

FINLAND

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Jan 81 Dec 82	Decree Amend 656/80 Declaration upon Ratification of 1982 LOS Convention		These four documents require foreign warships to provide advance notice before transiting territorial sea and setting out procedures for doing so. These were not revoked by 1995 Act.
	Jan 89 Dec 90	Decree No. 1069/89 MFA Circular No. NC-28		<i>U.S. does not recognize this requirement.</i> U.S. protested requirement in 1989.
	Jul 95	Act 981/95 (Amending the Act on the Border of the Territorial Waters of Finland)	12nm	In the Gulf of Finland, the outer limit of the territorial sea shall at no place be closer to the midline than 3nm.
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Jul 95	Act 981/95		Established new straight baselines (to remain in effect until 2024, revoking those drawn in 1956)
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Dec 94	Customs Act No. 1466	14 nm	Extends two nautical miles further than the outer limit of the territorial sea.
CONTINENTAL SHELF	Mar 65	Continental Shelf Act, Act No. 149	1958 DEF	Baltic Sea, Gulf of Finland and Gulf of Bothnia all covered.
FISHING ZONE/EEZ	Jan 75	Fishing-Zone Act 839/74	12nm	Fishing zone.
	Dec 77	Amendment to Act 839/74		Fishing zone extended to continental shelf boundary with Sweden in Gulf of Bothnia.
	Jun 78	Amendment to Act 938/74	12nm	Around Bogskar Island, fishing zone extended from 11 to 12nm.
	Jun 78	Amendment to Act 839/74	12nm	Around Bogskar Island, fishing zone extended from 11 to 12nm.
MARITIME BOUNDARIES	May 66	Agreement		Continental shelf boundary with former Soviet Union (Gulf of Finland) EIF. See LIS No. 16 .
	Mar 68	Agreement		Continental shelf boundary with former Soviet Union (northeastern Baltic) EIF. See LIS No. 56 .
	Jan 73	Agreement		Continental shelf boundary with Sweden (Gulf of Bothnia, Gulf of Finland) EIF. See LIS No. 71 .
	Jul 80	Agreement		Fishing boundary agreement with the former Soviet Union EIF.
	Feb 85	Agreement		Agreement with former Soviet Union delimiting EEZ, fishing zone, and continental shelf in Gulf of Finland and northeastern Baltic Sea. EIF.

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
MARITIME BOUNDARIES, Continued	Nov 86	Agreement		Agreement with former Soviet Union revising earlier continental shelf boundaries, EIF.
	Jun 94	Agreement		With Sweden, delimiting EEZ, fishing zone, and continental shelf in the Aland and Northern Baltic Seas. EIF.
	Oct 96	Agreement		Agreement with Estonia signed.
	Jan 2001	Agreement		With Estonia and Sweden, to establish common maritime boundary point in the Baltic Sea.
LOS CONVENTION	Dec 82			Signed Convention, with Declaration requiring prior notification by warships and non-commercial government vessels transiting territorial sea, and declaring that Art 35(c) exception to transit-passage regime is applicable to Aland Strait.
	Jul 94			Signed Part XI Agreement.
	Jun 96			Ratified Convention and Part XI Agreement.

STRAIGHT BASELINE LEGISLATION

Following are extracts from Act 981/95 amending the Limits of the Territorial Waters of Finland (Decree No. 463 of 1956).

The outer limits of the territorial sea of Finland, with certain exceptions, extend to 12 nautical miles from the baselines. In the Gulf of Finland, the outer limit of the territorial sea shall at no place be closer to the midline than 3 nautical miles.

The baseline of the outer limit of the internal waters, referred to in Section 4(1) of the Finnish Territorial Waters Act, the degrees of latitude and longitude of which are given in the Finnish National Coordinate System, are during the thirty-year period 1995-2024 as follows:

**TABLE C1.T89.
FINLAND INNER TERRITORIAL WATERS COORDINATES**

FINLAND INNER TERRITORIAL WATERS		
POINT	LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE EAST
1	60° 19' 452	27° 37' 202
2	60° 18' 581	27° 34' 716
3	60° 15' 904	27° 16' 433
4	60° 14' 238	27° 01' 845
5	60° 09' 672	26° 15' 752
6	60° 02' 419	25° 47' 682
7	60° 05' 437	25° 08' 157
8	60° 02' 128	24° 53' 709
9	59° 52' 101	24° 18' 368

