

# **A SEABED SCRAMBLE:**

## **Overlapping Outer Continental Shelf Entitlements, their Resource Potential and their Resolution**

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# Disclaimer

- Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the graphics/figures contained in this presentation and the accompanying paper, these are necessarily:
  - Illustrative
  - Indicative
  - Independent
  - Preliminary
- It is requested that the figures contained in this paper are not quoted without the permission of the authors

# What is the State of Play for Extended Continental Shelf Submissions Around the World?

There are 192 (UN Member States) Countries in the world today ...

Of these, there are \*155 Coastal States in the world today ..

Of these 155 as many as \*84 of these Coastal States have the opportunity to formally submit an Extended Continental Shelf (ECS) Submission (in accordance with UNCLOS, Article 76) beyond 200 nautical miles (NM) (EEZ) ....

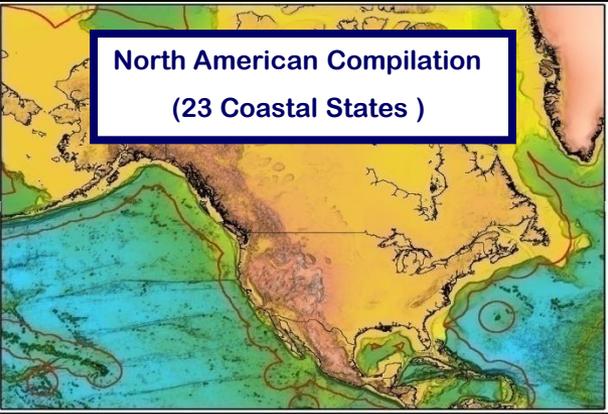
To date, \*\*75 Individual Coastal States claims (both full (\*\*53) & preliminary (\*\*42)) submissions have been deposited with the United Nations, mapping out substantial areas of extended continental shelf subject to coastal State jurisdiction totalling over ~30,155,031 km<sup>2</sup> (including some overlapping claims) .... but not including the additional 9 Coastal States possible/probable submission yet to come)

Of this 30,155,031 km<sup>2</sup> of new possible/probable seabed based on the current 75 countries claims already submitted to the CLCS, possibly 32 areas with approximate total area of ~2,711,107 km<sup>2</sup> (~9%) will involve Extended Continental Shelf (ECS) maritime overlapping claim Area (OCA) disputes ... and a possibility for up to 16 more areas (for the additional 9 Coastal States submissions yet to come) ...

**These new potential maritime spaces will become the “*Next Frontier*” for all resource exploration / exploitation for decades to come ....**

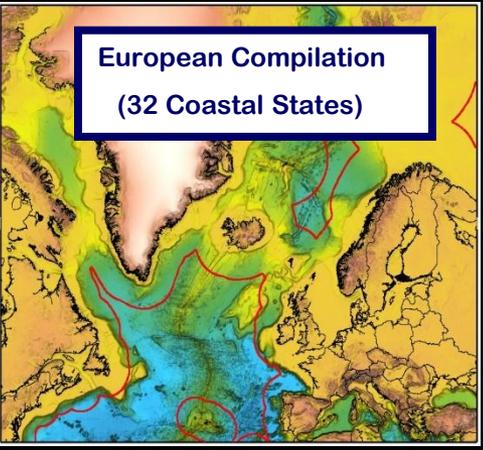
*\*Robert van de Poll (2009 Fugro Global LOS Compilation Database ~ possible based on notification and/or analysis)*

*\*\*United Nations Website ~ deposited as of October 2010*



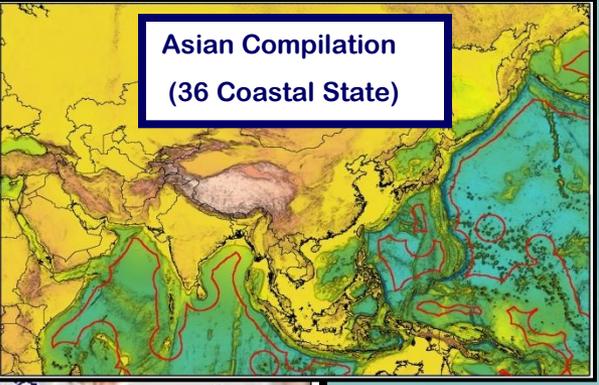
North American Compilation  
(23 Coastal States )

This map shows the coastal waters of North America, including the United States, Canada, and Mexico. It features a color-coded bathymetric chart with red outlines indicating the boundaries of 23 coastal states.



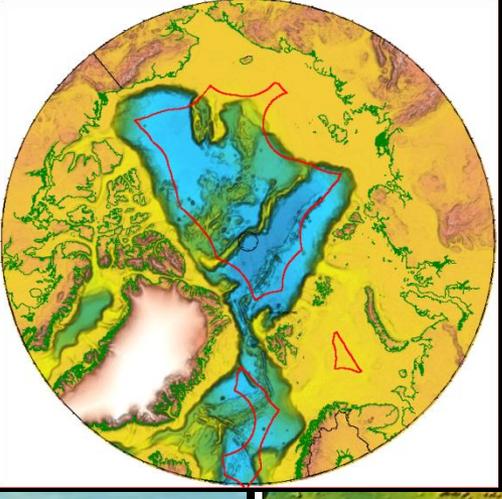
European Compilation  
(32 Coastal States)

This map displays the coastal waters of Europe, including the British Isles, Scandinavia, and the Mediterranean region. It uses a color-coded bathymetric chart with red outlines for 32 coastal states.



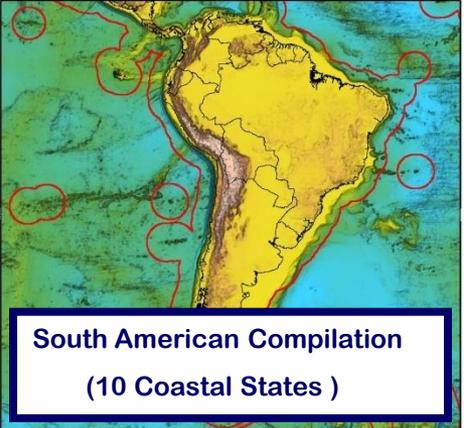
Asian Compilation  
(36 Coastal State)

This map covers the coastal waters of Asia, including the Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asia, and East Asia. It features a color-coded bathymetric chart with red outlines for 36 coastal states.



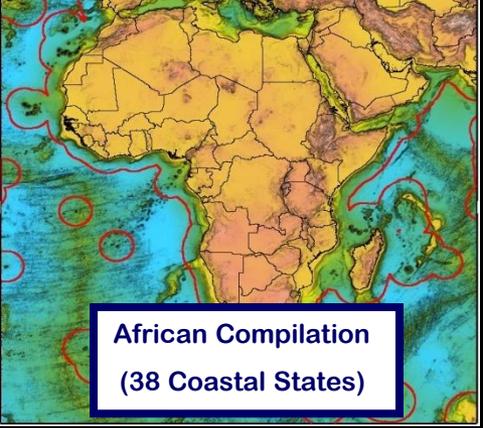
Fugro's Regional Compilation  
Database  
A Law of the Sea Inventory  
for 155 Coastal States

This central map shows a global view of the world's coastal waters, with red outlines indicating the boundaries of 155 coastal states. The map is color-coded by bathymetry and includes a central text box.



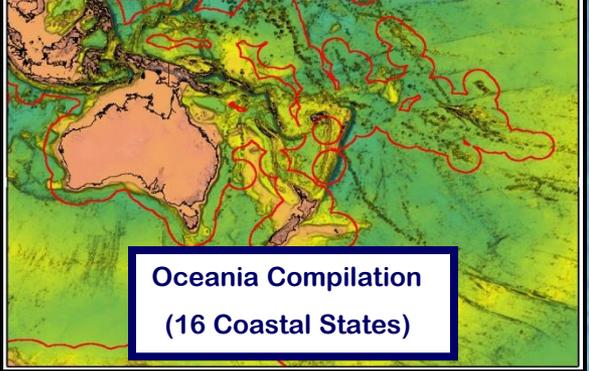
South American Compilation  
(10 Coastal States )

This map shows the coastal waters of South America, including Brazil, Chile, and Peru. It features a color-coded bathymetric chart with red outlines for 10 coastal states.



African Compilation  
(38 Coastal States)

This map displays the coastal waters of Africa, including the Mediterranean, Red Sea, and Indian Ocean. It uses a color-coded bathymetric chart with red outlines for 38 coastal states.



Oceania Compilation  
(16 Coastal States)

This map covers the coastal waters of Oceania, including Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands. It features a color-coded bathymetric chart with red outlines for 16 coastal states.

# The Fugro Global Law of the Sea Database (Examples from Africa Compilation)

Complete Global  
Coastlines and Borders Mapped  
at 1:75,000 Scale

Global Landsat TM7 Coverage  
(Recent ~ 2000 to 2005)  
(14.25 meter)

Territorial Sea Baselines  
(Gazetted)

Maritime Boundary Agreements  
(Gazetted)

Etopo5 / Etopo2 / Etopo1  
Bathymetric Raster Images  
(2000 meter)

Missing Baseline & Maritime  
Boundary Lines  
Interpreted (Hypothetical)

GEBCO1 Bathymetric  
Raster Images  
(2000 meter)

Single-Beam Bathymetry  
(24 Million NM of data)  
(Various Resolutions)

Seismic derived Sediment (Fine)  
Thickness Raster Images  
(2000 meter)

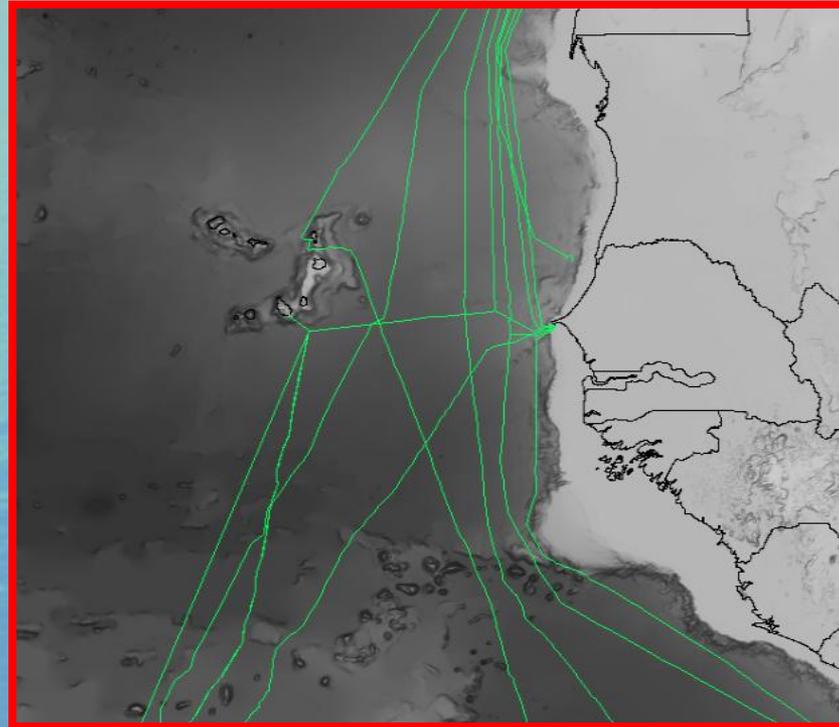
Multi-Beam Bathymetry  
(selective Regions)  
(Various Resolutions)

