

NEW ZEALAND DEPENDENCIES and STATES in FREE ASSOCIATION

New Zealand Dependencies are Tokelau (consists of 3 atolls) and the Ross Dependency (Antarctic claim). The self-governing states of Cook Islands (consisting of 15 islands) and Niue (a single island) are in "Free Association" with New Zealand. New Zealand retains limited responsibility (Defense and Foreign Affairs) for the Cook Islands and Niue. However, both are recognized as sovereign states by the US (Sep 2023), with full New Zealand support.

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Dec 1977	Tokelau (Territorial Sea and EEZ) Act 1977	12nm	
	May 2013	Niue Maritime Zones Act 2013	12nm	Enabling legislation for Territorial Sea Baseline Notice 2013 and Territorial Sea Outer Limits Notice 2013 , which promulgated coordinates for baselines and outer limits of the territorial sea.
	Feb 2018	Cook Islands Maritime Zones Act 2018	12nm	Enabling legislation for Maritime Zones (Baselines of Territorial Sea) Regulations 2020 and Maritime Zones (Territorial Sea Outer Limits) Regulations 2020 , which promulgated coordinates for baselines and outer limits of the territorial sea. (Publicized by M.Z.N.153.2021.LOS , which included coordinates and maps .)
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	May 2013	Niue Maritime Zones Act 2013	24nm	Enabling legislation for Contiguous Zone Outer Limits Notice 2013 , which promulgated coordinates for outer limits of the CZ.
	Feb 2018	Cook Islands Maritime Zones Act 2018	24nm	Enabling legislation for Maritime Zones (Contiguous Zone Outer Limits) Regulations 2020 , which promulgated coordinates for outer limits of the CZ. (Publicized by M.Z.N.153.2021.LOS , which included coordinates and maps .)
CONTINENTAL SHELF	May 2013	Niue Maritime Zones Act 2013	200nm	Enabling legislation for Continental Shelf Outer Limit Notice 2013 , which promulgated coordinates for outer limits of the EEZ.
	Feb 2018	Cook Islands Maritime Zones Act 2018	CM / 200nm	

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
CONTINENTAL SHELF, Continued	Apr 2009	Cook Islands ECS Submission		<p>Cook Islands transmitted to the CLCS a submission on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200nm in the region of the Manihiki Plateau. The CLCS made its recommendations in Aug 2016. (The CLCS determined it was unable to recommend the precise location of the outer limits of the continental shelf, and recommended Cook Islands make a new or revised submission.)</p> <p>The UN received communications from New Zealand (Tokelau) and Cook Islands regarding this submission.</p> <p>In Dec 2021, Cook Islands transmitted to the CLCS a revised submission on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200nm in the region of the Manihiki Plateau. The CLCS has not yet made its recommendations.</p>
	Dec 2012	Tokelau ECS Submission		New Zealand (Tokelau), Tuvalu, and France (Wallis and Futuna) jointly transmitted to the CLCS a submission on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200nm in the region of Robbie Ridge. The CLCS has not yet made its recommendations.
EEZ	Dec 1977	Tokelau (Territorial Sea and EEZ) Act 1977	200nm	
	May 2013	Niue Maritime Zones Act 2013	200nm	Enabling legislation for EEZ Outer Limit Notice 2013 , which promulgated coordinates for outer limits of the EEZ.
	Feb 2018	Cook Islands Maritime Zones Act 2018	200nm	Enabling legislation for Maritime Zones (EEZ Outer Limits) Regulations 2021 , which promulgated coordinates for outer limits of the EEZ. (Publicized by M.Z.N.153.2021.LOS , which included coordinates and maps .) Repealed Maritime Zones (EEZ Outer Limits) Regulations 2012.
MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Jun 1980	Treaty between Cook Islands and U.S. (American Samoa)		Maritime boundary treaty between Cook Islands and American Samoa signed; EIF Sep 1983. Recognized Cook Islands' sovereignty over formerly disputed islands. (See LIS No. 100 for U.S. analysis.)
	Dec 1980	Treaty between New Zealand (Tokelau) and U.S. (American Samoa)		Maritime boundary treaty between Tokelau and American Samoa signed; EIF Sep 1983. Recognized Tokelau and New Zealand sovereignty over formerly disputed islands, and confirmed U.S. sovereignty over Swains Island. (See LIS No. 100 for U.S. analysis.)
	Aug 1990	Agreement between Cook Islands and France (French Polynesia)		Maritime boundary agreement between Cook Islands and French Polynesia signed and EIF.

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
MARITIME BOUNDARIES, Continued	May 1997	Treaty between Niue and U.S. (American Samoa)		Maritime boundary treaty between Niue and American Samoa signed; EIF Sep 2014. (See LIS No. 119 for U.S. analysis.)
	May 2003	Agreement between New Zealand (Tokelau) and France (Wallis & Futuna)		Maritime boundary agreement between Tokelau and Wallis and Futuna signed; EIF Nov 2003.
	Aug 2010	Agreement between Cook Islands and New Zealand (Tokelau)		Maritime boundary agreement between Cook Islands and Tokelau signed; EIF Nov 2012.
	Aug 2012	Agreement between Cook Islands and Niue		Maritime boundary agreement between Cook Islands and Niue signed; EIF May 2013.
	Aug 2012	Agreement between Cook Islands and Kiribati		Maritime boundary agreement between Cook Islands and Kiribati signed; EIF Jan 2014.
	Aug 2012	Agreement between New Zealand (Tokelau) and Kiribati		Maritime boundary agreement between Tokelau and Kiribati signed; EIF May 2015. See LOS Bulletin No. 90 , page 49, for text of agreement.
LOS CONVENTION	Dec 1982			New Zealand (Tokelau) and Cook Islands signed Convention.
	Dec 1984			Niue signed Convention.
	Feb 1995			Cook Islands ratified Convention; bound by Part XI Agreement.
	Jul 1996			New Zealand (Tokelau) ratified Convention and Part XI Agreement.
	Oct 2006			Niue ratified Convention; bound by Part XI Agreement.