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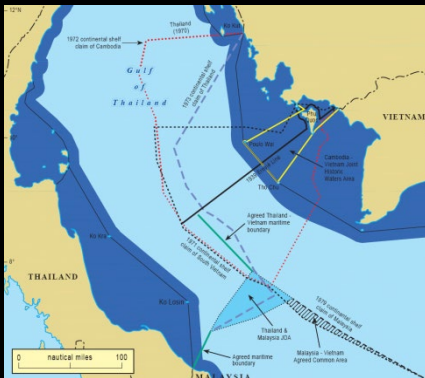
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Thank you.



International Boundaries and Transboundary Resources



IBRU workshop series No. 72
25-27 October 2023

Opening discussion

- What is your involvement in international boundary issues?
- What transboundary resource issues affect your country?
- Are those issues an existing / potential source of conflict?
Are there effective management regimes in place?
- What are you hoping to get out of this workshop?

The razor's edge

“Frontiers are indeed the razor’s edge on which hang suspended the modern issues of war or peace, of life or death to nations.”



Lord Curzon of Kedleston

Viceroy of India 1898-1905 and British Foreign Secretary 1919-24

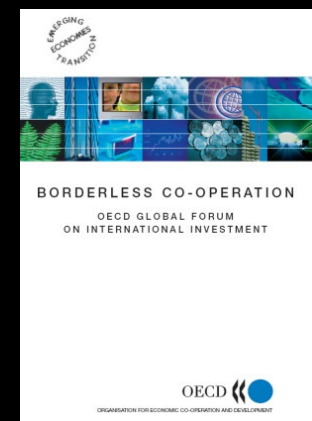
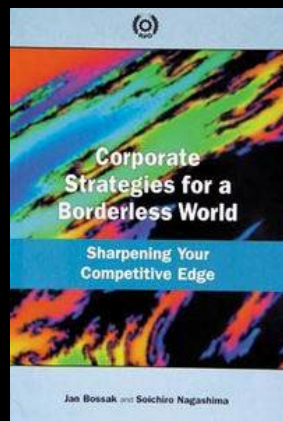
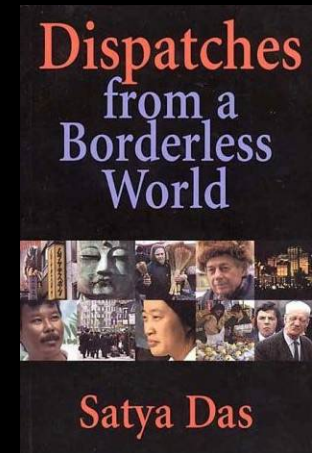
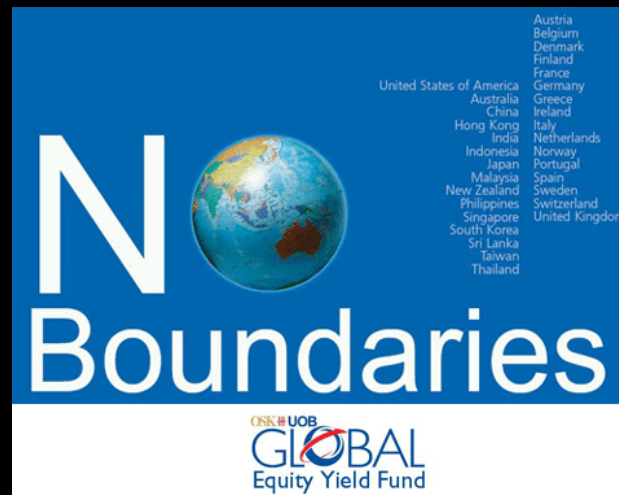
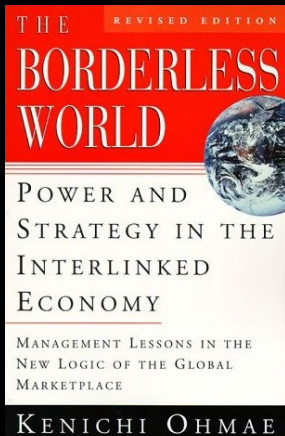
1907 Romanes Lecture, Oxford

The borderless world?

“You live in the age of interdependence.

Borders don't count for much or stop much, good or bad anymore.”

Bill Clinton, Harvard University, November 2001



Boundaries still matter



Israel-Palestine



India-Pakistan



Mexico-USA



Bangladesh-India



South China Sea

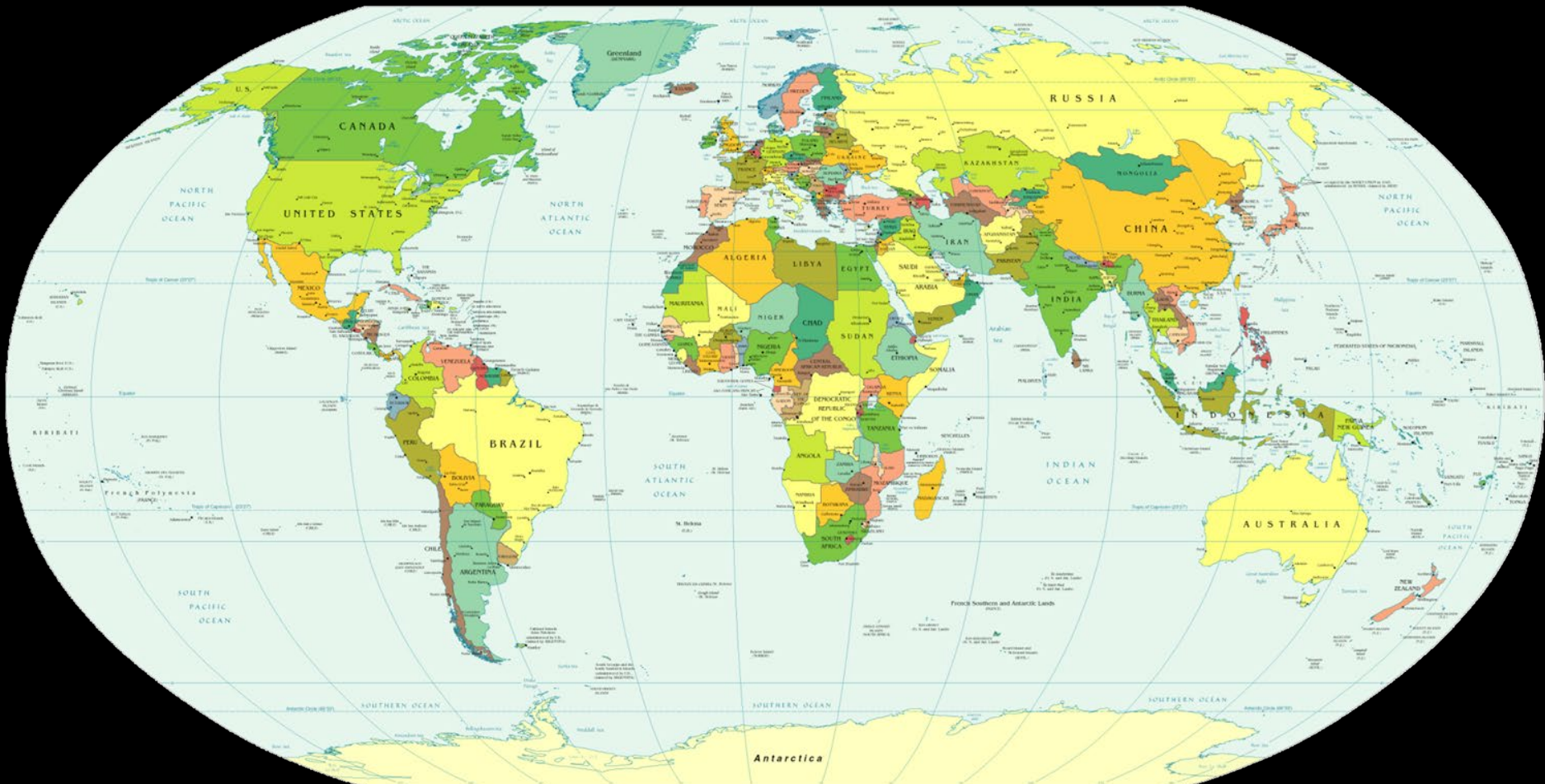


Moldova-Romania

Boundaries still matter

Clearly-defined and well-managed boundaries remain vital for:

- National security
- Good international relations
- Efficient and equitable use of resources
- Effective local administration
- Borderland prosperity