Seismic derived Sediment  
(Coarse) Thickness Raster Images  
(2000 meter)

Free-Air Gravity  
Raster Images  
(2000 meter)

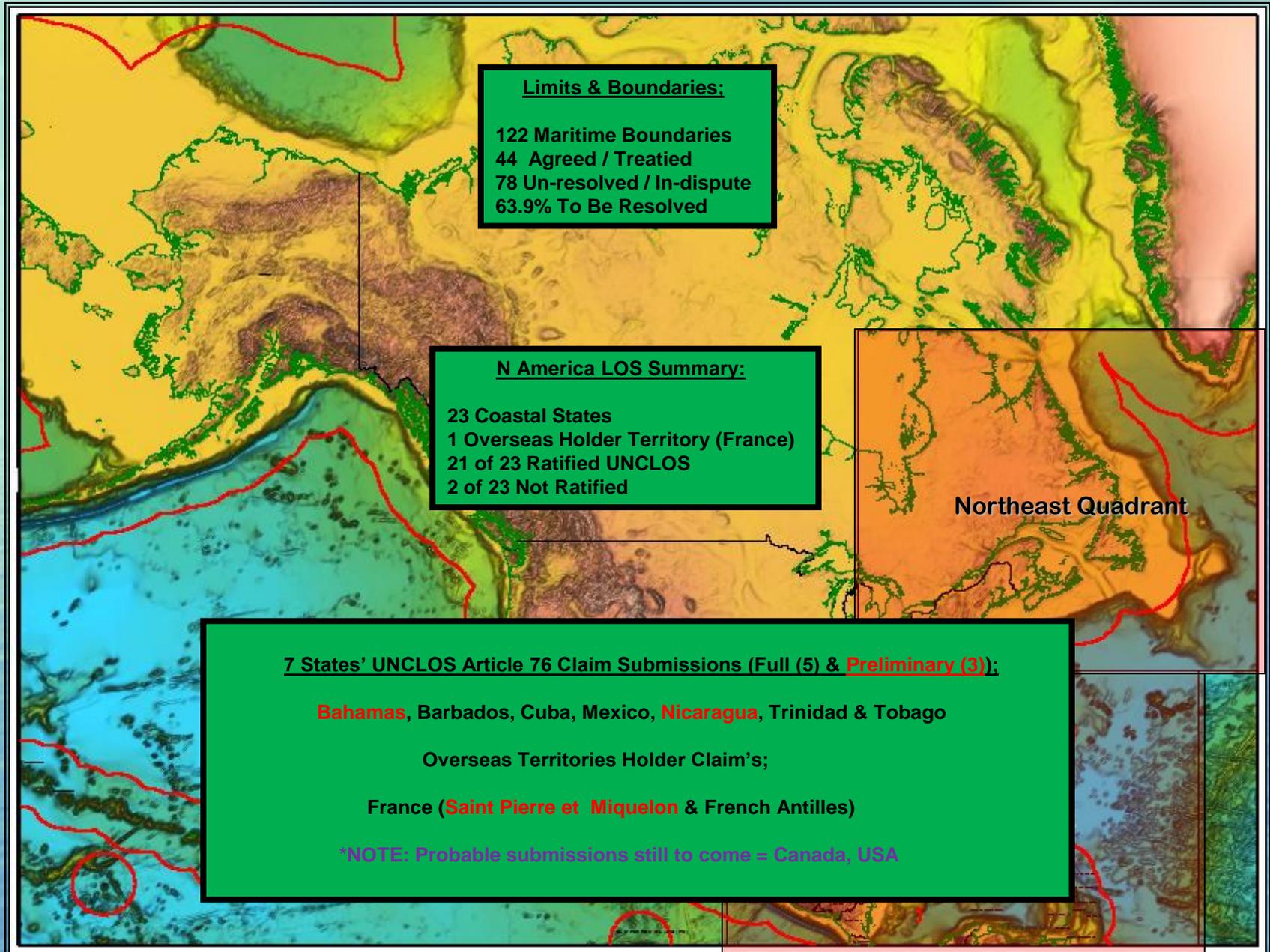
UNCLOS Article 76  
United Nations Submissions  
(75 States)

Fugro Global  
Cable Database

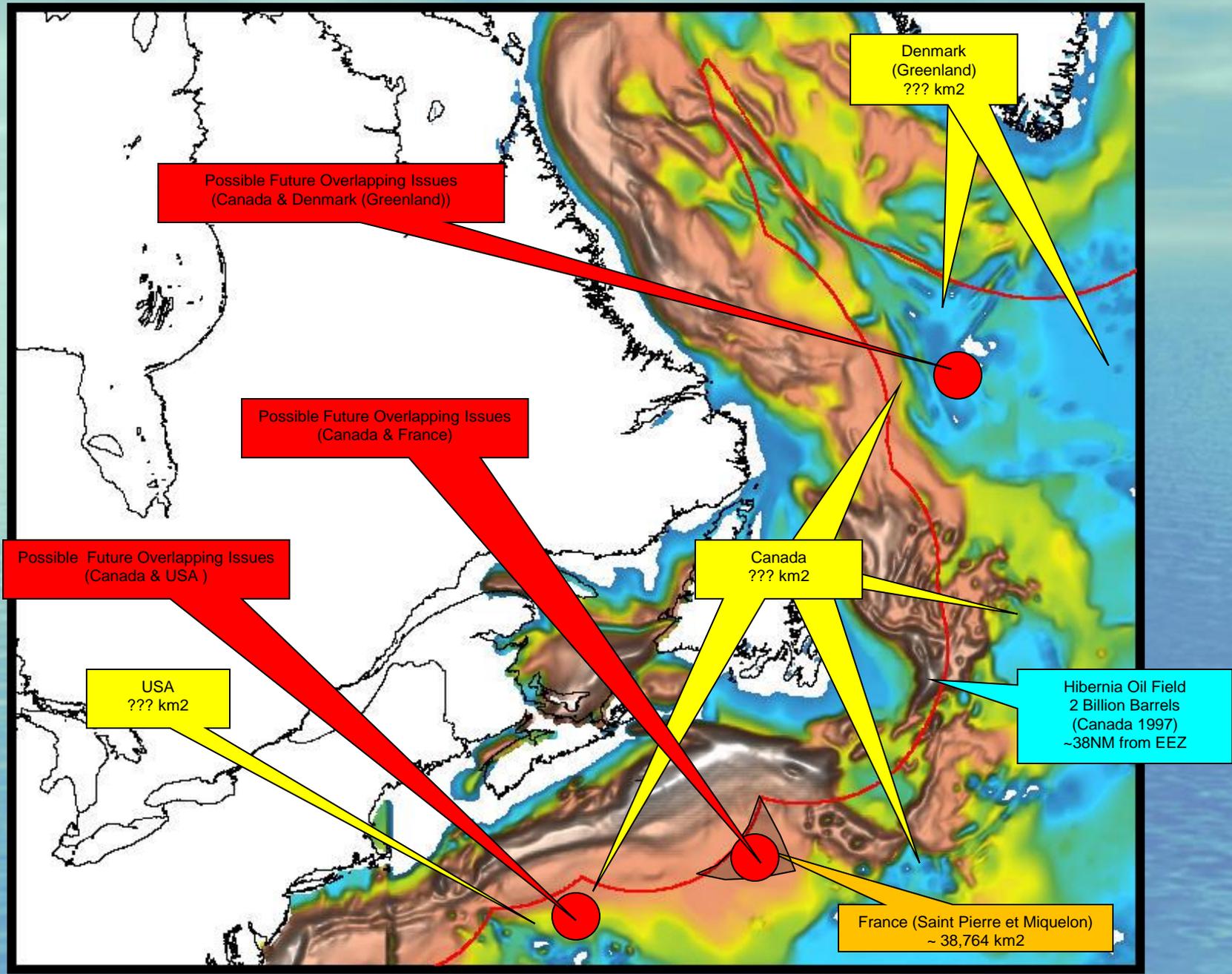


# North American (Plus Caribbean) UNCLOS A76 Summary

(23 Coastal States 1 Overseas Holder Territory)

