

VIETNAM

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	May 1977	Statement on the Territorial Sea, the Contiguous Zone, the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf	12nm	
	Jan 1980	Decree No. 30/C	12nm	Required prior permission for foreign warships to enter territorial sea or contiguous zone; required ships to place weapons in non-operative positions before entering territorial sea or contiguous zone; prohibited more than three warships in territorial sea at one time. <i>The U.S. did not recognize these claims.</i> The U.S. protested in CY 1982 and conducted operational assertions in FY 1982, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1996 through 2002, and 2010 through 2012.
	Jun 2012 (EIF 1 Jan 2013)	Law of the Sea of Vietnam (Law No. 18/2012/QH13)	12nm	The provisions of this law supersede those of previous laws. In case of differences between the provisions of this law and those of an international treaty to which Vietnam is a party, the provisions of the international treaty shall prevail. Requires prior notice for foreign military vessels exercising the right of innocent passage through Vietnam's territorial sea. Claims that threat or use of force against other countries renders passage in the territorial sea not innocent. Claims sovereignty over archaeological and historical objects in the territorial sea. <i>The U.S. does not recognize these claims.</i> The U.S. protested in CY 2013 and conducted an operational assertion in FY 2013.
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	May 1977	Statement on the Territorial Sea, the Contiguous Zone, the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf		Claimed "islands and archipelagos, forming an integral part of the Vietnamese territory ... have their own territorial seas, contiguous zones, exclusive economic zones and continental shelves".
	Nov 1982	Statement on the Territorial Sea Baseline		Established straight baselines (including coordinates). Claimed substantial portion of Gulf of Tonkin (Bac Bo) 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.

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS, Continued	Jun 2012 (EIF 1 Jan 2013)	Law of the Sea of Vietnam (Law No. 18/2012/QH13)		Reiterated straight baseline claim. <i>The U.S. does not recognize this claim.</i> The U.S. protested in CY 1982, 1987, and 2013 and conducted operational assertions in FY 1998 through 2002, and 2010 through 2014.
	May 1977	Statement on the Territorial Sea, the Contiguous Zone, the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf	24nm	Claimed jurisdiction over security matters.
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Jan 1980	Decree No. 30/C	24nm	Required prior permission for foreign warships to enter territorial sea or contiguous zone; required ships to place weapons in non-operative positions before entering territorial sea or contiguous zone; required submarines to navigate on the surface and show flag in contiguous zone; prohibited aircraft from being launched from or taken aboard ships. <i>This claim was 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, 2010 through 2012.
	Jun 2012 (EIF 1 Jan 2013)	Law of the Sea of Vietnam (Law No. 18/2012/QH13)	24nm	The provisions of this law supersede those of previous laws, including Decree No. 30/C requirements regulating military activities (listed above) in the contiguous zone; makes no reference to claims over security matters in contiguous zone.
	May 1977	Statement on the Territorial Sea, the Contiguous Zone, the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf	CM/ 200nm	
CONTINENTAL SHELF	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.
	Jun 2012 (EIF 1 Jan 2013)	Law of the Sea of Vietnam (Law No. 18/2012/QH13)	CM/ 200nm	Claims the natural prolongation of its land territory, islands and archipelagos to the outer edge of the continental margin. Claims CM or 200nm, whichever is farther; claims CM out to 350nm. Claims the laying of submarine cables and pipelines is subject to consent in writing by Vietnam. <i>The U.S. does not recognize this claim.</i> The U.S. protested in CY 2013.
	May 1977	Statement on the Territorial Sea, the Contiguous Zone, the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf	CM/ 200nm	

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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		Required fishing permits for foreign-flagged fishing in the EEZ. Prohibited foreign ships within 500m safety zones around installations.
	Jun 2012 (EIF 1 Jan 2013)	Law of the Sea of Vietnam (Law No. 18/2012/QH13)	200nm	Claims "[w]hen 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...[c]onduct any act against the sovereignty, defence and security of Viet Nam...." Claims the laying of submarine cables and pipelines is subject to consent in writing by Vietnam. <i>The U.S. does not recognize these claims. 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.
	Jun 2012 (EIF 1 Jan 2013)	Law of the Sea of Vietnam (Law No. 18/2012/QH13)	CM/ 200nm	Protection of environment in all maritime zones.
MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Jul 1982	Agreement with Cambodia		Historical waters boundary (Gulf of Thailand) agreement with Cambodia. Contains principles for delimiting the sea boundary in historic waters; no boundary agreed upon. Signed. Go to State Department LIS page , scroll down and click on LIS No. 99 for analysis. <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>
	Aug 1997	Agreement with Thailand		Agreement with Thailand on the delimitation of the maritime boundary in the Gulf of Thailand.
	Jun 2004	Agreement with China , (p. 194 for English)		Agreement with China on demarcation of the territorial sea, EEZ and continental shelf in the Gulf of Tonkin (Beibu Bay/Bac Bo Gulf) EIF; signed December 2000. (See Law of the Sea Bulletin No. 56 , p. 137, for list of geographical coordinates and chart.)

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MARITIME BOUNDARIES, Continued	May 2007	Agreement with Indonesia		Agreement with Indonesia concerning the delimitation of the continental shelf boundary EIF; signed June 2003. (See Law of the Sea Bulletin No. 67 , p. 39, for list of geographical coordinates and chart.)
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.