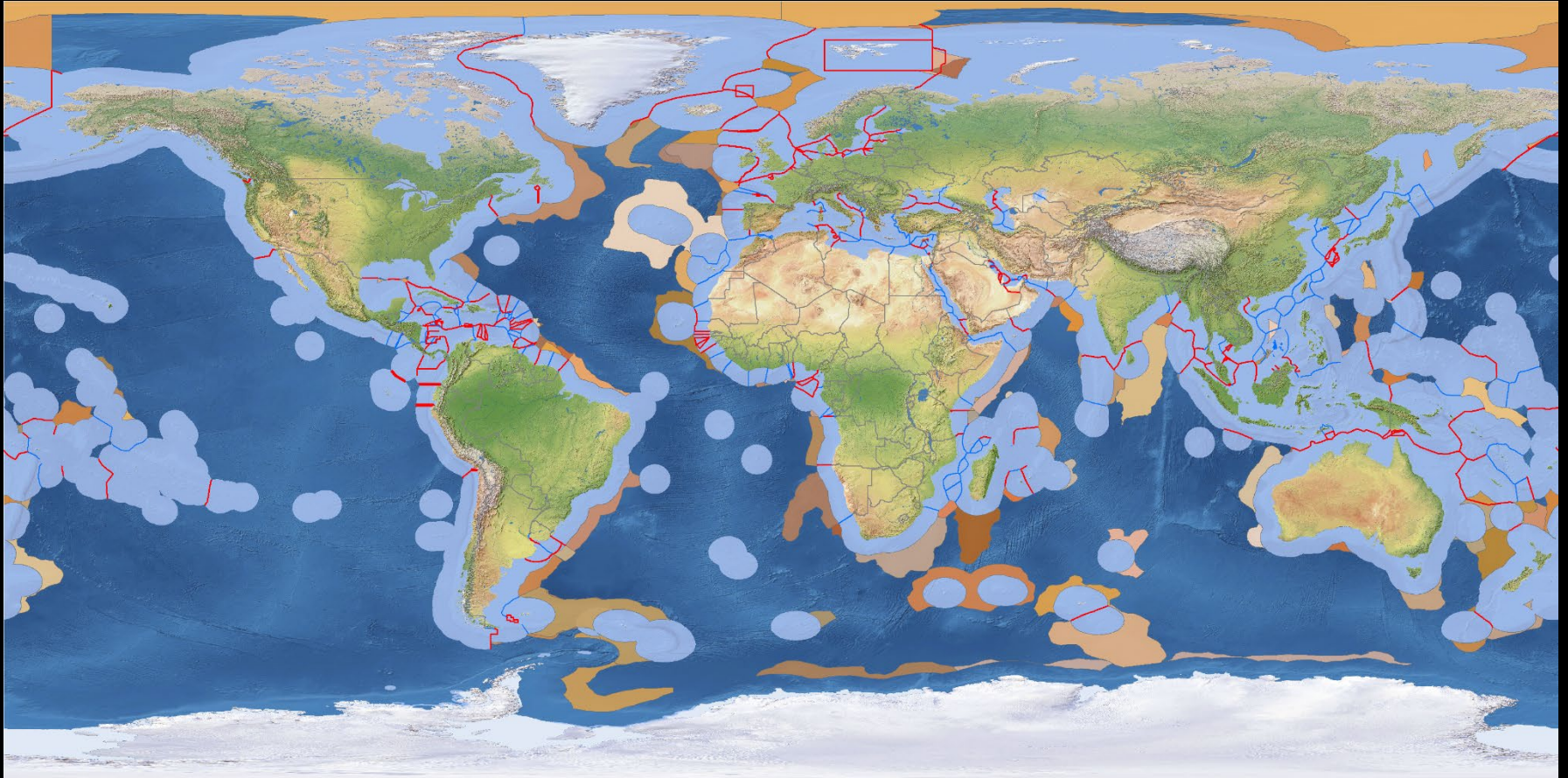
Source: CIA World Factbook

The unstable world political map

- 770 territorial changes 1816-1980 (Goertz and Diehl)
- 31 new states since 1990
- 158 territorial disputes 1950-1997 (Blake)

Africa 41	East & Southeast Asia 22
Americas 25	Middle East 21
Central & South Asia 18	Europe 31
- 39 boundary/sovereignty disputes submitted to third-party adjudication since 1980
- c. 40% of maritime boundaries still to be delimited

Maritime jurisdiction: the global state of play



Source: Bordermap Consulting

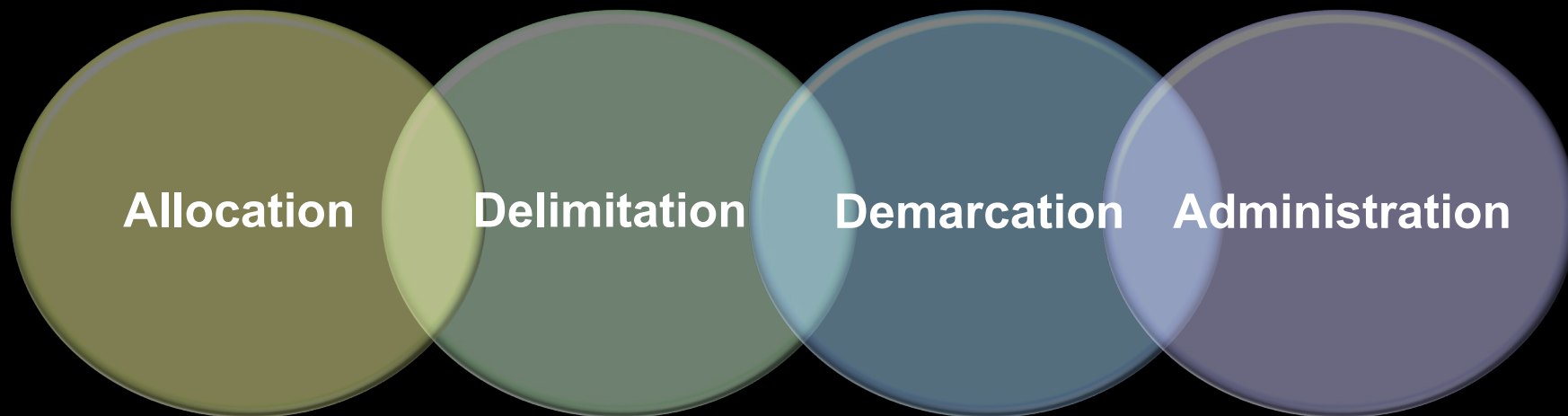
Boundary-making

Thomas Holdich (1916) *Political Frontiers & Boundary-Making*

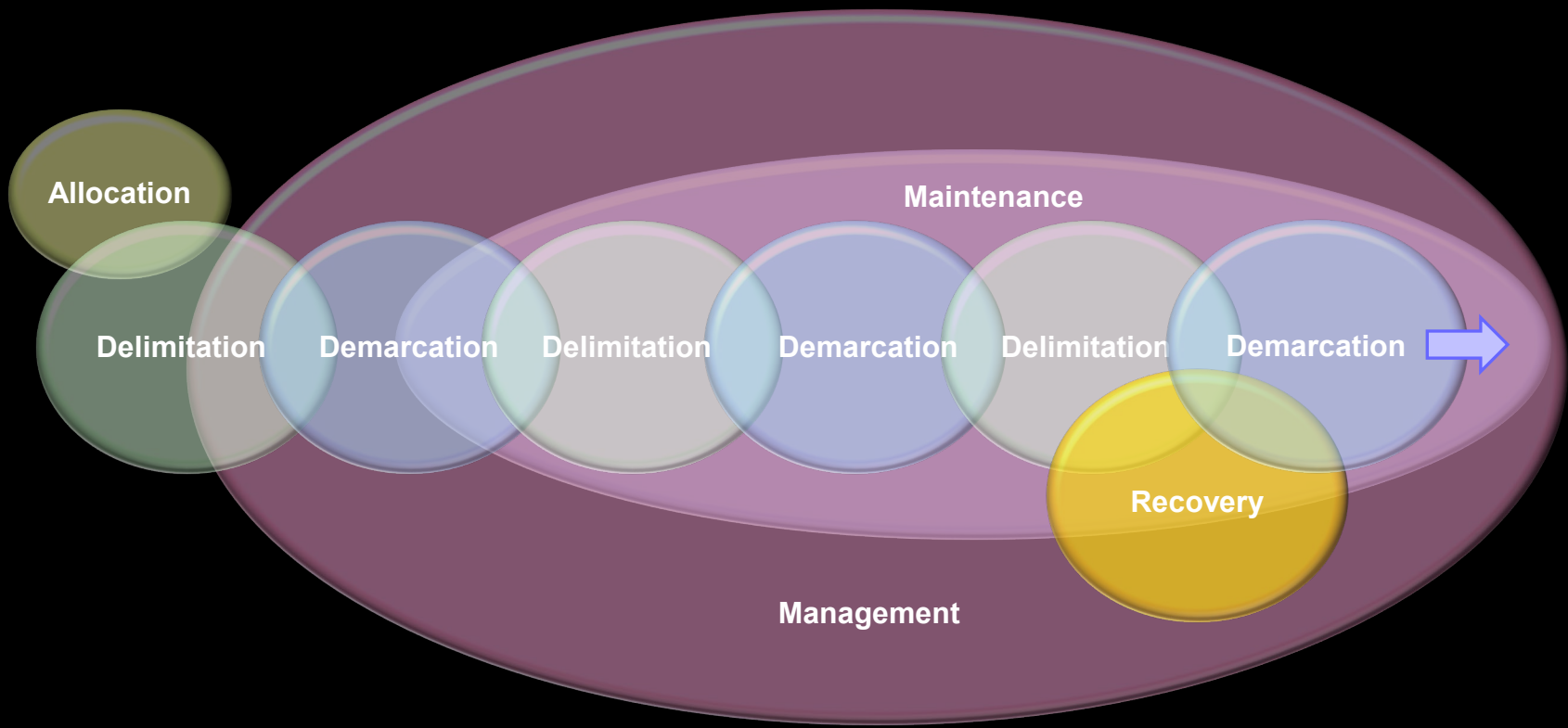
Stephen B. Jones (1945) *Boundary-Making: A Handbook for Statesmen, Treaty Editors and Boundary Commissioners*