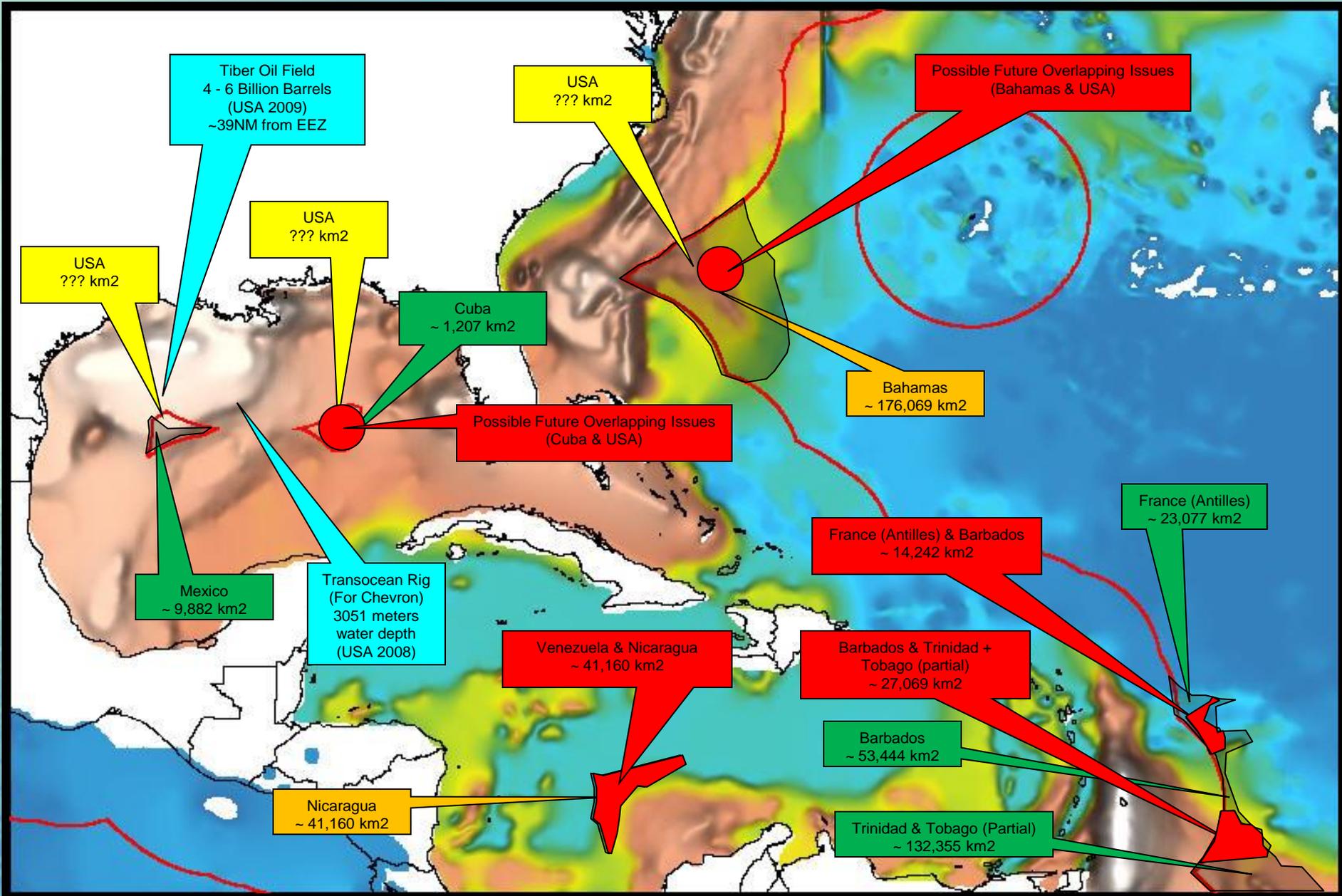


# North American UNCLOS A76 Summary (Northeast Quadrant)



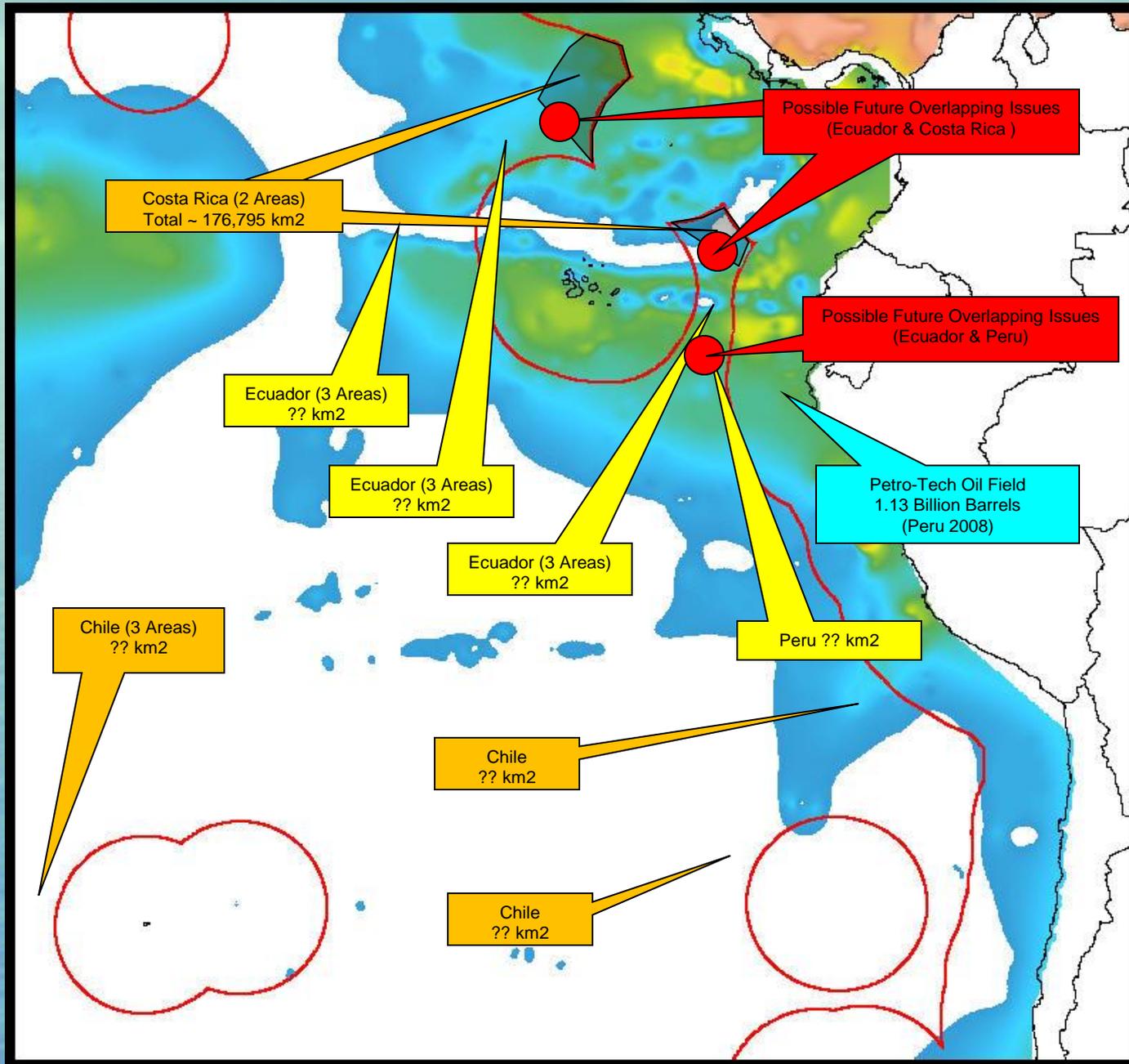
hydrocarbons examples are meant to be illustrative/selective of recent deep and ultra-deep water activities