FINLAND INNER TERRITORIAL WATERS		
POINT	LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE EAST
10	59° 47' 218	23° 35' 505
11	59° 44' 862	23° 23' 941
12	59° 44' 958	22° 58' 431
13	59° 42' 828	22° 25' 102
14	59° 40' 504	21° 30' 088
15	59° 44' 171	20° 44' 352
16	59° 48' 483	19° 47' 125
17	60° 09' 403	19° 18' 241
18	60° 18' 019	19° 08' 124
19	60° 18' 081	19° 08' 148
20	60° 25' 902	19° 23' 935
21	60° 29' 875	19° 42' 563
22	60° 32' 411	20° 12' 524
23	60° 45' 947	20° 44' 638
24	61° 03' 050	21° 10' 211
25	61° 25' 339	21° 16' 255
26	61° 38' 782	21° 19' 747
27	62° 00' 992	21° 14' 072
28	62° 24' 801	21° 05' 203
29	62° 47' 068	20° 50' 217
30	62° 57' 655	20° 44' 296
31	63° 14' 228	20° 35' 058
32	63° 25' 460	20° 47' 346
33	63° 27' 198	21° 08' 482
34	63° 28' 491	21° 44' 639
35	63° 31' 707	22° 09' 732
36	63° 45' 089	22° 31' 404
37	63° 51' 837	22° 37' 409
38	63° 53' 196	22° 39' 136
39	63° 53' 726	22° 39' 847
40	63° 55' 701	22° 42' 981
41	63° 56' 237	22° 44' 467
42	63° 57' 627	22° 48' 639
43	64° 05' 572	23° 23' 951

FINLAND INNER TERRITORIAL WATERS		
POINT	LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE EAST
44	64° 19' 981	23° 26' 818
45	64° 32' 274	24° 15' 150
46	64° 40' 893	24° 19' 362
47	65° 02' 379	24° 33' 062
48	65° 20' 151	24° 39' 306
49	65° 33' 835	24° 18' 807
50	65° 35' 962	24° 01' 847
51	59° 31' 158	20° 24' 700
52	59° 31' 090	20° 25' 328
53	59° 30' 240	20° 21' 077
54	59° 30' 291	20° 21' 011

Points 18 and 19 and points 50 and 51 respectively, are not connected by a baseline. Points 51 and 54 are connected by a baseline.

Section 2

The location of the outer limit of Finland's territorial sea is indicated by points that are connected either by the line of the shortest distance or by the circular arc defined by a given centre and radius.

As determined by the Peace Treaty signed in Paris on 10 February 1947 (690-691/47), starting from the western terminal point of the border limiting the territorial sea of Finland, the course of the border is through the following points, given in the Finnish National Coordinate System as degrees of latitude and longitude, to the south side of the islet of Market as far as the southern terminal point of the national frontier between Finland and Sweden (point no. 132 on the list):

TABLE C1.T90.
FINLAND - SWEDEN MARITIME BOUNDARY COORDINATES

FINLAND - SWEDEN MARITIME BOUNDARY		
POINT	LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE EAST
103	60° 11' 341	26° 44' 675
104	60° 09' 692	26° 36' 845
105	60° 09' 198	26° 29' 702
106	60° 02' 779	26° 17' 867
107	60° 02' 281	26° 11' 498
108	60° 00' 832	26° 04' 689
109	59° 58' 596	26° 01' 223
110	59° 55' 909	25° 37' 404
111	59° 55' 681	25° 35' 147
112	59° 55' 868	25° 28' 462
113	59° 56' 596	25° 10' 348
114	59° 55' 271	24° 55' 986

FINLAND - SWEDEN MARITIME BOUNDARY		
POINT	LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE EAST
115	59° 53' 514	24° 47' 310
116	59° 49' 015	24° 29' 487
117	59° 47' 800	24° 20' 116
118	59° 47' 014	24° 12' 554
119	59° 39' 406	23° 21' 313
120	59° 38' 131	22° 51' 638
121	59° 36' 472	22° 38' 266
122	59° 30' 781	22° 23' 985
123	59° 28' 584	21° 32' 209
Points 123 and 124 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 12 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no.14.		
124	59° 28' 693	21° 26' 268
125	59° 31' 947	20° 45' 848
126	59° 27' 456	20° 23' 234
Points 126 and 127 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 3 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no. 53.		
127	59° 27' 964	20° 17' 257
128	59° 35' 466	19° 59' 869
129	59° 35' 703	19° 56' 638
130	59° 47' 501	19° 39' 699
131	60° 11' 501	19° 05' 198
132	60° 14' 114	19° 06' 368
North of the islet of Market, starting from the northern terminal point of the national frontier between Finland and Sweden, the course of the border is through the following points:		
134	60° 22' 494	19° 09' 877
135	60° 36' 689	19° 13' 421
Points 135 and 136 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 12 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no. 20.		
136	60° 36' 871	19° 14' 228
137	60° 40' 866	19° 32' 942
Points 137 and 138 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 12 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no. 21.		
138	60° 41' 660	19° 38' 341