Purchase: wshein.com/catalog/1359

View online: archive.org/details/boundarymakingha0000jone



Developing the boundary-making model

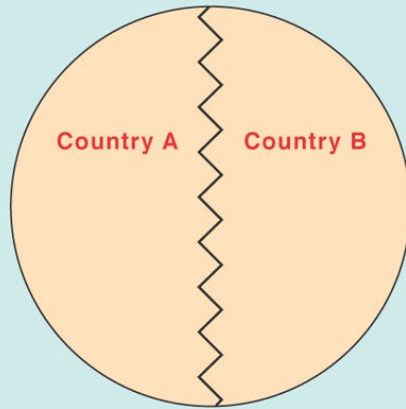


Management: Access, security, environment, infrastructure, resources

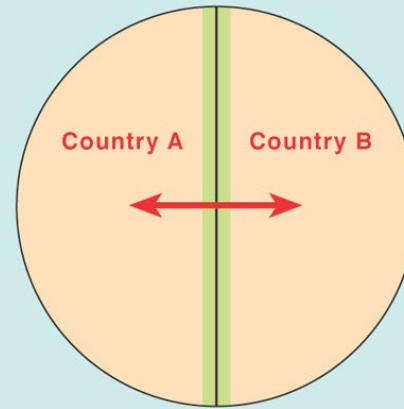
Factors affecting management strategies

- Status of boundary
- Physical & human geography of border landscape
- National political and economic priorities
- Political relations across boundary
- Available human, financial & technical resources

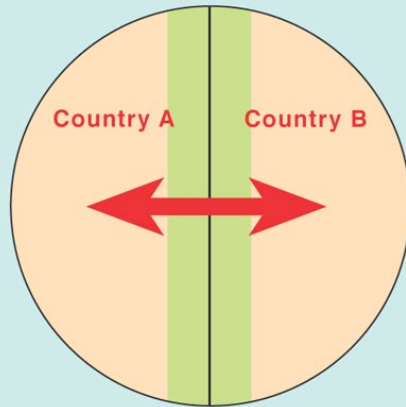
Martinez's model of borderland development



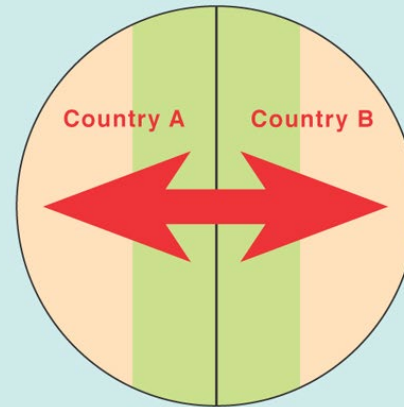
ALIENATED BORDERLANDS



CO-EXISTENT BORDERLANDS



INTERDEPENDENT BORDERLANDS



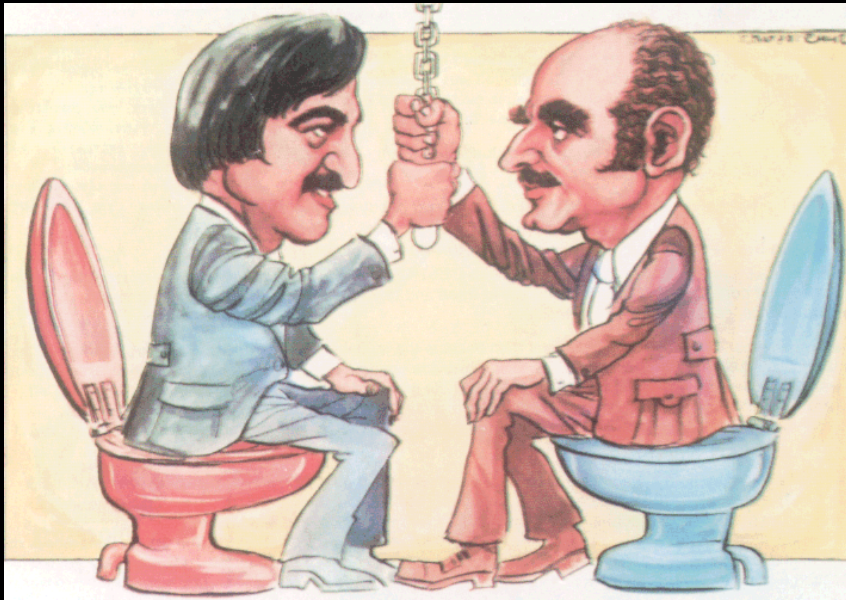
INTEGRATED BORDERLANDS

(after O.J. Martinez, 1994)

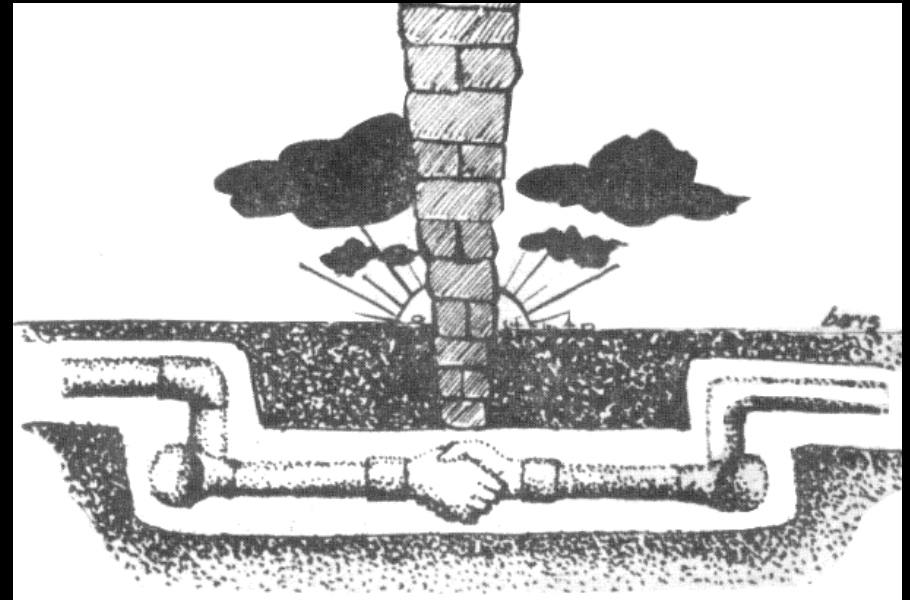
Transboundary resources

- Hydrocarbons
- Minerals & metals
- Surface water (rivers, lakes)
- Groundwater
- Straddling fishstocks
- Cultural resources (eg. archaeological sites)
- Infrastructure (telecoms, sewerage, etc)