# North American UNCLOS A76 Summary (Southeast Quadrant)

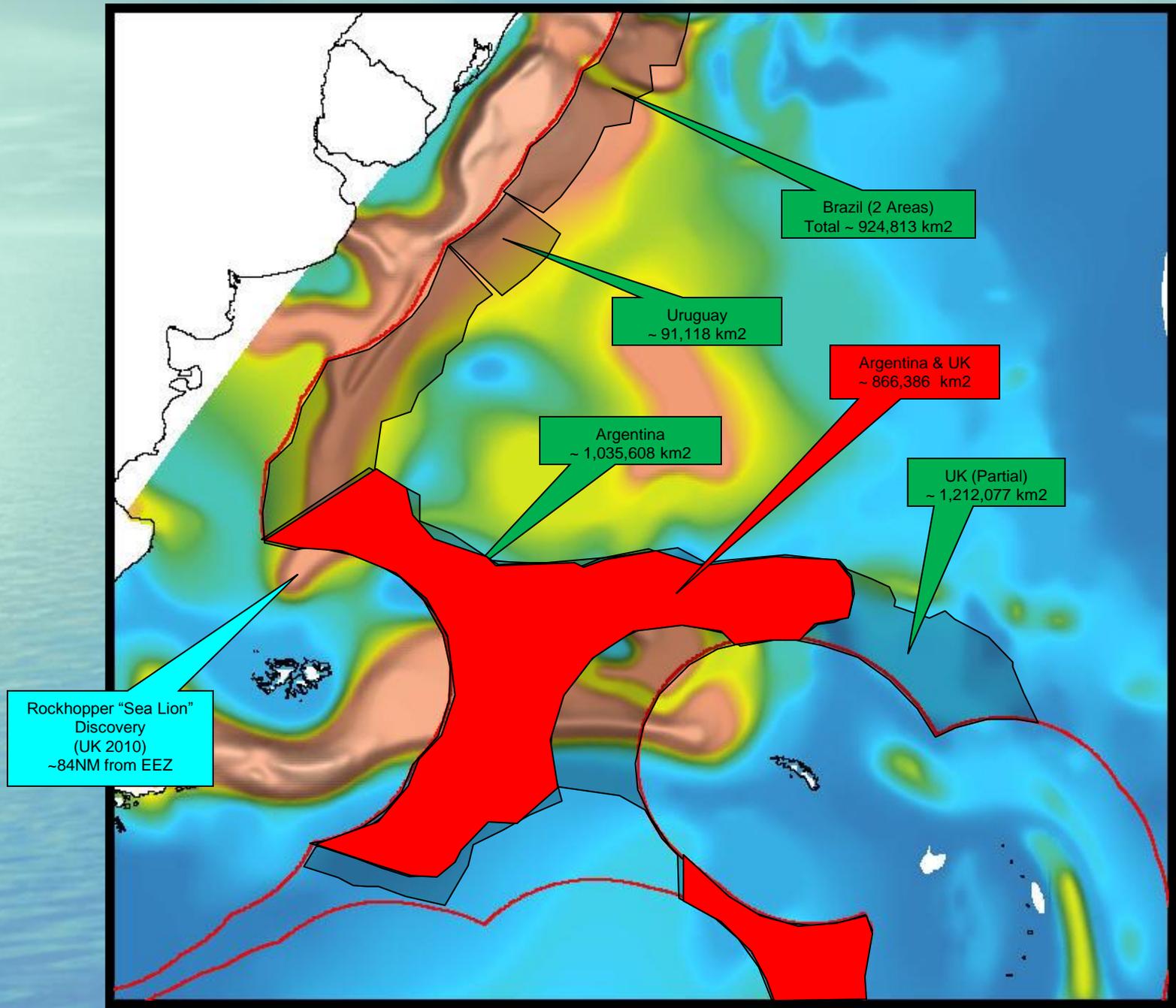




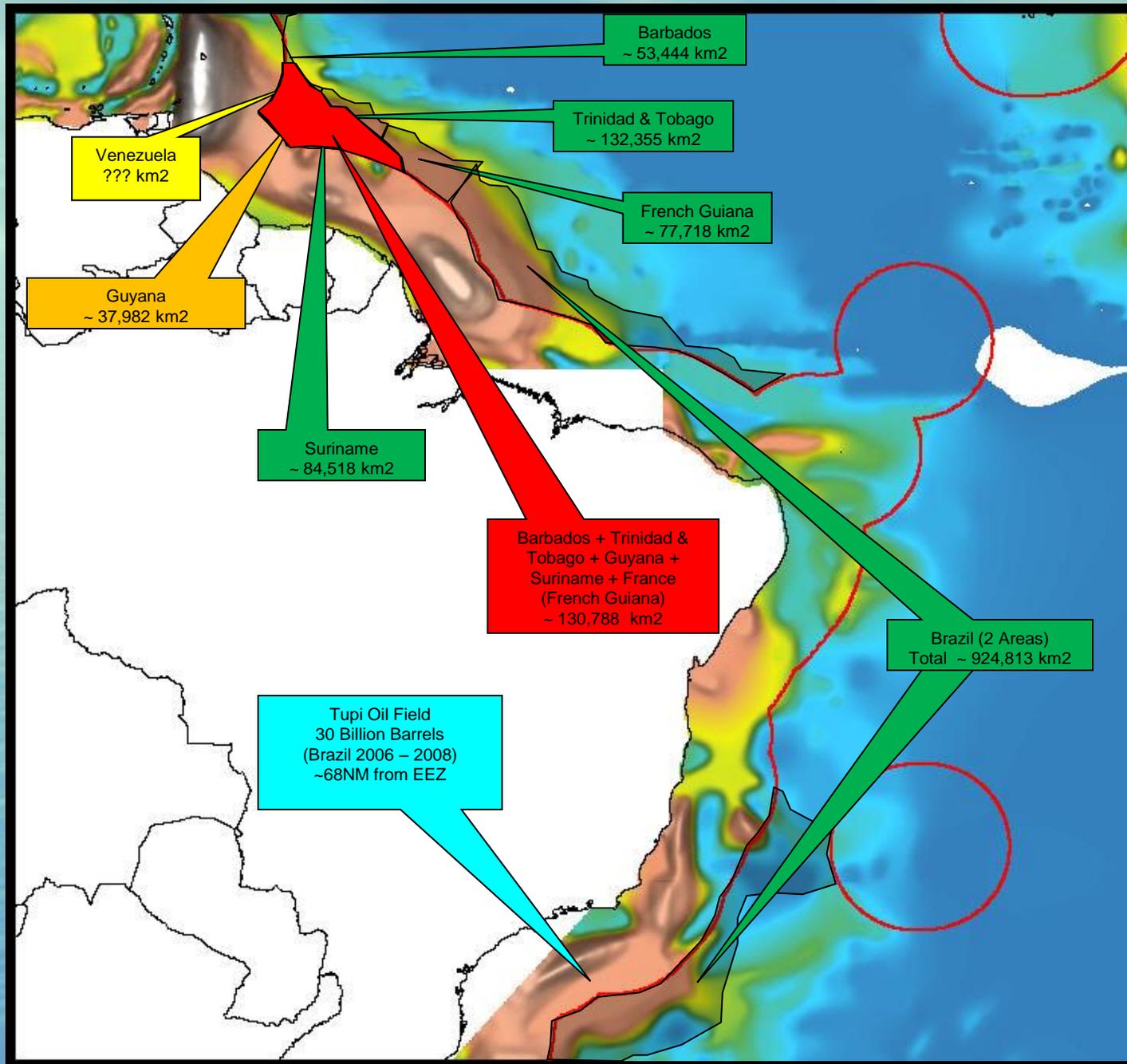
# South American UNCLOS A76 Summary (Northwest Quadrant)



# South American UNCLOS A76 Summary (Southeast Quadrant)

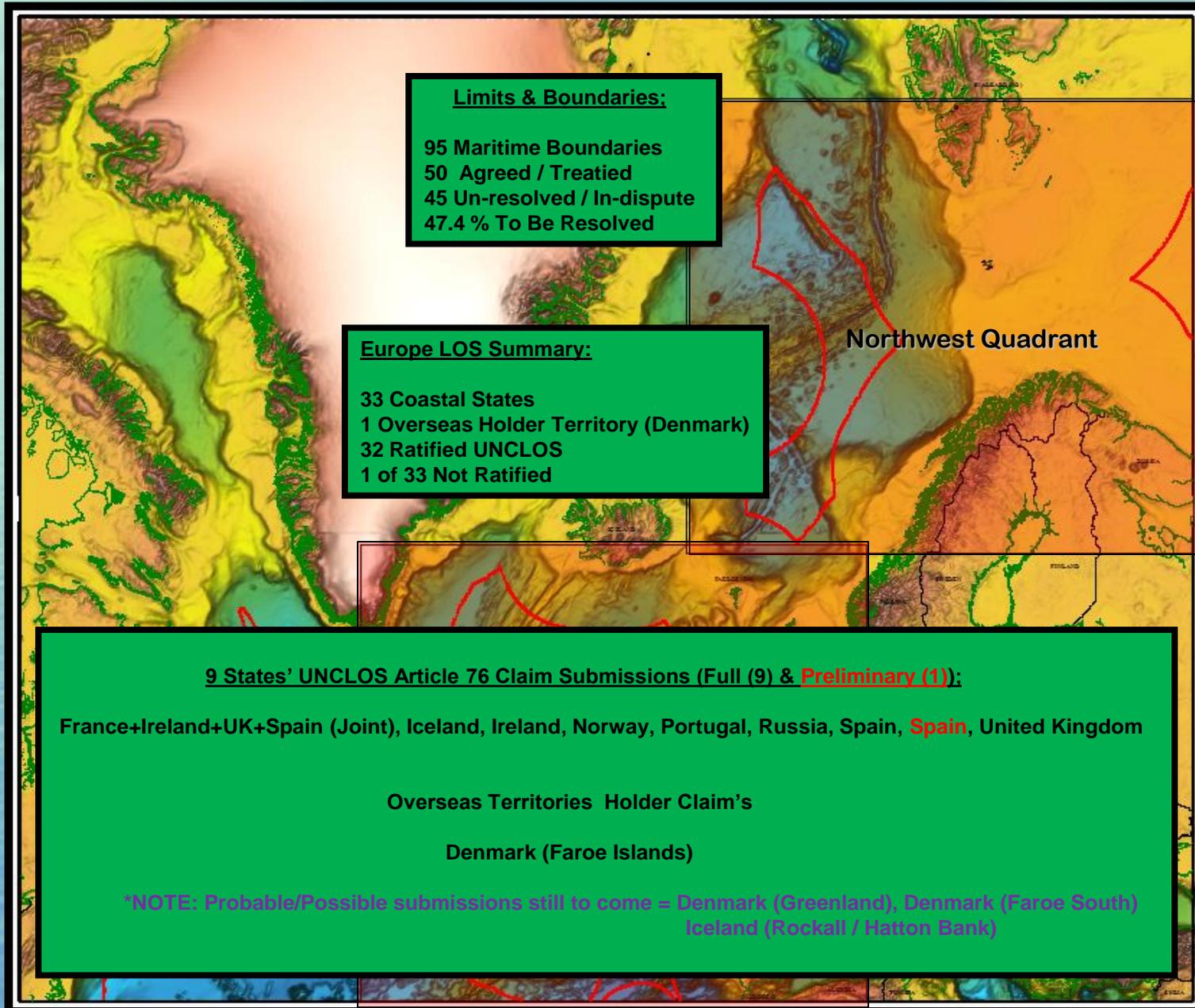


# South American UNCLOS A76 Summary (Northeast Quadrant)



# Europe UNCLOS A76 Summary

(33 Coastal States 1 Overseas Holder Territory)



## Limits & Boundaries:

95 Maritime Boundaries  
50 Agreed / Treated  
45 Un-resolved / In-dispute  
47.4 % To Be Resolved

## Europe LOS Summary:

33 Coastal States  
1 Overseas Holder Territory (Denmark)  
32 Ratified UNCLOS  
1 of 33 Not Ratified

Northwest Quadrant

## 9 States' UNCLOS Article 76 Claim Submissions (Full (9) & Preliminary (3)):

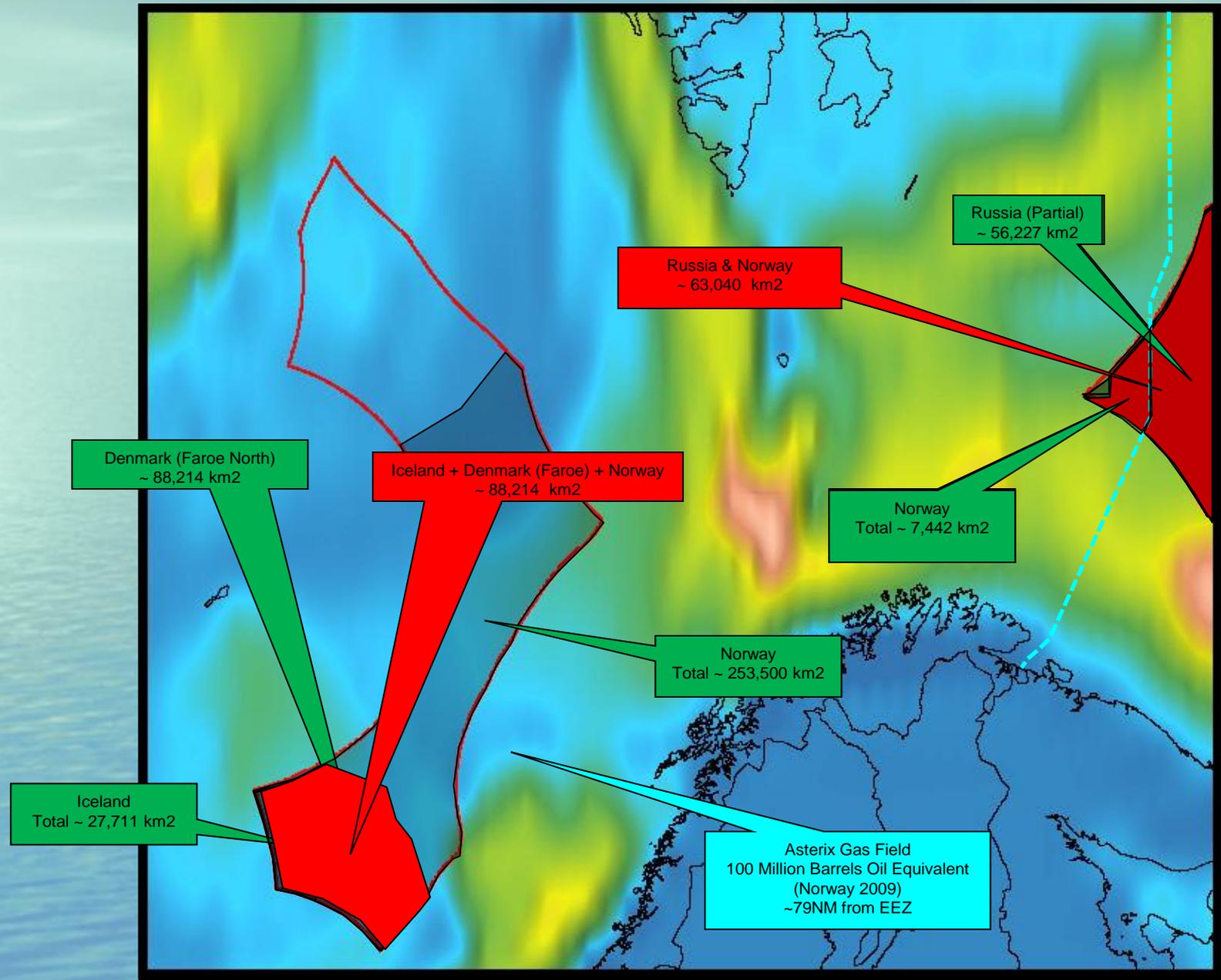
France+Ireland+UK+Spain (Joint), Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Spain, United Kingdom

