters	12nm	Baselines consist of low-water mark and straight baselines. Applies to overseas territories. Repealed by Ordinance No. 2016-1687 .
	Feb 1985	Decree No. 85/185		Foreign ships shall enjoy the right of innocent passage. Applies to overseas territories. Tankers, nuclear powered ships and ships carrying nuclear or other inherently dangerous or noxious substances or materials may be required to use designated sea lanes/traffic separation schemes.
	Jul 2018	Decree 2018-681	12nm	Promulgated geographical coordinates for the outer limits of the TTS. Outer limits at 12nm or by median line or agreements with neighboring States.
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Oct 1967	Decree on Delimitation of Territorial Waters		Defined straight baselines and lines enclosing bays. Repealed the Decrees of July 1888 and June 1938. (See LIS No. 37 for full text of Decree (unofficial translation), U.S. analysis, and chart.) Repealed by Decree No. 2015-958 .
	Jul 2015	Decree No. 2015-958		Promulgated geographical coordinates for the low-water and straight baselines for mainland France and Corsica in the North Sea, the Channel, the Atlantic and Mediterranean. Updated and clarified the baselines defined in the Decree on Delimitation of Territorial Waters , which it repealed and replaced.
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Dec 1987	Act of 31 December 1987	24nm	Act concerning the campaign against drug trafficking and amending certain provisions of the Penal Code. Article 44 mentions a CZ. Ordinance No. 2016-1687 is the most recent domestic French law reaffirming the CZ.
	Dec 1989	Act No. 89-874 concerning Maritime Cultural Assets		"Maritime cultural assets shall comprise deposits, wrecks, artefacts [sic] or in general all assets of prehistoric, archaeological or historical interest which are situated in the maritime public domain or on the seabed in the contiguous zone." Amended the 1941 Act Regulating Archaeological Excavations. Applies to the territorial community of Mayotte.
CONTINENTAL SHELF	Dec 1968	Act No. 68-1181	1958 DEF	Amended by Act No. 77-485 , which changed the technical provisions but did not change the claimed area. Repealed by Ordinance No. 2016-1687 .

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CONTINENTAL SHELF, Continued	May 2006	ECS Submission		Joint submission, with Ireland, Spain and the UK, to the CLCS to extend the limits of the continental shelves in the Celtic Sea and Bay of Biscay. The CLCS made its recommendations in Mar 2009.
EEZ	Jul 1976	Law No. 76-655	200nm	The provisions of Law No. 68-1181 relating to the exploration of the CS and the exploitation of its natural resources shall apply, with the exception of Article 1, to the seabed and subsoil of the EEZ. Repealed by Ordinance No. 2016-1687 .
	Feb 1977	Decree No. 77-130	200nm	Implemented EEZ for coasts bordering the North Sea, English Channel, and Atlantic from Belgium to Spain. Breadth of EEZ subject to agreements with neighboring States, where appropriate.
	Oct 2012	Decree No. 2012-1148		See LOS Bulletin No. 81 , page 16, for English translation of Decree. Established an EEZ in the Mediterranean Sea, which replaced the ecological protection zone established in 2003. (M.Z.N.94.2013.LOS of 2013 deposited the decree with the UN.) Spain protested the unilateral delimitation of the EEZ in Note Verbale No. 31661 of 23 Oct 2012.
OTHER NOTABLE CLAIMS	Dec 2016	Ordinance No. 2016-1687		Declared Mont Saint-Michel to be a historic bay, delimited by a closing line joining the tip of Roc to the tip of Grouin. CS extends to CM or 200nm; outer limits may extend beyond 200nm under the conditions provided for by the LOS Convention. Repealed Law No. 68-1181 of Dec 1968; Law No. 71-1060 of Dec 1971; and Law No. 76-655 of Jul 1976. Title V enumerates which provisions of the law apply to French territories.
MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Jan 1974	Agreements with Spain		Two maritime boundary agreements, continental shelf and territorial sea and contiguous zone , in the Bay of Biscay signed; EIF Apr 1975. (See LIS No. 83 for U.S. analysis and map.)

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MARITIME BOUNDARIES, Continued	Jun 1982	Agreement with the UK		Delimitation of the Continental Shelf in the area East of 30 minutes West of the Greenwich Meridian signed; EIF Feb 1983. Agreed on coordinates of the boundary delimiting the parts of the CS as defined by the Decisions of the Court of Arbitration of 30 Jun 1977 and 14 Mar 1978, pursuant to the Agreement between the two Governments of Jul 1975. A technical correction to the coordinates was amended to the 1982 agreement in an Exchange of notes constituting an agreement , signed and EIF Mar 1990. The CS boundary was completed in the Agreement relating to the Completion of the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf in the Southern North Sea signed Jul 1991, EIF Mar 1992.
	Feb 1984	Agreement with Monaco		Maritime boundary agreement signed; EIF Aug 1985.
	Nov 1986	Agreement with Italy		Maritime boundary agreement in the area of the Strait of Bonifacio signed; EIF May 1989.
	Nov 1988	Agreement with the UK		Territorial Sea Boundary Agreement in the Straits of Dover signed; EIF Apr 1989. Established a part of the boundary from the 1982 Continental Shelf Agreement as the limit between the territorial seas of France and the UK in the Straits of Dover. On 2 Nov 1988, the two countries issued a Joint Statement regarding transit passage in the Straits of Dover; declared the traffic separation scheme in the Straits would remain in force (see LOS Bulletin No. 14 , page 14).
	Oct 1990	Agreements with Belgium		Two maritime boundary agreements, continental shelf and territorial sea , signed; EIF Apr 1993.
	Jul 2000	Agreement with the UK		Maritime boundary agreement between France and Jersey signed; EIF Jan 2004. (M.Z.N.128.2017.LOS of 2017 forwarded Decree No. 2004-74 of 2004 which publicized the agreement and a map .)

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MARITIME BOUNDARIES, Continued	Dec 2014	Decree No. 2014-1491		Publicized an exchange of letters constituting an EEZ boundary agreement with the UK (signed Apr 2011, EIF Mar 2014). Declared the EEZ boundary to be the same as the CS boundary established by the Decisions of the Court of Arbitration of Jun 1977 and Mar 1978; the Agreement with the UK of 1982 on the Continental Shelf Boundary in the area East of 30 Minutes West of the Greenwich Meridian, as amended by the Exchange of Notes of 21 and 27 Mar 1990; and the Agreement with the UK of 1991 Relating to the Completion of the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf in the Southern North Sea. (M.Z.N.128.2017.LOS of 2017 publicized the Decree and a map .)
LOS CONVENTION	Dec 1982			Signed Convention, with Declaration .
	Jul 1994			Signed Part XI Agreement.
	Apr 1996			Ratified Convention and Part XI Agreement, with Declaration .