Transboundary infrastructure cooperation in Cyprus

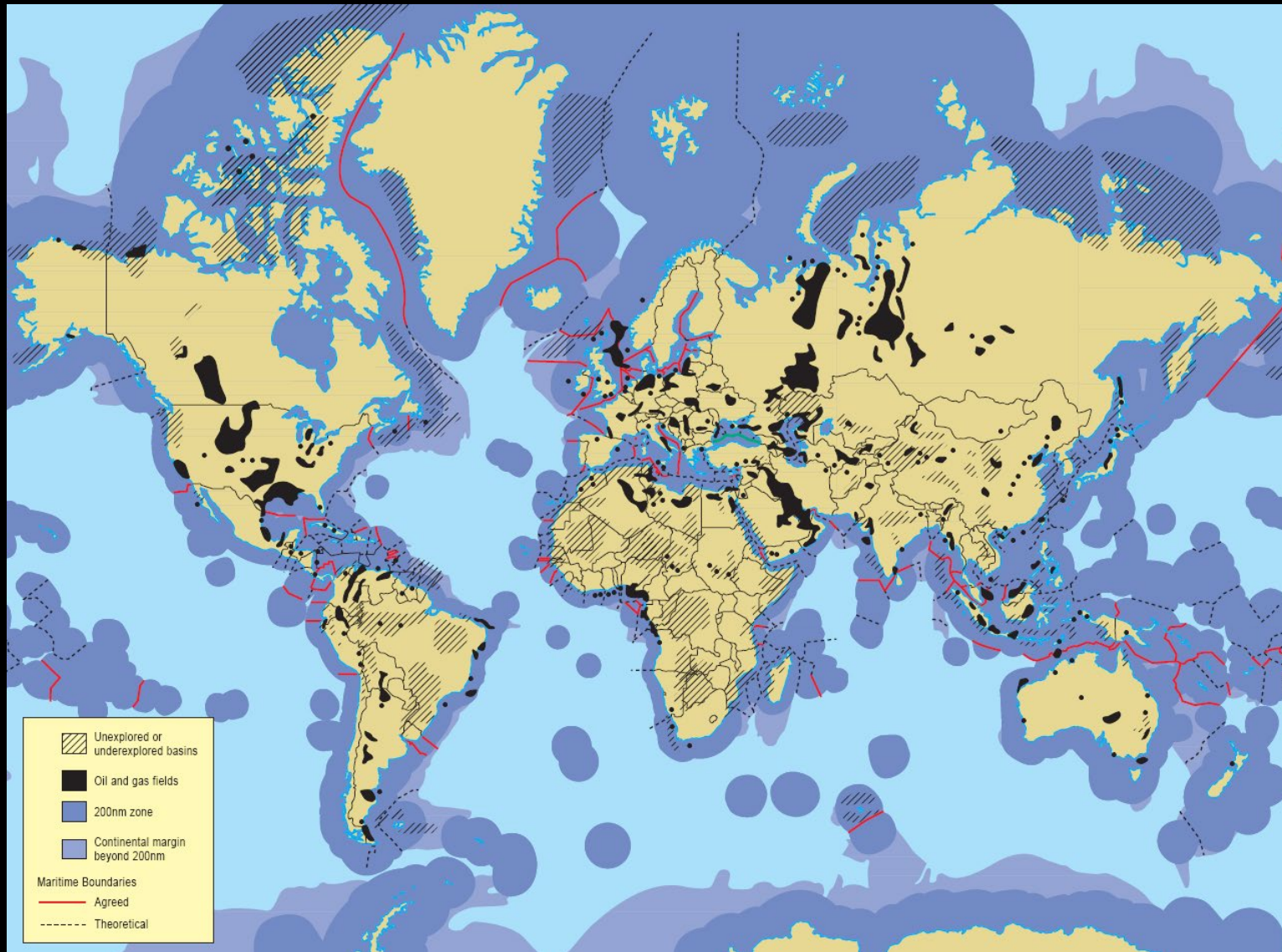


Source: Satiriki (30/09/78)



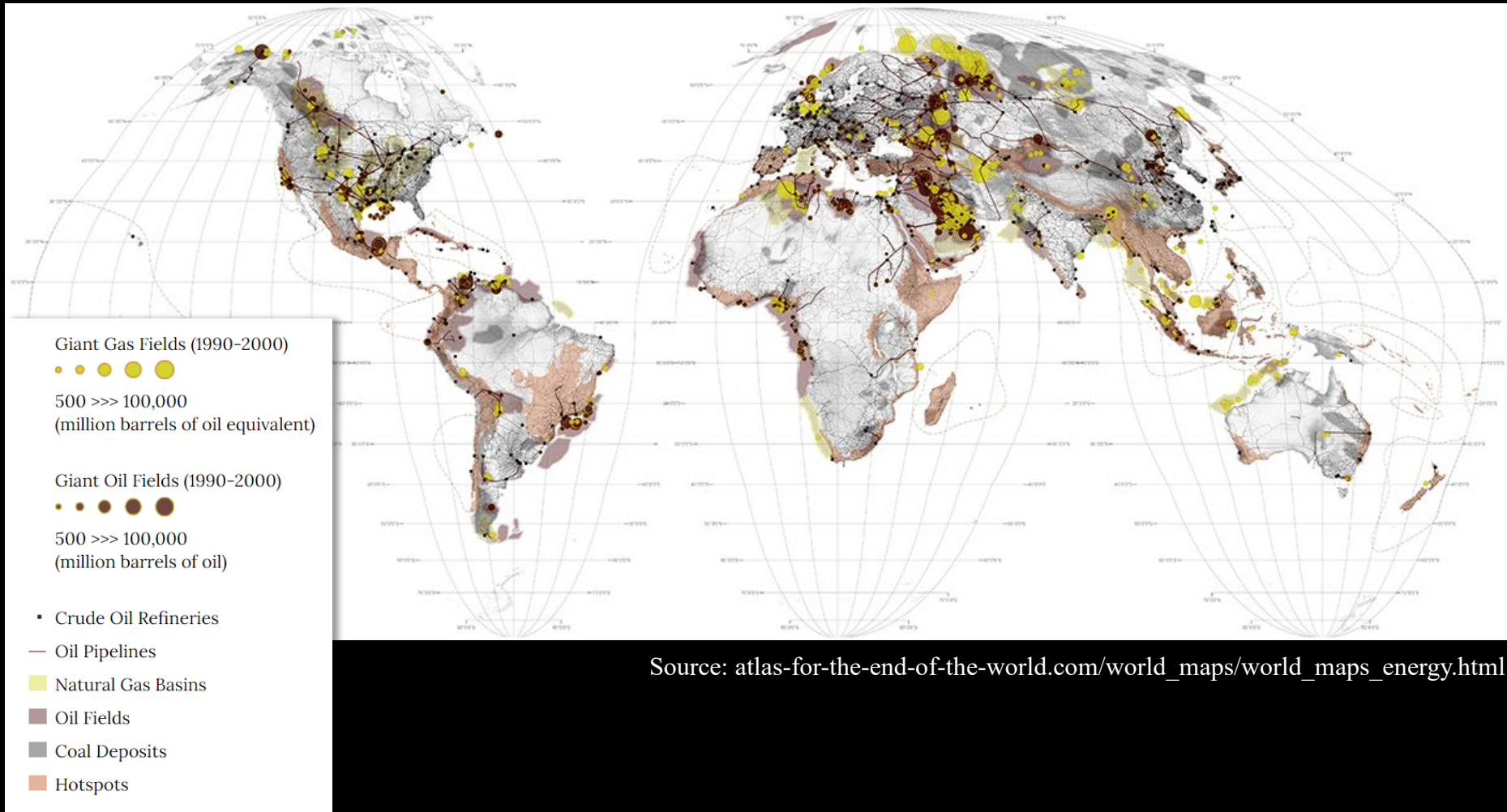
Source: Yeniduzen (28/01/79)

World oil & gas basins and fields (1996 estimate)