Overseas Territories Holder Claim's

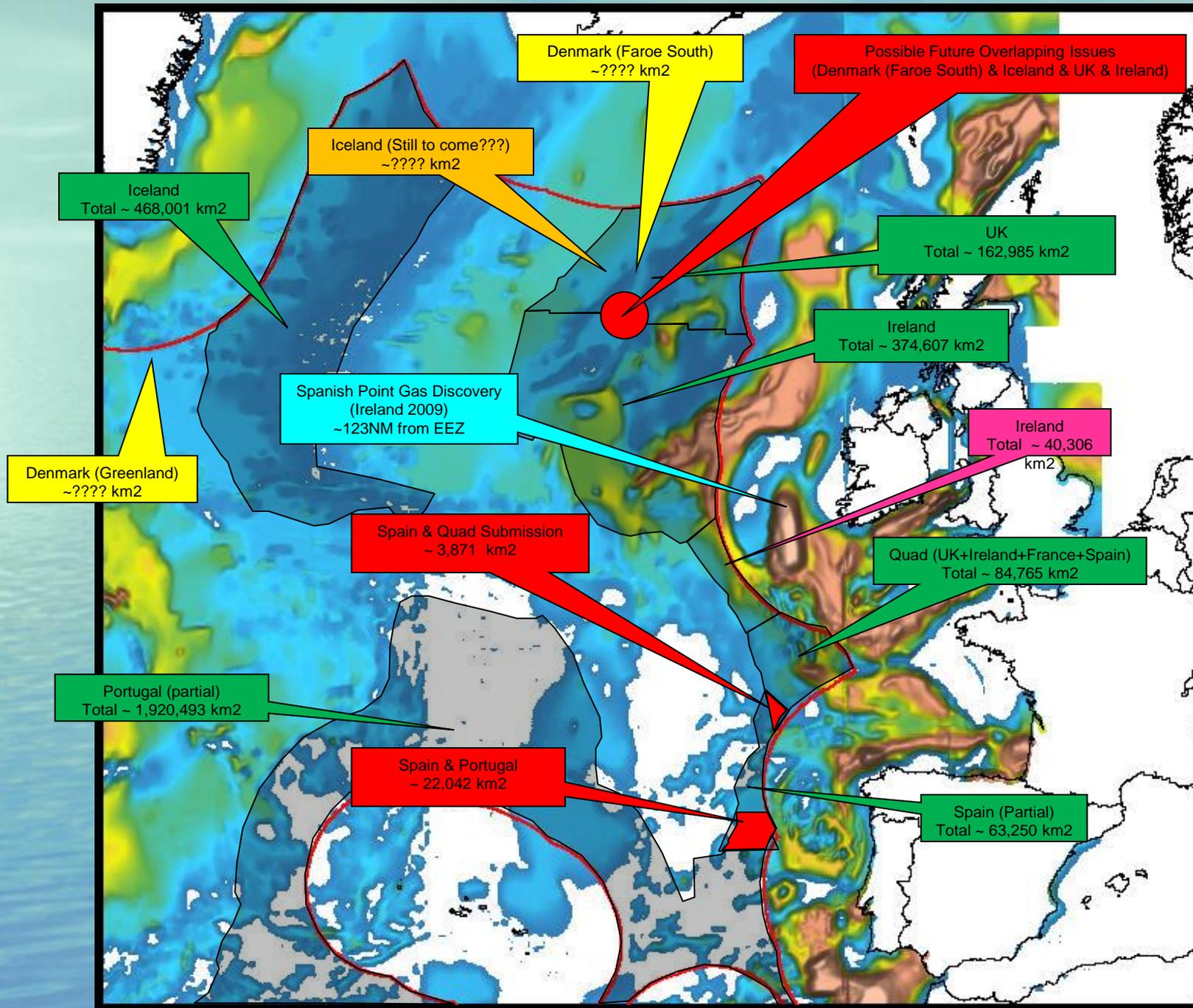
Denmark (Faroe Islands)

\*NOTE: Probable/Possible submissions still to come = Denmark (Greenland), Denmark (Faroe South)  
Iceland (Rockall / Halton Bank)

