

Chapter 5: Law of the Sea

Worksheet

5.1 Case Study: China Builds Artificial Islands

- In your own words, briefly summarize important facts about the case. Include important actors and events.
- What are the important legal and political questions raised by this case?

5.2 Governing the Sea

Evolution

- What are the key events and documents in the evolution of this area of international law?
- What institutions oversee this area of international law?

Principles

- What are the key principles for this area of international law?
- Provide 2—3 examples that apply each of these principles.

5.3 Creating Zones of Authority

Maritime Zones

- How do states define their internal waters?
- What are the various zones that states can claim in international waters?
- How does international law divide up the earth's seabed?

Water Rights

- What international rules govern navigation by foreign ships? Do different rules apply to different types of ships?
- Where and how can a coastal state regulate behavior in maritime zones?

- Where and how can a coastal state enforce its domestic laws in maritime zones?
- What happens if a ship changes its location in a maritime zone during a law enforcement action?

Seabed Rights

- What rights do coastal states have over seabed resources?
- What seabed resources belong to all states?

5.4 Resolving Maritime Boundary Disputes

Equidistance Method

- What is the equidistance method?
- Be able to draw 2—3 examples of an equidistance (median) line.

Circumstances that Affect Equity

- What are circumstances that affect equity?
- Provide 3—4 examples that have been considered in delimitation disputes.

Delimitation Procedures

- How do judges use the two competing approaches towards delimitation?
- How have these procedures changed over time?

5.5 Case Study Revisited: Why Did China Build Artificial Islands in the South China Sea?

- How do the topics discussed in this chapter help you to understand this case?
- How would *you* answer the legal and political questions that are raised by this case?¹

¹ *Note: Some of these questions may require that you express an opinion or make a value judgment. There is no inherently correct or incorrect opinion/value, but you should be able to support your answer (and argue against alternative opinions/values) using basic facts and logic.*