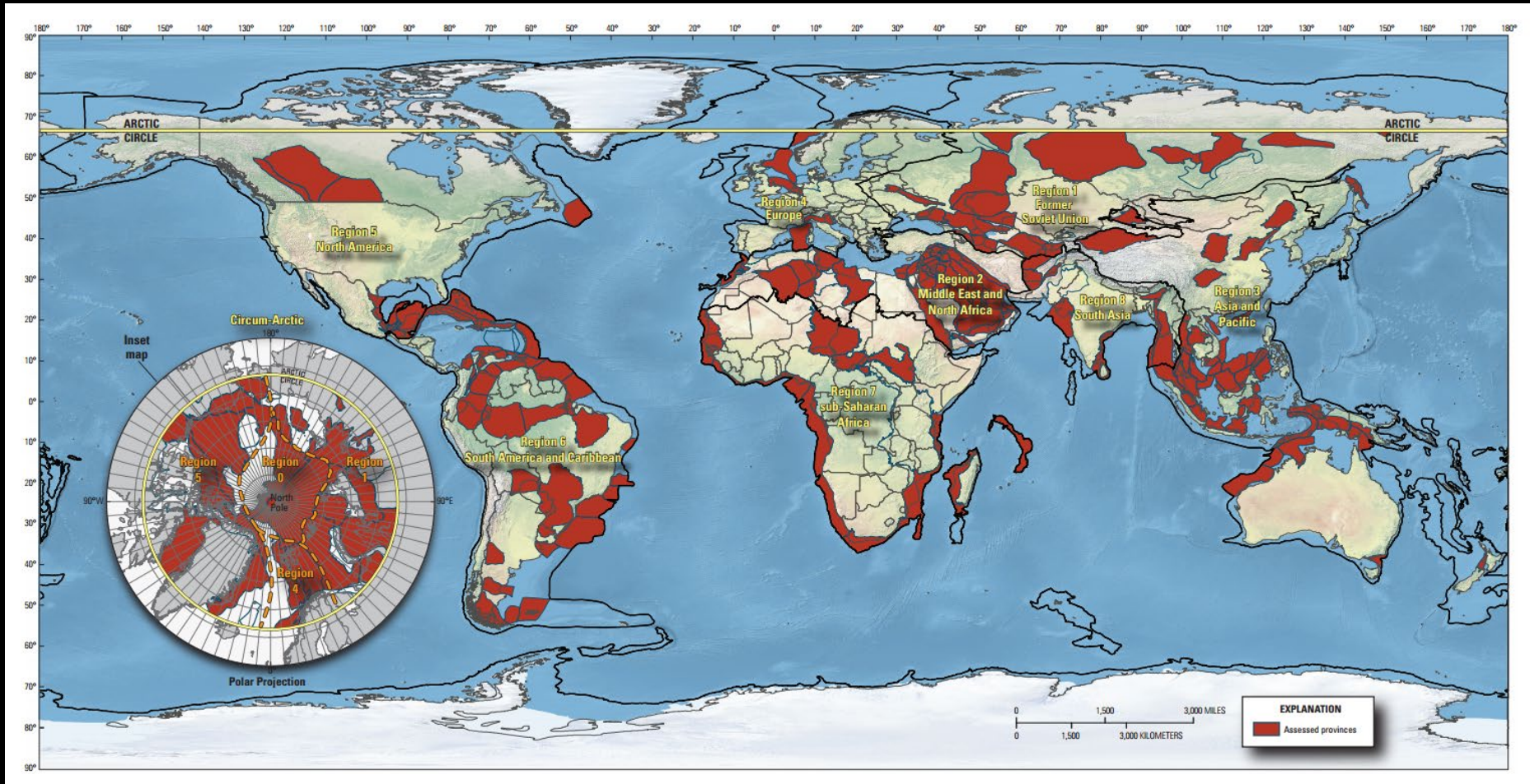
Source: IBRU

World oil & gas basins and fields



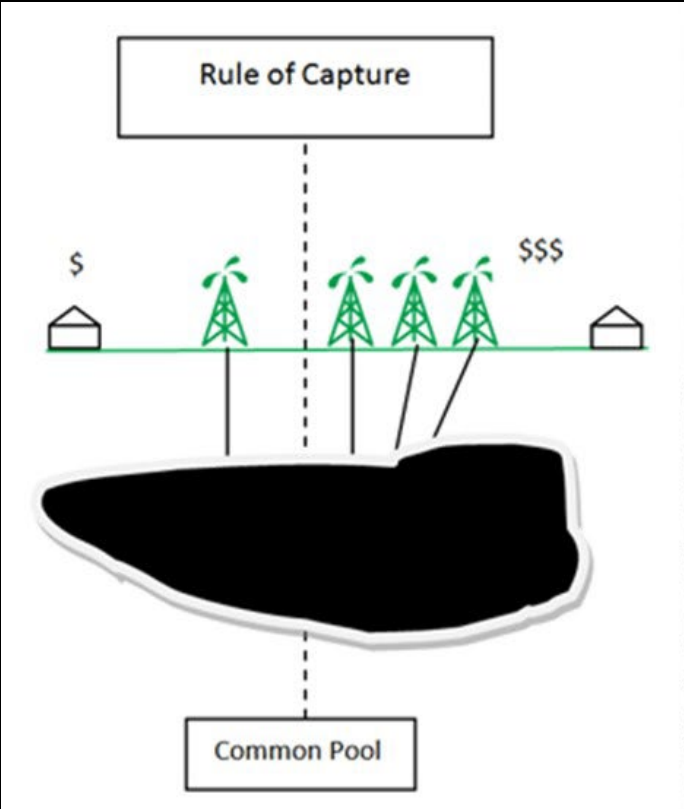
Source: atlas-for-the-end-of-the-world.com/world_maps/world_maps_energy.html

Geological provinces with high hydrocarbon potential



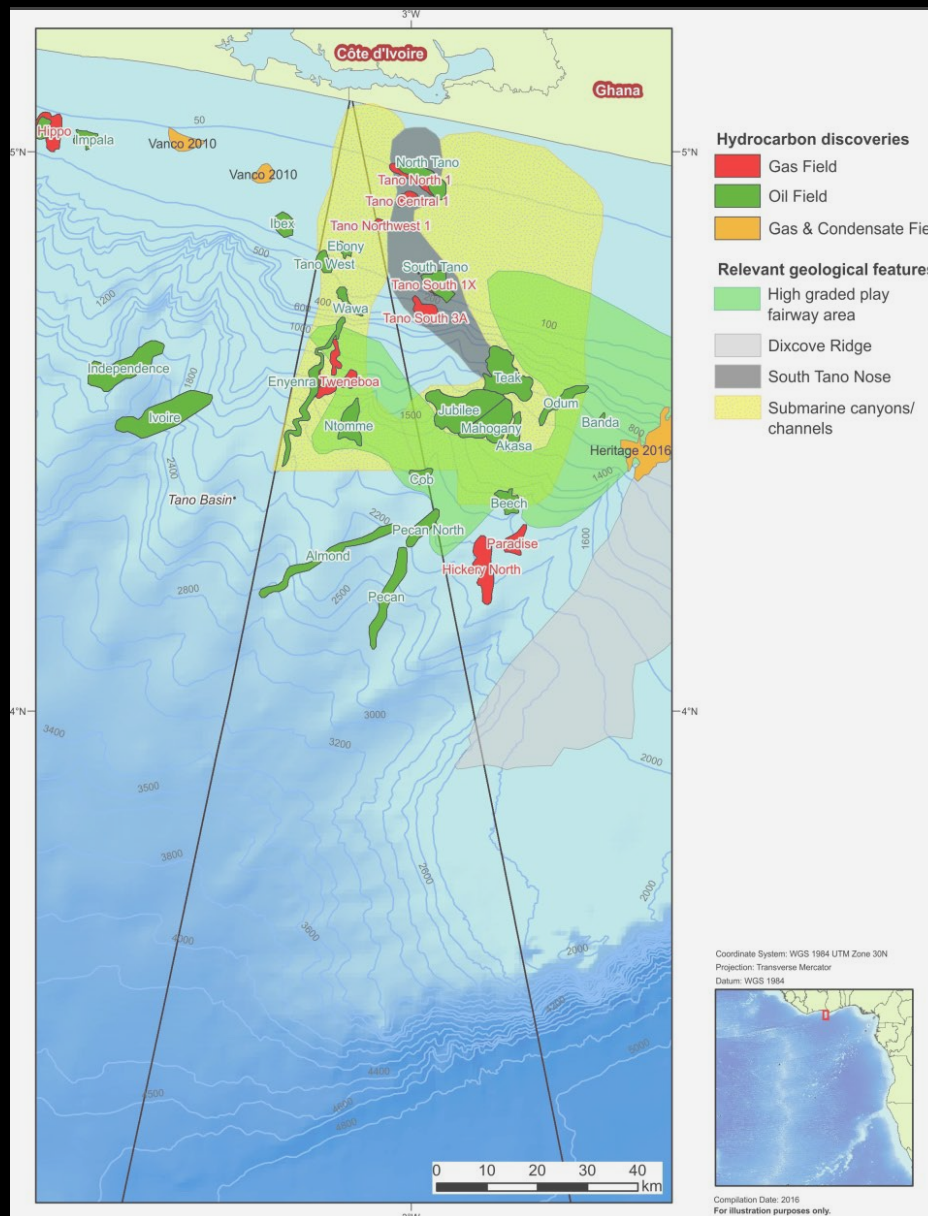
Source: <https://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2012/3042/fs2012-3042.pdf>

Suck harder?