# European UNCLOS A76 Summary (Northeast Quadrant)

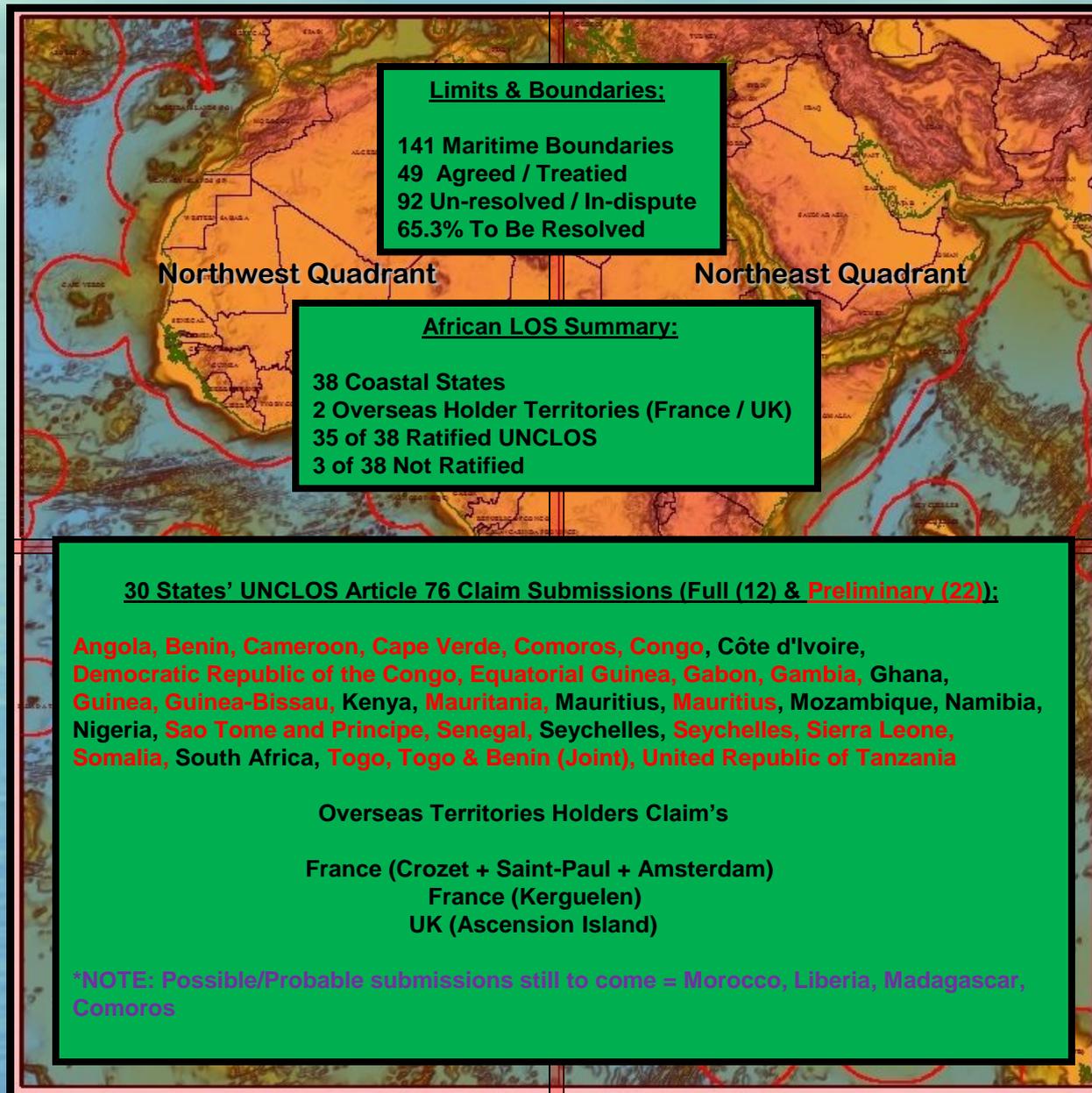


# European UNCLOS A76 Summary (Southwest Quadrant)

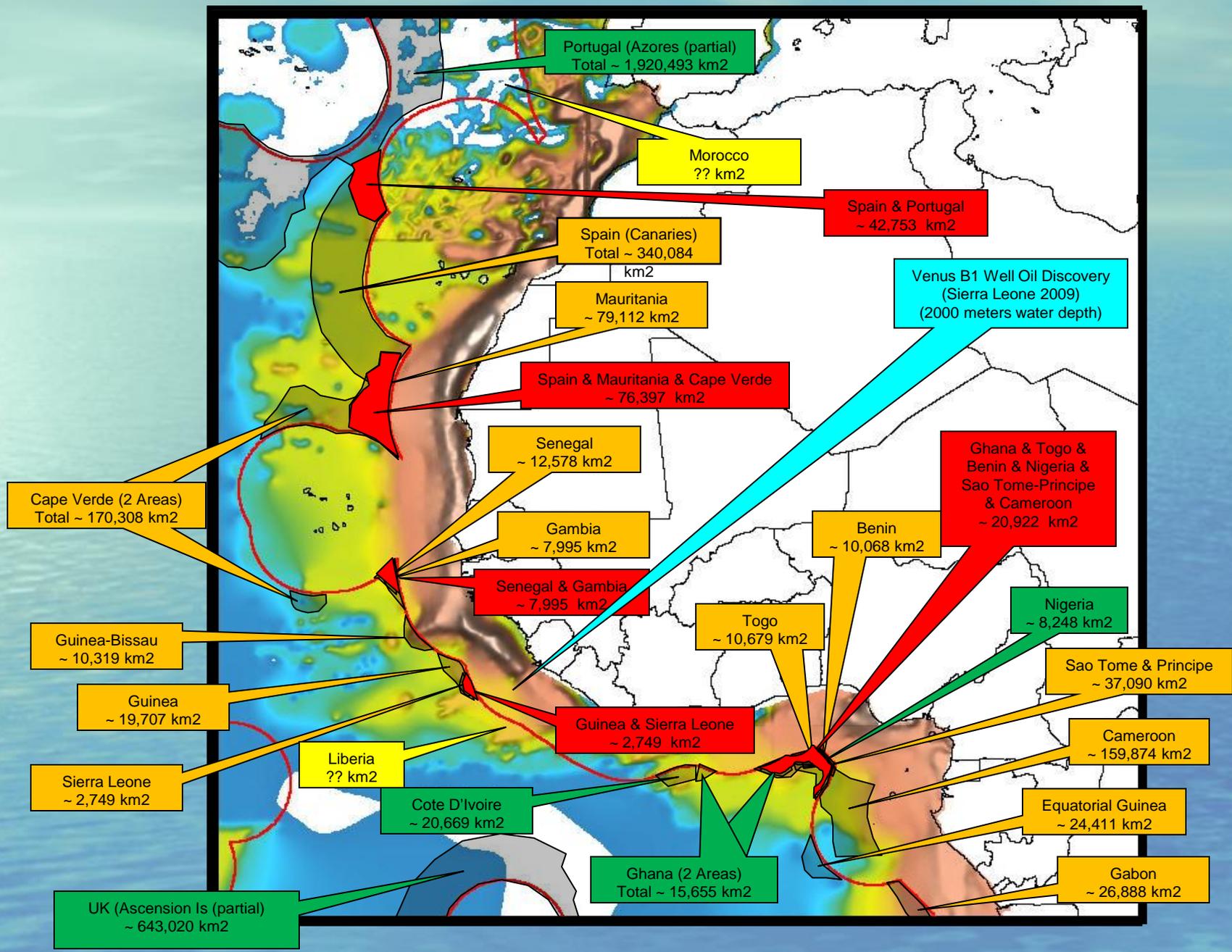


# African UNCLOS A76 Summary

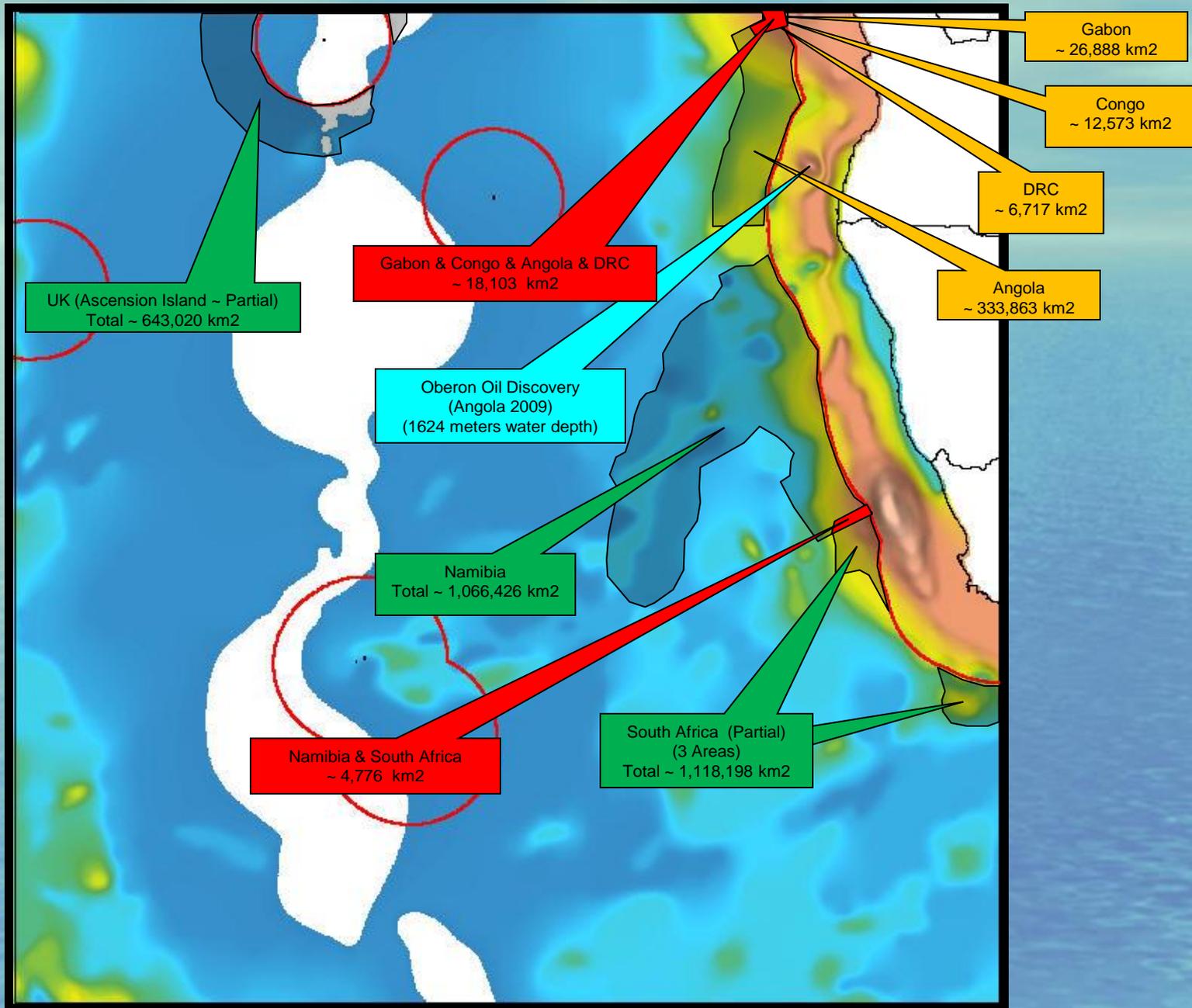
(38 Coastal States 2 Overseas Holder Territories)



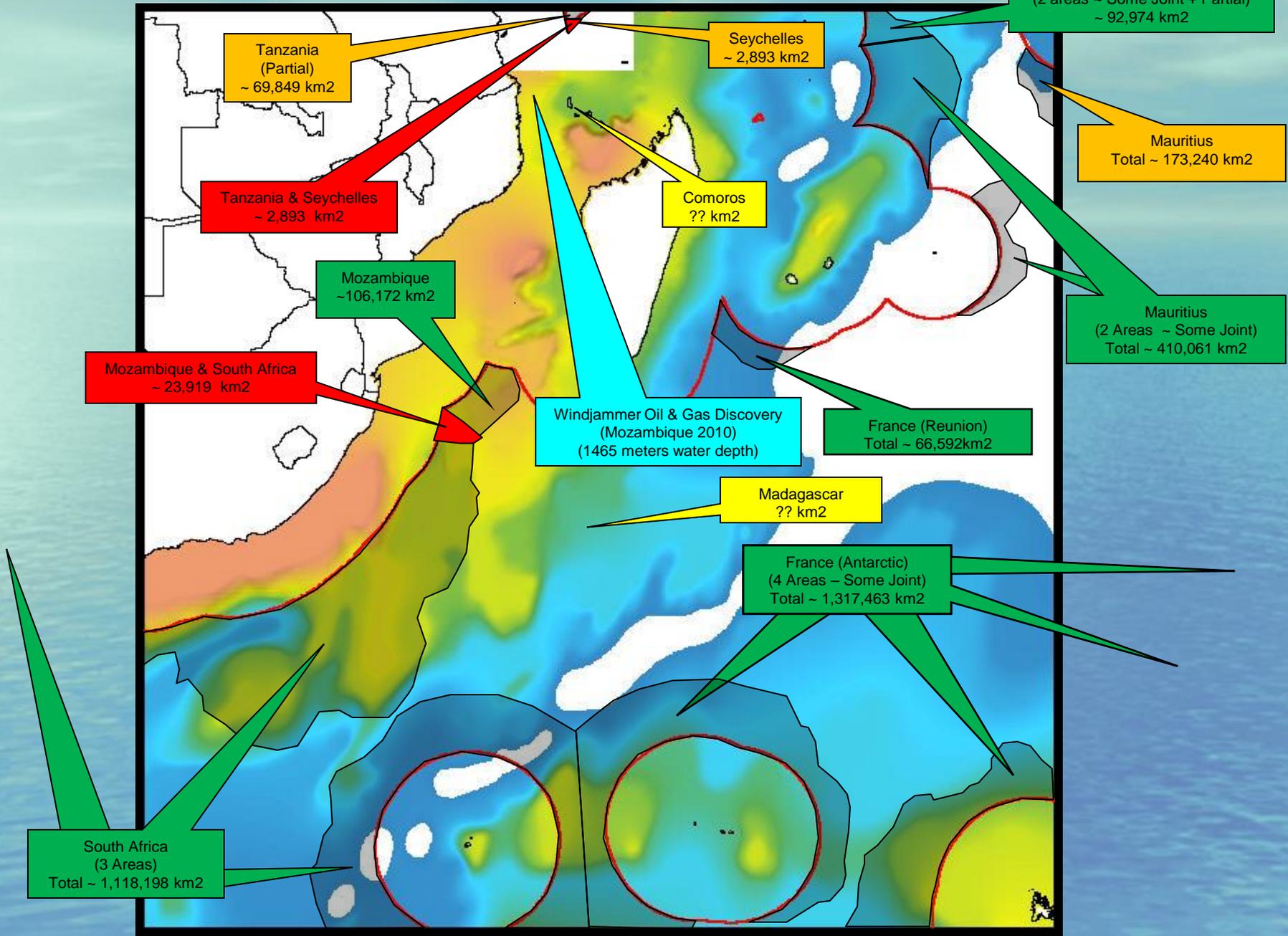
# African UNCLOS A76 Summary (Northwest Quadrant)



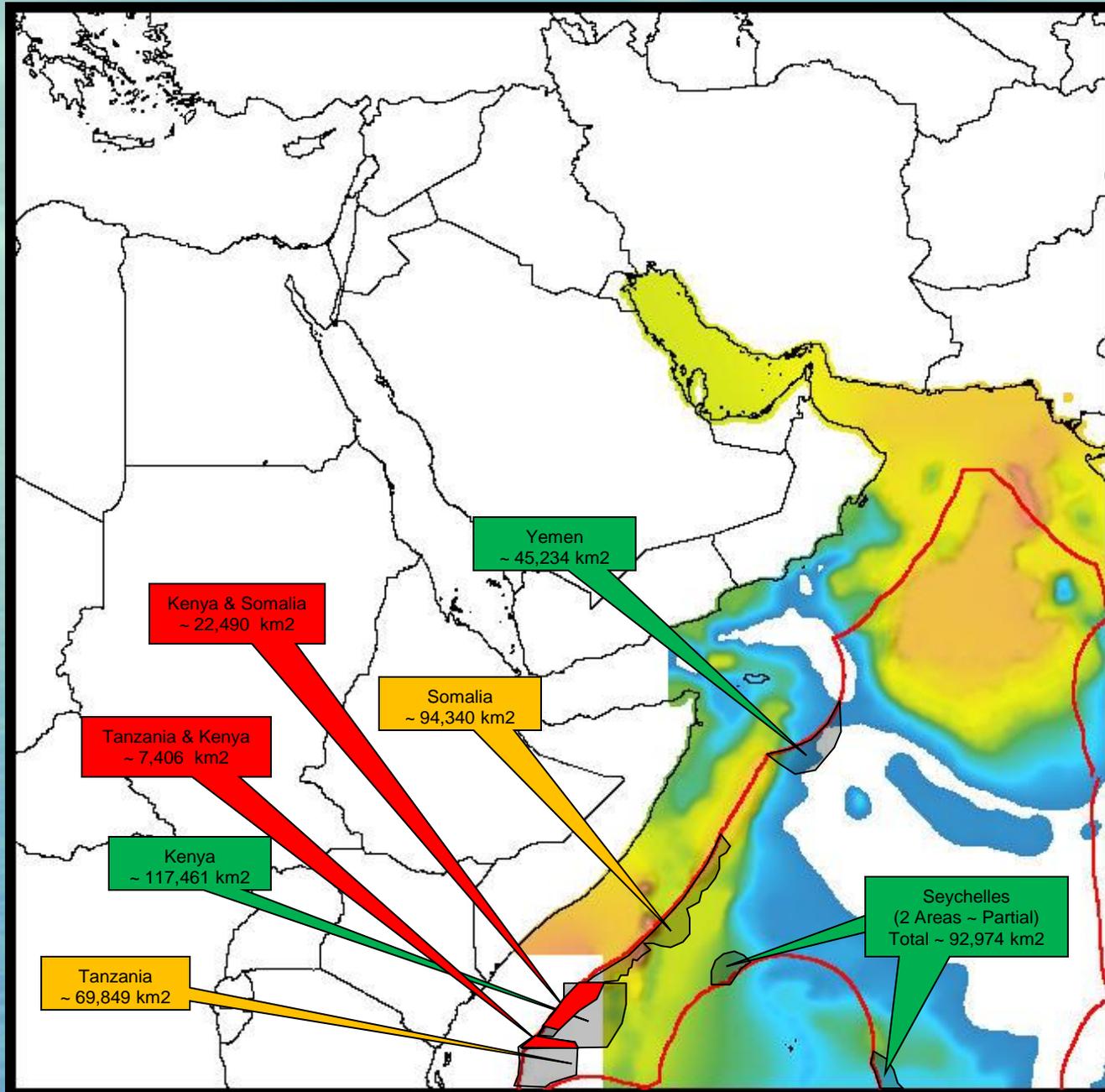
# African UNCLOS A76 Summary (Southwest Quadrant)



