

EL SALVADOR

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Sep 1950	Constitution (Article 7)	200nm	Asserts that this claim "does not affect the freedom of navigation in accordance with accepted principles of international law."
	Dec 1983	Constitution (Article 84)	200nm	Reaffirmed 200nm territorial sea. <i>The U.S. does not recognize this claim.</i> U.S. protested claim in 1950, and conducted operational assertions in FY 1986, 1987, 1998, 1999, and 2000.
	Dec 2004	Civil Code (Article 574)	12nm	Rolled back territorial sea from 200nm to 12nm.
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Sep 1950	Constitution (Article 7)		Gulf of Fonseca claimed to be an historic bay, "subject to special regulations".
	Dec 1983	Constitution (Article 84)		Reiterates claim to Gulf of Fonseca.
	Sep 1992	ICJ Decision in the Case concerning the land, island and maritime frontier dispute between El Salvador and Honduras		International Court of Justice (ICJ) "finds that the Gulf waters, other than the three-mile maritime belt, are historic waters and subject to a joint sovereignty of the three coastal States" (El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua).
	Dec 2004	Civil Code (Article 574)		Reiterates claim to Gulf of Fonseca as "territorial waters governed by the special legal regime inherent in their status as a historic bay possessed of the characteristics of a closed sea, in accordance with international law, practice, and agreements between States."
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Dec 2004	Civil Code (Article 574)	24nm	Established a contiguous zone (for purposes relating to the prevention and punishment of violations of customs, tax, immigration, and health laws and regulations).
CONTINENTAL SHELF	Sep 1950	Constitution (Article 7)	200nm	
	Dec 1983	Constitution (Article 84)	200nm	
	Dec 2004	Civil Code (Article 574)	200nm	Established "sovereign rights over the continental and island shelf for purposes of the conservation, exploration, and exploitation of its natural resources."
FISHING ZONE/EEZ	Oct 1955	Decree No. 1961 (Maritime Hunting and Fishing Act)	200nm	
	Dec 2004	Civil Code (Article 574)	200nm	

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MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Apr 1938	Treaty with Guatemala		Boundary agreement between El Salvador and Guatemala signed. (The text of the agreement can be found in the Department of State International Boundary Study No. 82.)
	Oct 1980	Treaty with Honduras		General Peace Treaty between El Salvador and Honduras signed. Both parties agreed to submit the boundary dispute to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) if they failed to reach a border agreement after 5 years of negotiations.
	Sep 1992	ICJ Decision in the Case concerning the land, island and maritime frontier dispute between El Salvador and Honduras		International Court of Justice decided on the land boundary between Honduras and El Salvador in six disputed sectors; the legal situation of three islands in the Gulf of Fonseca (islands of Meanguera and Meanguerita awarded to El Salvador, island of El Tigre awarded to Honduras); and the maritime spaces within that gulf (control of Gulf of Fonseca to be shared by El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua).
LOS CONVENTION	Dec 1984			Signed Convention.