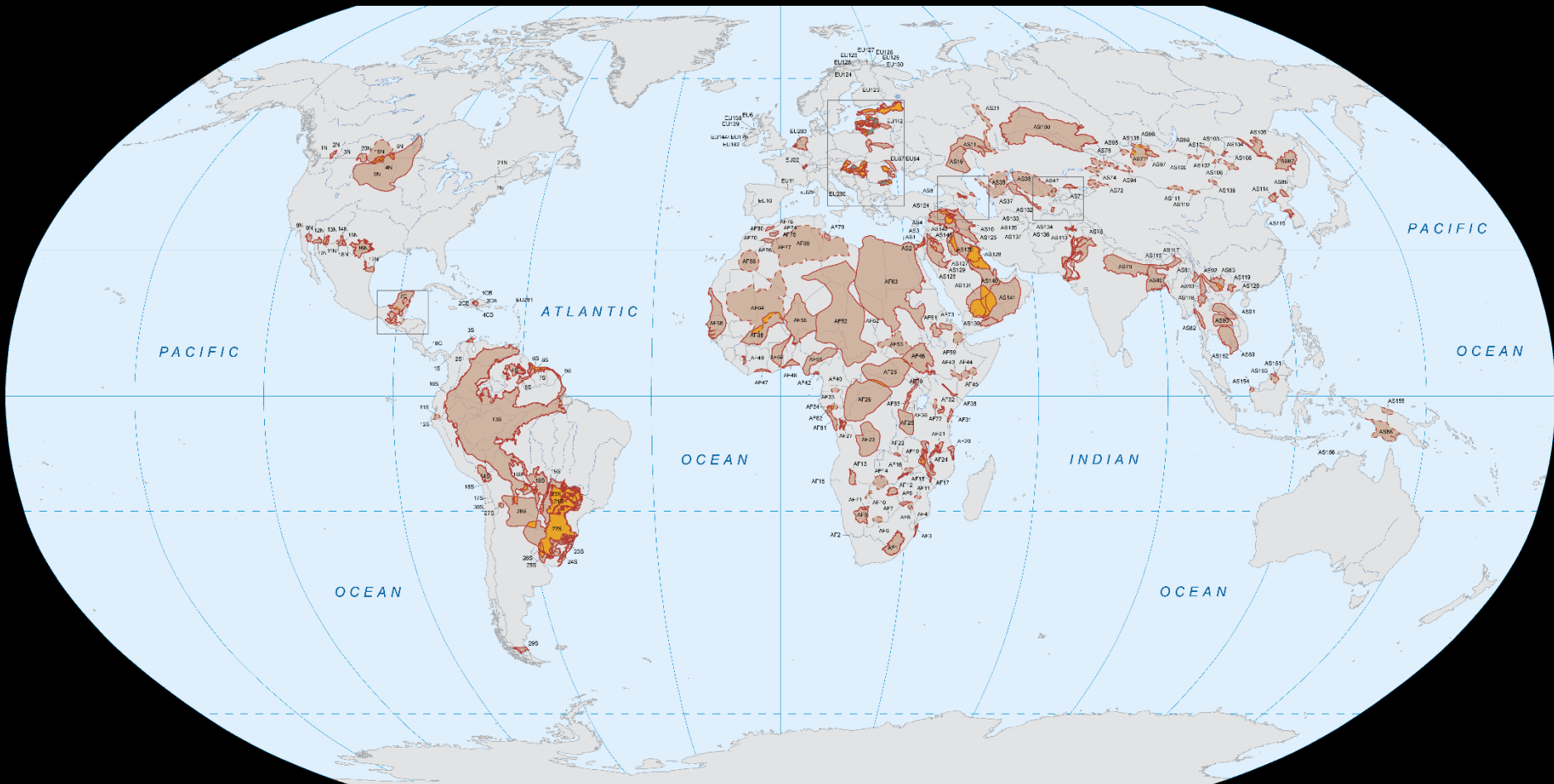


Une concentration exceptionnelle d'hydrocarbures

An Exceptional Concentration of Hydrocarbons

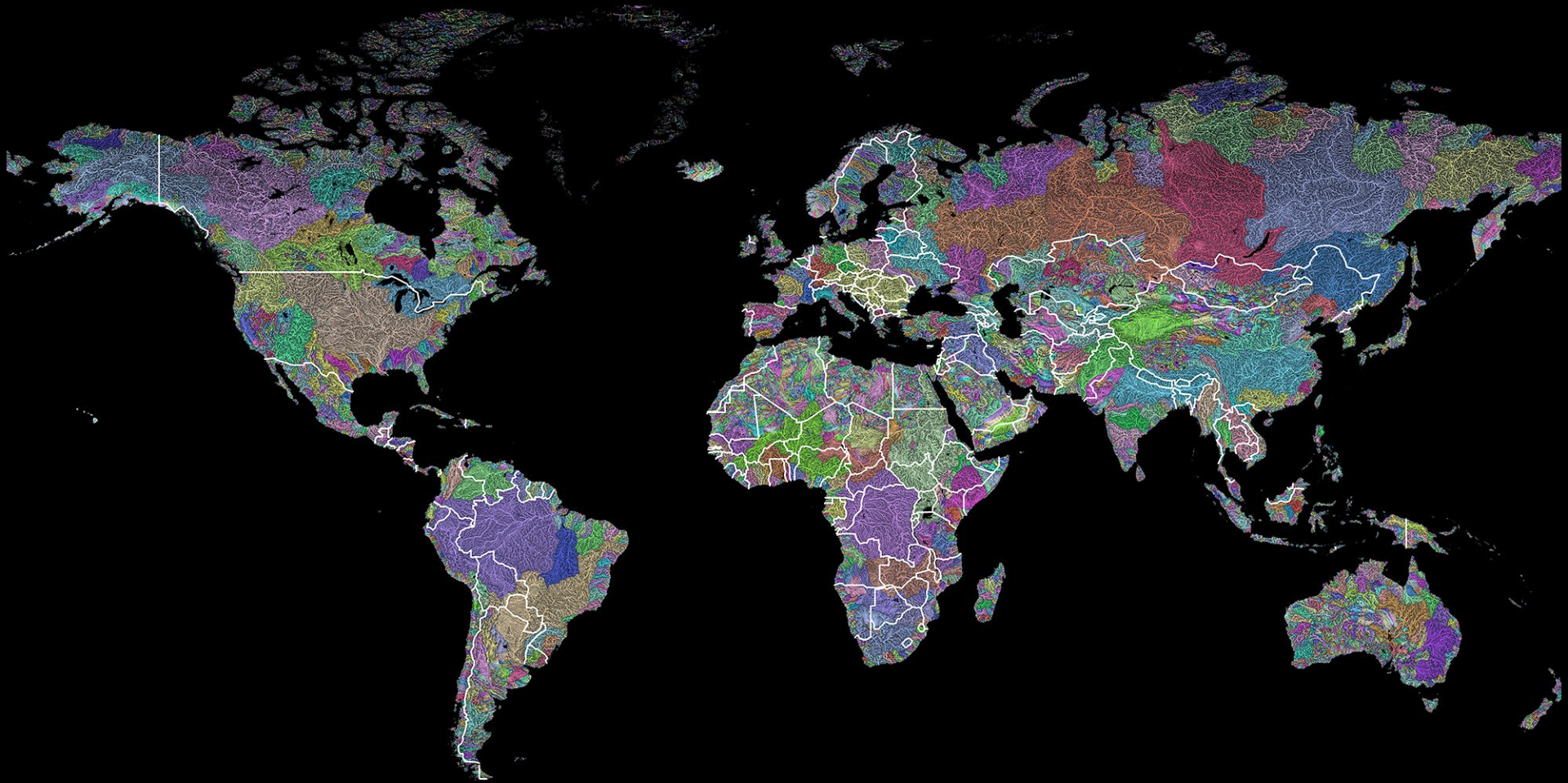


Transboundary aquifers

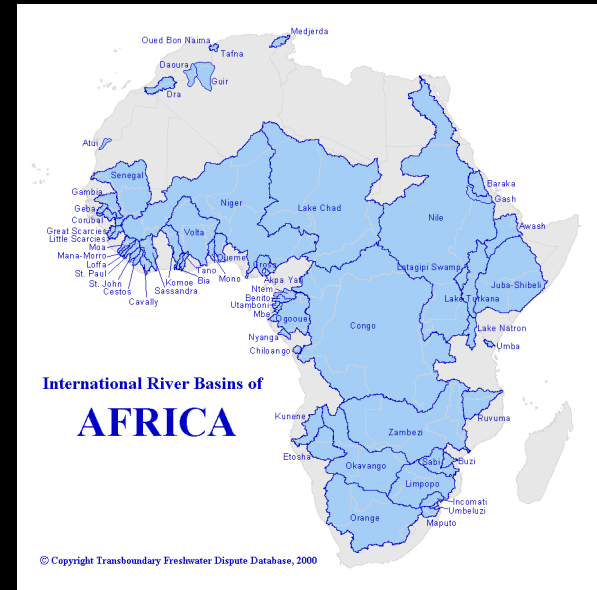
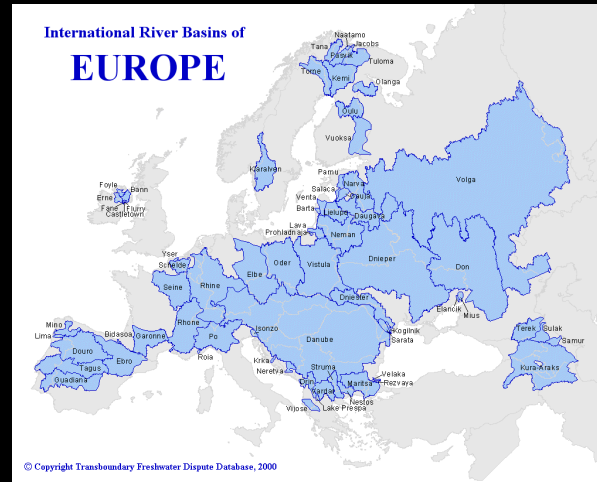