# African UNCLOS A76 Summary (Southeast Quadrant)



# African UNCLOS A76 Summary (Northeast Quadrant)



# Asian UNCLOS A76 Summary

(35 Coastal States)

## Limits & Boundaries:

106 Maritime Boundaries  
40 Agreed / Treated  
66 Un-resolved / In-dispute  
62.2% To Be Resolved

## Asian LOS Summary:

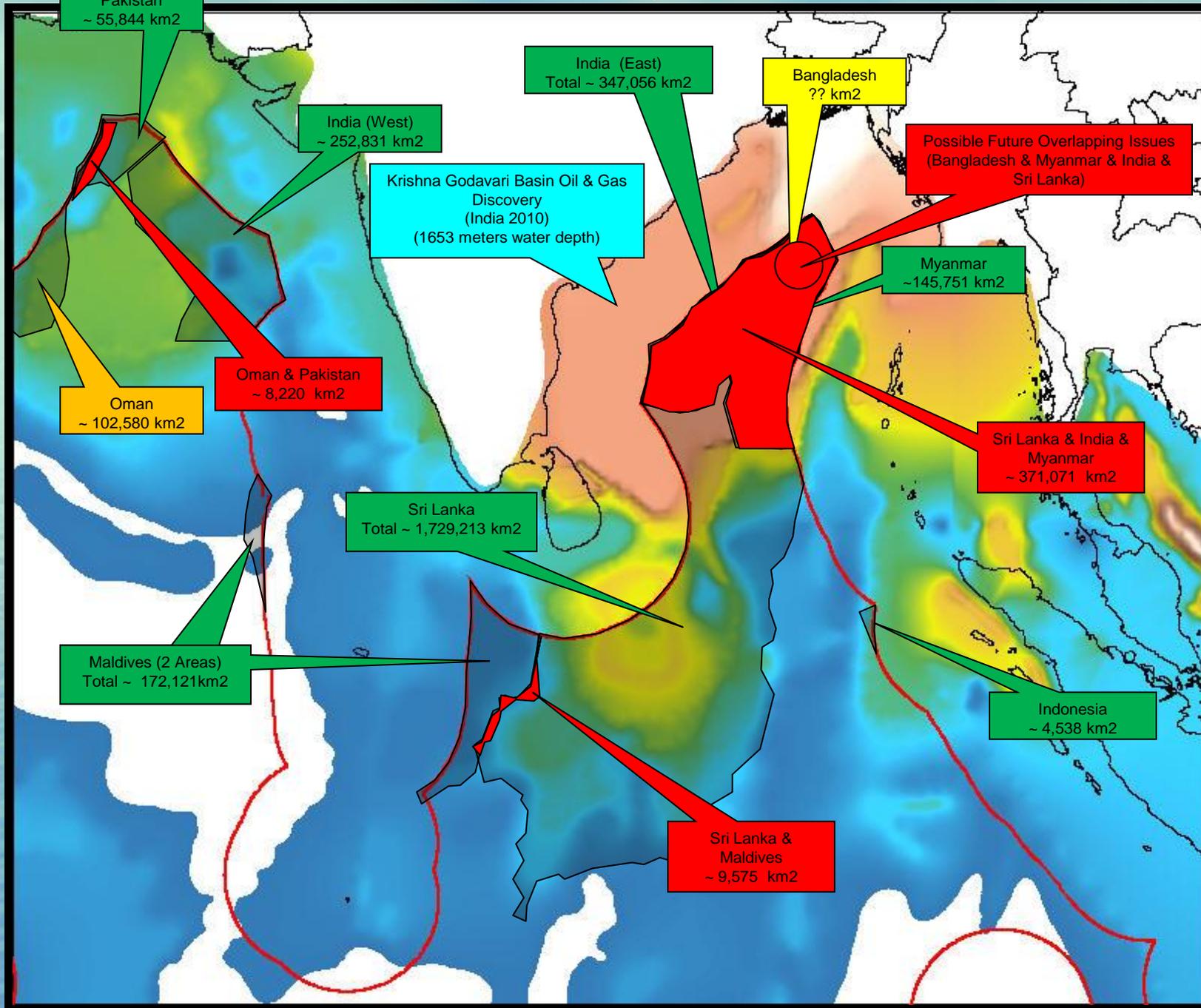
35 Coastal States  
28 of 35 Ratified UNCLOS  
7 of 35 Not Ratified

## 15 UNCLOS Article 76 Claim Submissions (Full (11) & **Preliminary (4)**):

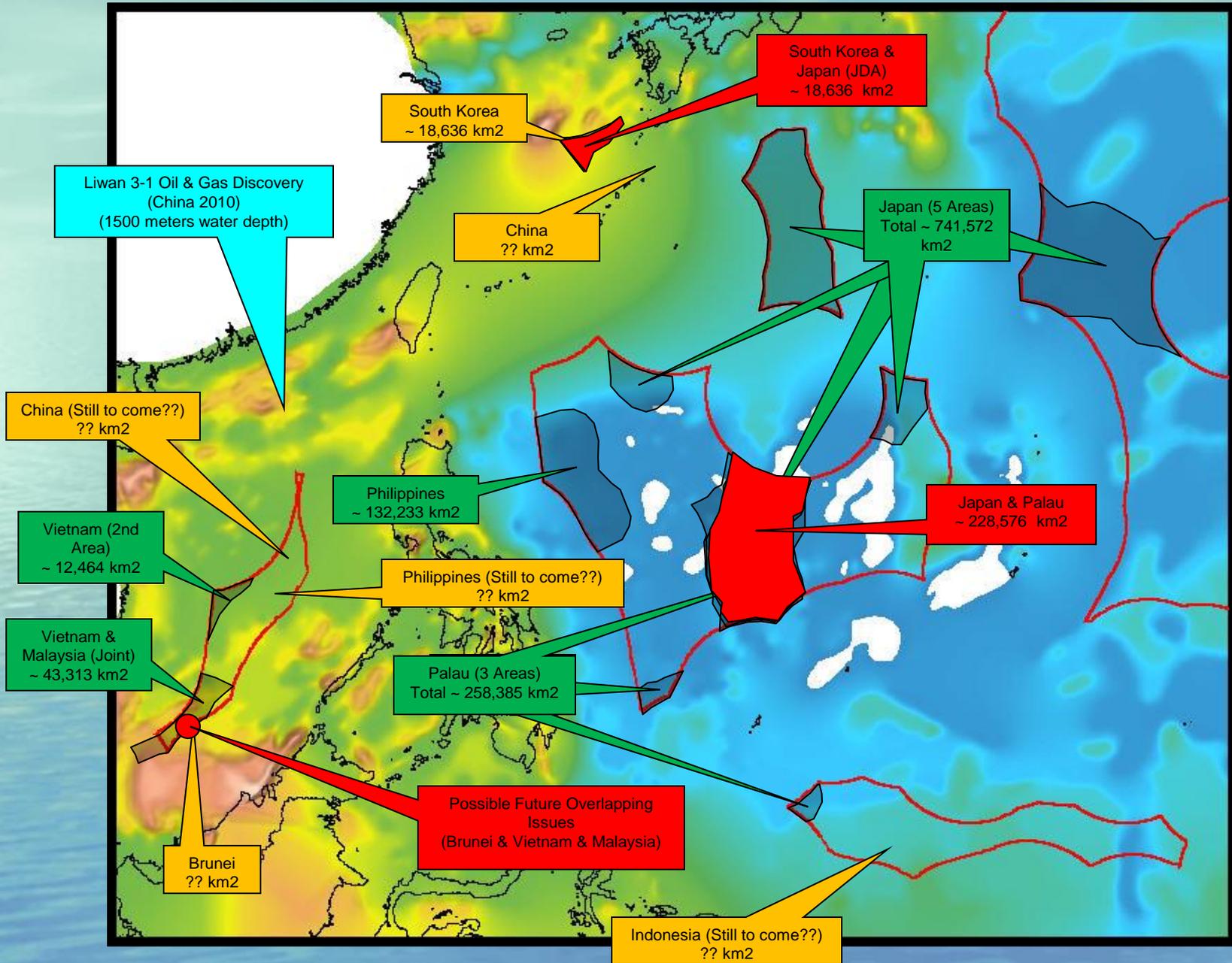
**Brunel**, **China**, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, **Oman**,  
Pakistan, Philippines, **Republic of Korea**, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Yemen

