

VIETNAM

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS (Updated May 2014)

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Jan 1980	Decree No. 30/C	12nm	Foreign warships must seek permission to enter contiguous zone/territorial sea at least 30 days in advance; no more than three warships may be present in territorial sea at one time; before entering territorial sea or contiguous zone, ships must place weapons in non-operative positions. <i>The U.S. does not recognize this claim.</i> The U.S. protested in CY 1982 and conducted operational assertions in FY 1982, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1998 through 2002, and 2010 through 2012.
	Jun 2012	Law of the Sea of Vietnam	12nm	Foreign military vessels exercising the right of innocent passage through Viet Nam's territorial sea shall give prior notice to Vietnamese competent authorities. <i>The U.S. does not recognize this claim.</i> The U.S. protested in CY 2013 and conducted an operational assertion in FY 2013.
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Nov 1982	Statement on the Territorial Sea Baseline		Established straight baselines and claimed substantial portion of Gulf of Tonkin as historic (internal) waters. Claimed territorial seas, contiguous zones, continental shelves, and EEZs for islands and archipelagoes beyond principal territorial sea. Go to State Department LIS page , scroll down and click on LIS No. 99 for analysis. <i>The U.S. does not recognize these claims.</i> The U.S. protested in CY 1982 and 1987 and conducted operational assertions in FY 1996, 1997 through 2002, and 2010 through 2013.
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	May 1977	Statement on the Territorial Sea, the Contiguous Zone, the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf	24nm	Claim includes jurisdiction over security matters. <i>This claim is not recognized by the U.S.</i> The U.S. protested claim in 1982 and 2002 and conducted operational assertions in FY 1996 through 2000, 2002, 2011, and 2013.
	Jan 1980	Decree No. 30/C		In contiguous zone, submarines required to navigate on the surface and show flag; and aircraft prohibited from being launched from or taken aboard ships. Before entering territorial sea or contiguous zone, ships required to place weapons in non-operative positions. <i>The U.S. does not recognize these claims.</i>

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
CONTINENTAL SHELF	May 1977	Statement on the Territorial Sea, the Contiguous Zone, the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf	CM/ 200nm	
	May 2009	ECS Submission		Joint ECS Submission by Malaysia and Vietnam. <i>Note:</i> The CLCS has not made its recommendations.
	May 2009	ECS Submission		ECS Submission. <i>Note:</i> The CLCS has not made its recommendations.
FISHING ZONE/EEZ	May 1977	Statement on the Territorial Sea, the Contiguous Zone, the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf	200nm	EEZ
	Jan 1980; Apr 1990; Nov 1990	Decree No. 30/C; Decree - Law; Decree No. 437/HDBT		Fishing permits required for foreign-flagged fishing in the EEZ. Foreign ships are not permitted in 500m safety zones around installations.
	Jun 2012	Law of the Sea of Vietnam		Law states when exercising the freedoms of navigation and overflight in the exclusive economic zone and continental shelf of Viet Nam, organizations or individuals are not permitted to conduct any act against the sovereignty, defence and security of Viet Nam. <i>The U.S. does not recognize this claim. The U.S. protested in CY 2013.</i>
ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION	May 1977	Statement on the Territorial Sea, the Contiguous Zone, the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf	200nm	Part of EEZ claim.
MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Jul 1982	Agreement		Historic waters boundary agreement between Cambodia and Vietnam. Contains principles for delimiting the sea boundary in historic waters; no boundary agreed upon. <i>The U.S. does not recognize this claim. The U.S. protested historic claim in the agreement in CY 1982 and conducted an operational assertion in FY 1999.</i>
	Feb 1998	Agreement		Agreement between Thailand and Vietnam on the delimitation of the maritime boundary (Gulf of Thailand). EIF.
	Jun 2004	Agreement		Agreement between Vietnam and China on demarcation of territorial sea, EEZ and continental shelf in the Gulf of Tonkin (Beibu Bay/Bac Bo Gulf). EIF.

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MARITIME BOUNDARIES, Continued	May 2007	Agreement		Agreement between Vietnam and Indonesia concerning the delimitation of the continental shelf boundary. EIF
LOS CONVENTION	Dec 1982			Signed Convention.
	Jul 1994			Ratified Convention, with Declaration reiterating claim of sovereignty over the disputed areas of the Hoang Sa (Paracels) and Truong Sa (Spratly) archipelagoes; and claiming the right to undertake effective measures for the management and defense of its continental shelf and maritime zones.