FINLAND - SWEDEN MARITIME BOUNDARY		
POINT	LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE EAST
139	60° 43' 650	20° 01' 717
140	60° 54' 104	20° 26' 461
141	61° 07' 609	20° 46' 495
142	61° 26' 815	20° 51' 460
143	61° 38' 768	20° 54' 404
144	61° 59' 212	20° 48' 898
145	62° 21' 960	20° 40' 112
146	62° 43' 465	20° 25' 334
Points 146 and 147 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 12 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no. 29.		
147	62° 44' 079	20° 24' 946
148	62° 54' 675	20° 18' 868
149	63° 09' 882	20° 10' 176
150	63° 19' 903	20° 24' 288
151	63° 28' 961	20° 42' 007
152	63° 31' 152	20° 56' 551
153	63° 40' 013	21° 30' 778
154	63° 40' 325	21° 39' 821
155	63° 42' 059	21° 53' 301
156	63° 50' 841	22° 07' 434
157	63° 56' 187	22° 12' 115
Points 157 and 158 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 12 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no. 37.		
158	63° 57' 650	22° 13' 668
159	63° 59' 128	22° 15' 526
160	63° 59' 774	22° 16' 382
Points 160 and 161 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 12 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no. 39.		
161	64° 00' 548	22° 17' 500
162	64° 02' 530	22° 20' 622
Points 162 and 163 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 12 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no. 40.		
163	64° 04' 927	22° 25' 637
164	64° 05' 612	22° 27' 530

FINLAND - SWEDEN MARITIME BOUNDARY		
POINT	LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE EAST
165	64° 07' 150	22° 32' 128
Points 165 and 166 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 12 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no. 42.		
166	64° 08' 234	22° 36' 026
167	64° 13' 189	22° 57' 896
168	64° 20' 975	22° 59' 327
Points 168 and 169 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 12 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no. 44.		
169	64° 30' 238	23° 12' 589
170	64° 39' 909	23° 50' 376
171	64° 43' 314	23° 51' 988
Points 171 and 172 are connected by a circular arc the radius of which is 12 nautical miles and the centre of which, in accordance with section 1, is base point no. 46.		
172	64° 43' 962	23° 52' 340
173	65° 04' 789	24° 05' 263
174	65° 17' 527	24° 09' 503
175	65° 30' 739	24° 08' 216
From the last-mentioned point, the course of the border is further in the direction of north-northwest towards the point referred to in section 7 (3) of the Act on the Border of the Territorial Waters of Finland.		

U.S. ANALYSIS

The following comments regarding Finland's straight baseline system are extracted from Limits in the Seas, No. 48, "Straight Baselines: Finland" of 15 September 1972: Although written in 1972, the analysis is still applicable to the 1995 revised baselines.

The Finnish straight baseline system has been printed on large-scale charts published by the Finnish Hydrographic Office. The most recent editions, which have been examined by this office, were printed in 1965.

The law contains three interesting concepts. First, the system is subject to a periodic review. According to Article 4(3), the points must be corrected at intervals of 30 years. Second, the Government of Finland has commenced its straight baseline system by connecting Swedish and Finnish islets; the intersection of this line with the Finnish-Swedish maritime frontier marks the beginning of the Finnish system. This unusual technique has been employed by several North European states.

The third, and most important, concept is stated in Article 4(2) which provides that the basepoints will be chosen so that their [basepoint] distance from one another is 'at most twice the width of the marginal sea....' As a consequence, the longest Finnish straight baseline segment measures 8 nautical miles or less in length, a restriction which contrasts sharply with the practices of many states. The limitation of the length of baseline segment means that the Finnish system nearly duplicates the configuration of the fringing islands. The Finnish system has the least expansive straight baselines yet analyzed by this office.

The total length of the Finnish system measures approximately 793.2 nautical miles between the Swedish and Soviet maritime frontiers. The average length of a segment is approximately 4.4 nautical miles.