Source: www.un-igrac.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/TBMap_2015.pdf

International river basins

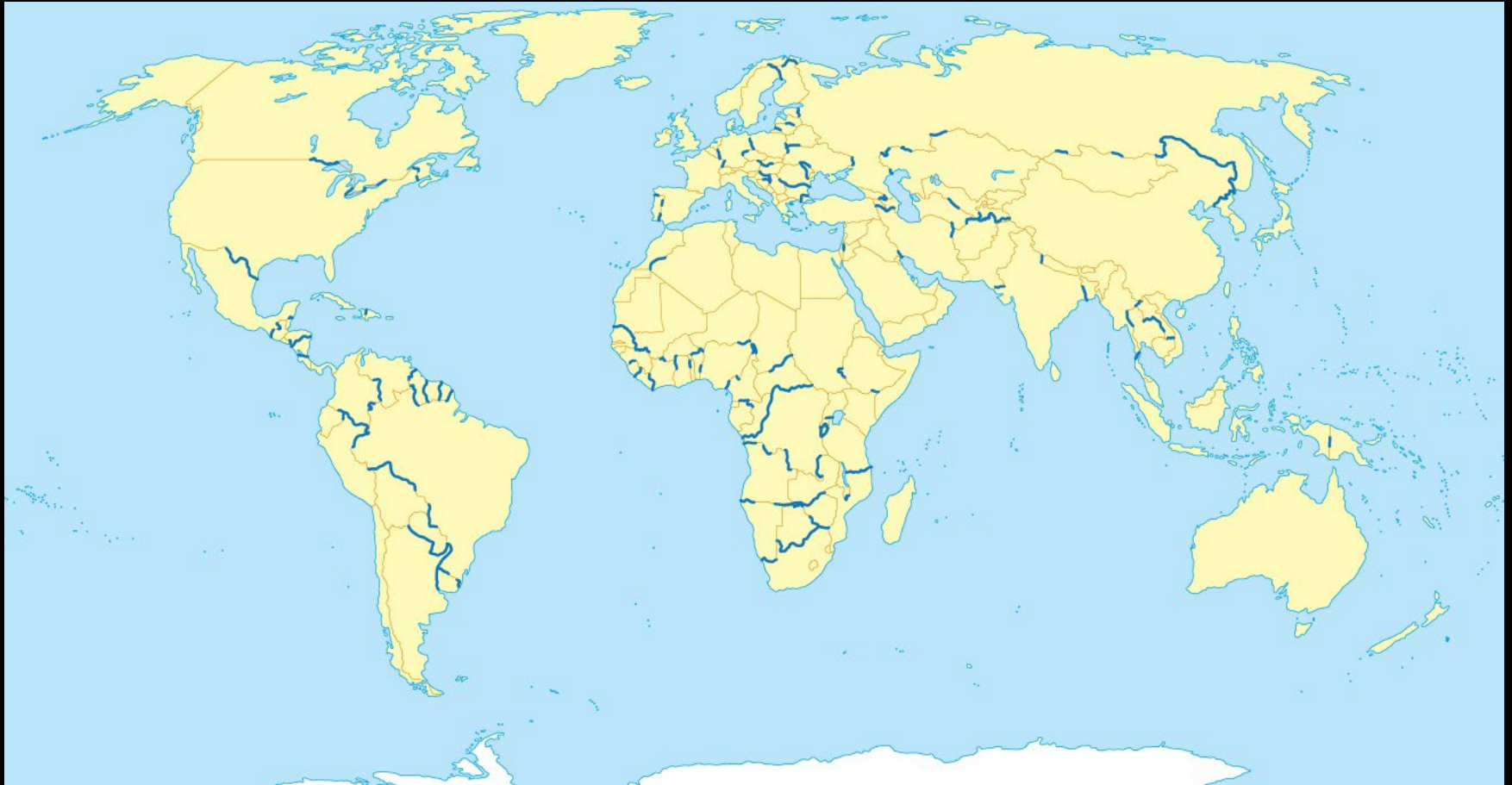


International river basins



- 310 (?) international basins
- 21 states entirely within international basins
- 64 states at least 70% within international basins
- 19 basins shared by 5 or more riparian states

Major river boundaries



Source: IBRU

Challenges in water boundary and transboundary water utilisation and management

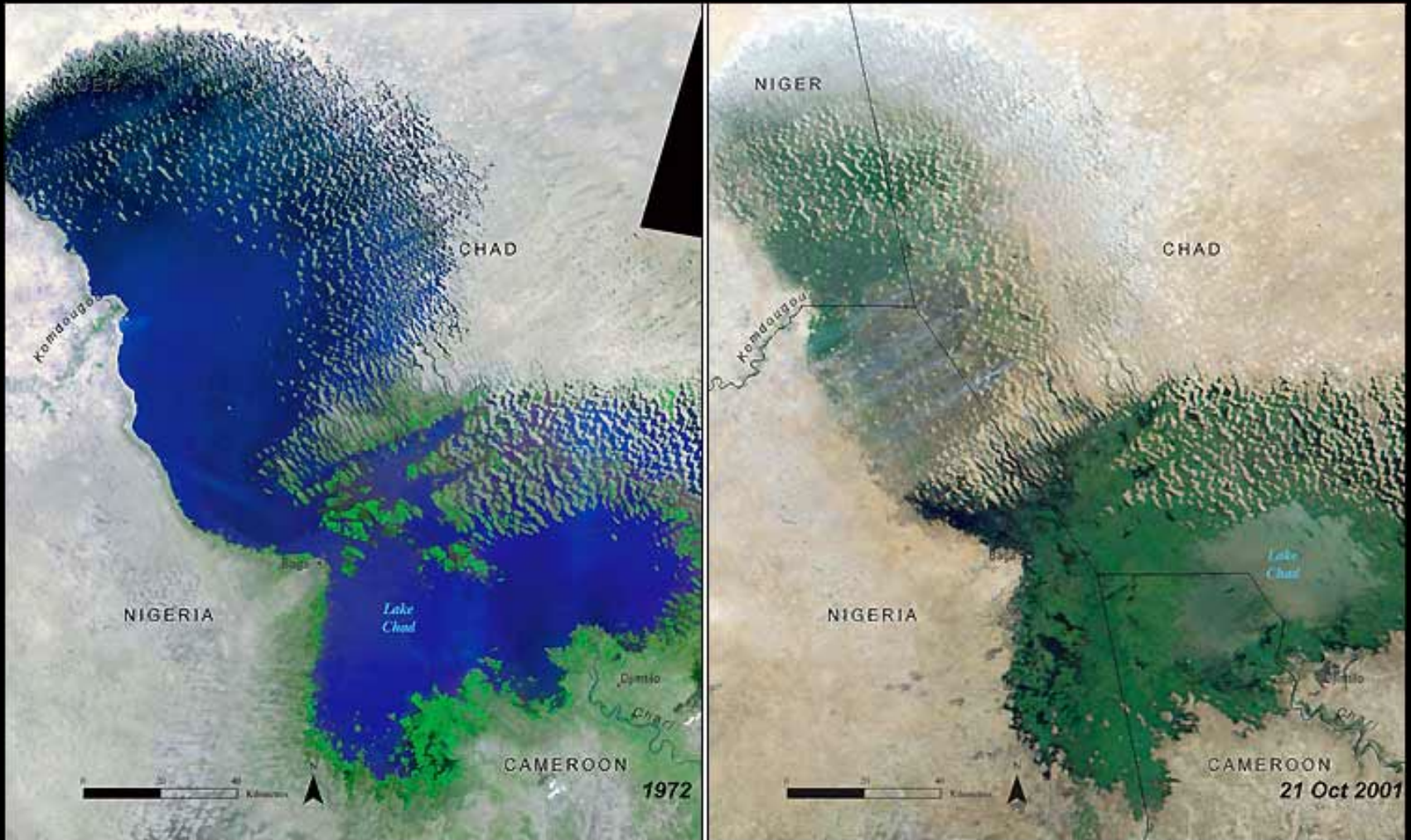
Navigational uses

- Travel
- Commerce
- Recreation

Non-navigational uses

- Domestic use
- Fishing
- Minerals
- Irrigation
- Hydropower
- Industry
- Flood control

Lake Chad 1972 v. 2001



Water wars?

“Whiskey is for drinking. Water is for fighting over.”

Mark Twain

“The wars of this century were fought over oil.
The wars of the next century will be fought over water”

Ismail Serageldin, World Bank Vice-President 1995

“The consequences for humanity are grave.
Water scarcity threatens economic and social
gains and is a potent fuel for wars and conflict.”

Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General 2008



Examples of disputes over transboundary water usage

- Argentina-Uruguay: construction of pulp mills on Uruguay *
- Costa Rica-Nicaragua: navigation and other activities on San Juan river *
- India-Pakistan: hydro-electric project on Kishenganga river **
- Turkmenistan-Uzbekistan: water-sharing on Amu Darya
- Nile basin states: water usage and allocation

* = dispute submitted to International Court of Justice

** = dispute submitted to arbitration

See also :

- ***Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database***
(www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/database/index.html)
- ***CIA World Factbook International Disputes section***
(www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2070.html)

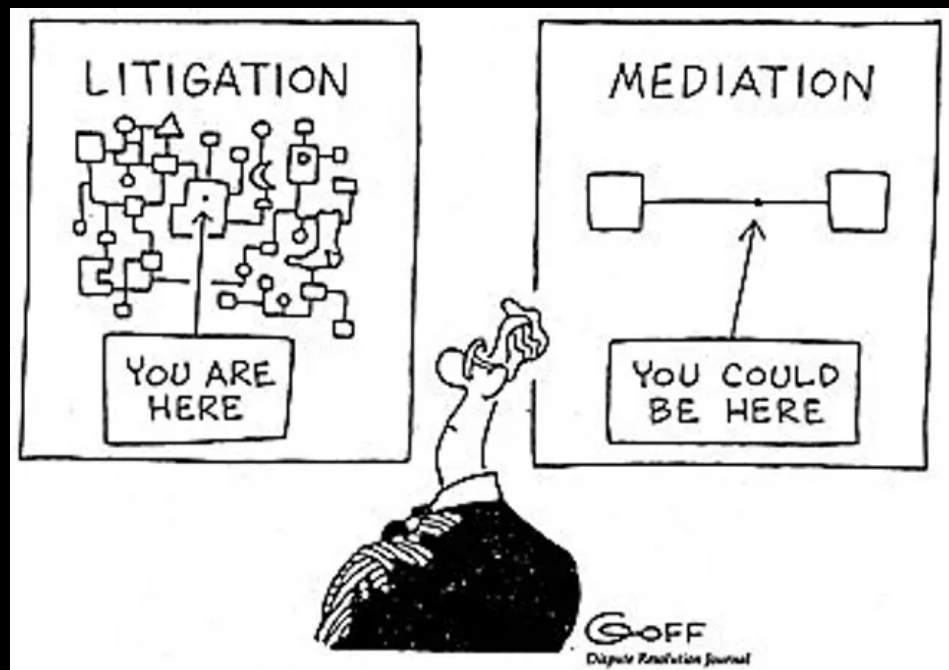
The UN Charter and dispute resolution

Article 2

All members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered.

Article 33(1)

The parties to any dispute, the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, shall, first of all, seek a solution by **negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements, or other peaceful means of their own choice.**

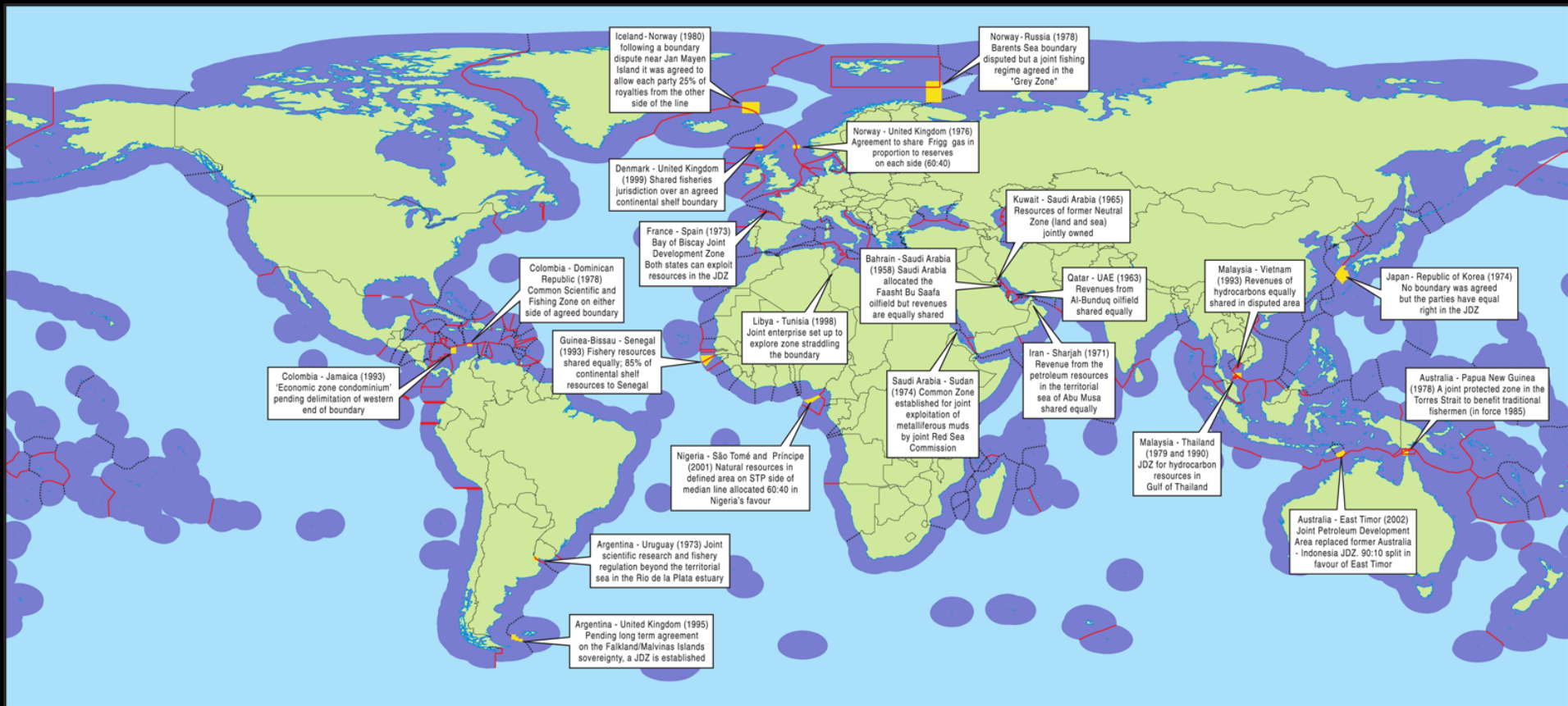


International agreements

- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982/1994)
 - Part XV: Settlement of Disputes
 - Articles 74 & 83, paragraph 3:

Pending agreement ... the States concerned, in a spirit of understanding and cooperation, shall make every effort to enter into **provisional arrangements of a practical nature** and, during this transitional period, not to jeopardize or hamper the reaching of the final agreement. Such arrangements shall be without prejudice to the final delimitation.

Offshore transboundary hydrocarbon & fishing cooperation



Source: IBRU

International agreements

- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982/1994)
- Straddling Fish Stocks Agreement (1995/2001)
- Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses (1997/2014)
- Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) (2023/?)

'Peace Parks'

2007 survey: 277 transboundary protected area complexes incorporating 3,043 individual protected areas or internationally designated sites.



Source: www.tbpa.net

Region	Area (km²)
North America	1,511,627
Central and South America	1,424,698
Europe	188,153
Africa	931,618
Asia	570,506
Global	4,626,602

Source: UNEP-WCMC

Programme

Wednesday

- Options for resolving boundary disputes impacting on transboundary resources
- The role of the World Bank in supporting transboundary resource development and management projects
- Sovereignty and jurisdiction: relevant legal principles for resolving boundary disputes
- *Reception*

Programme

Thursday

- Cooperation agreements: the case of offshore ‘disputed border’ and ‘cross-border’ hydrocarbons deposits
- Practical exercise
- *Dinner*

Friday

- Deep sea mining
- Transboundary water resource management
- Round-table discussion

Thank you!



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Geographical intelligence for international
boundary-making and dispute resolution