\*NOTE: Possible/Probable submissions still to come – Bangladesh

# Asian UNCLOS A76 Summary (Western Quadrant)

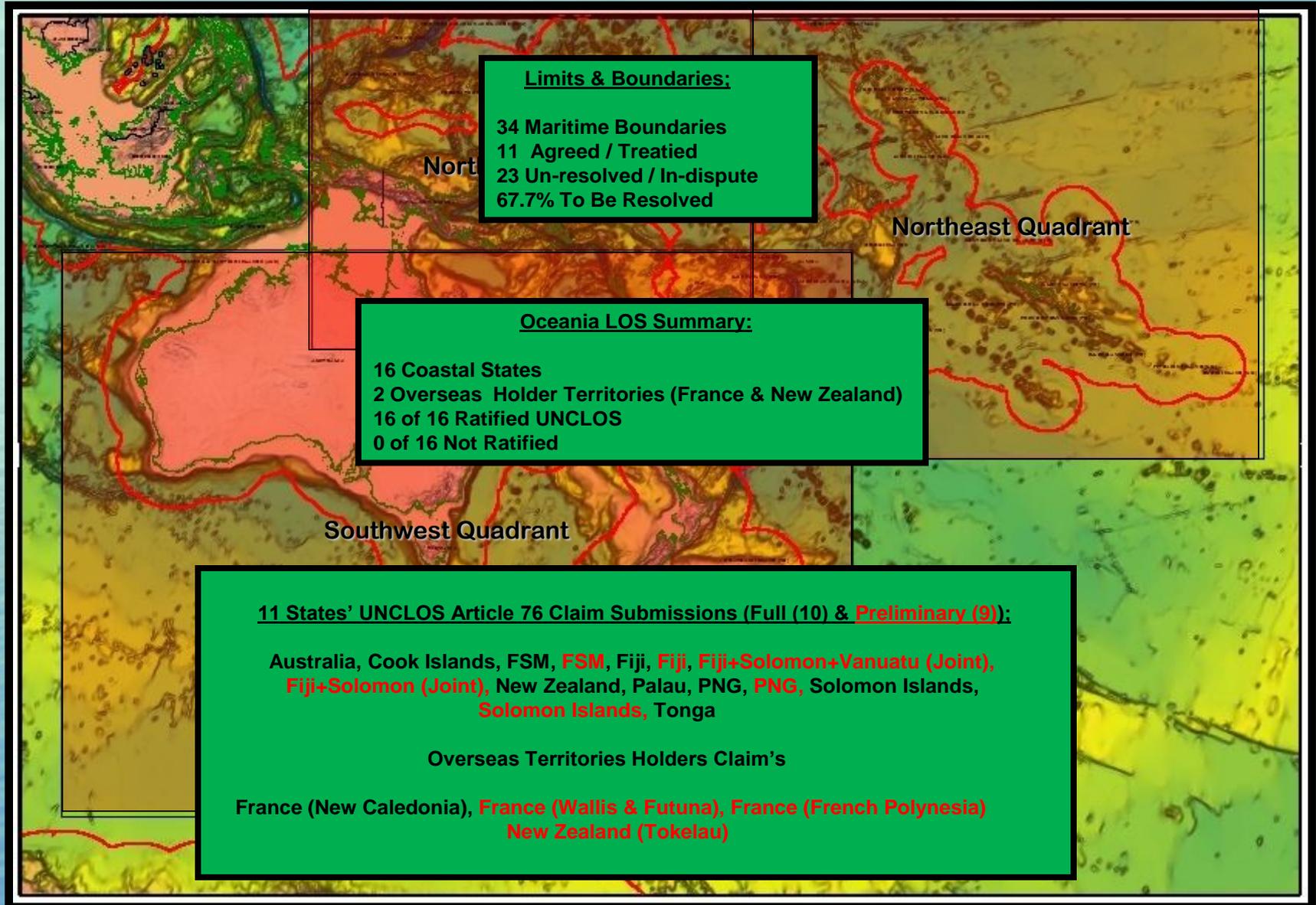


# Asian UNCLOS A76 Summary (Eastern Quadrant)

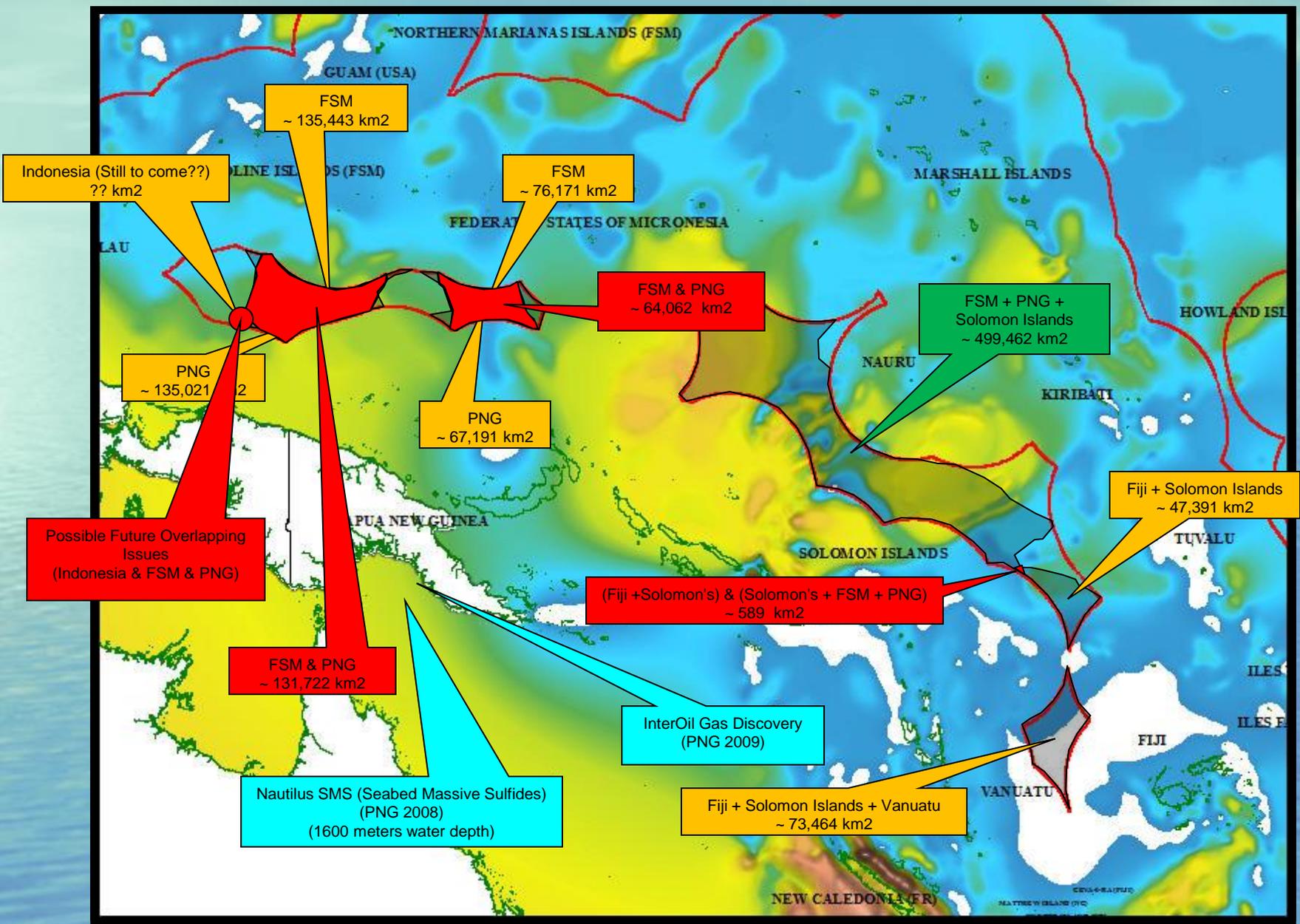


# Oceania UNCLOS A76 Summary

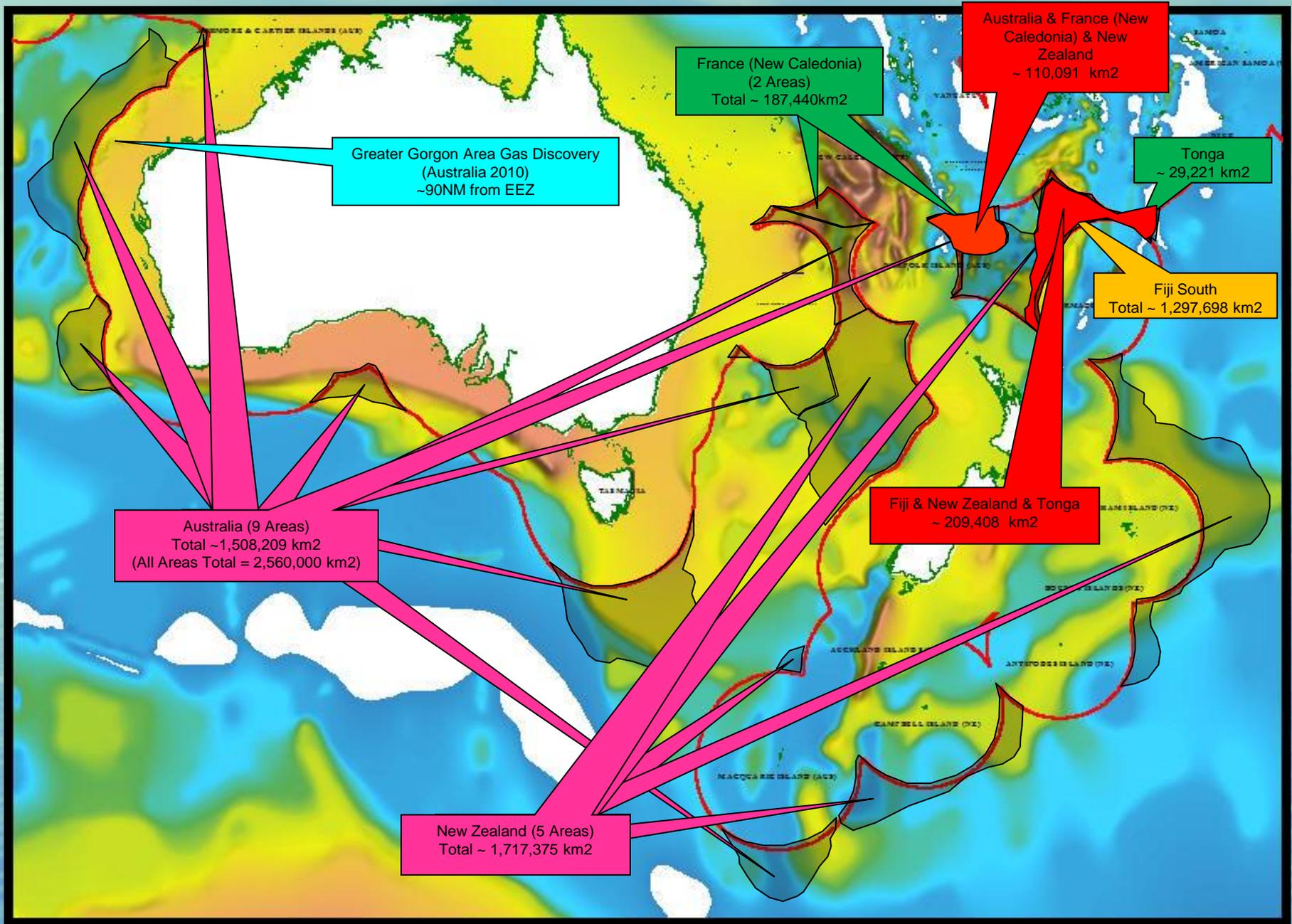
## (16 Coastal States 2 Overseas Holder Territories)



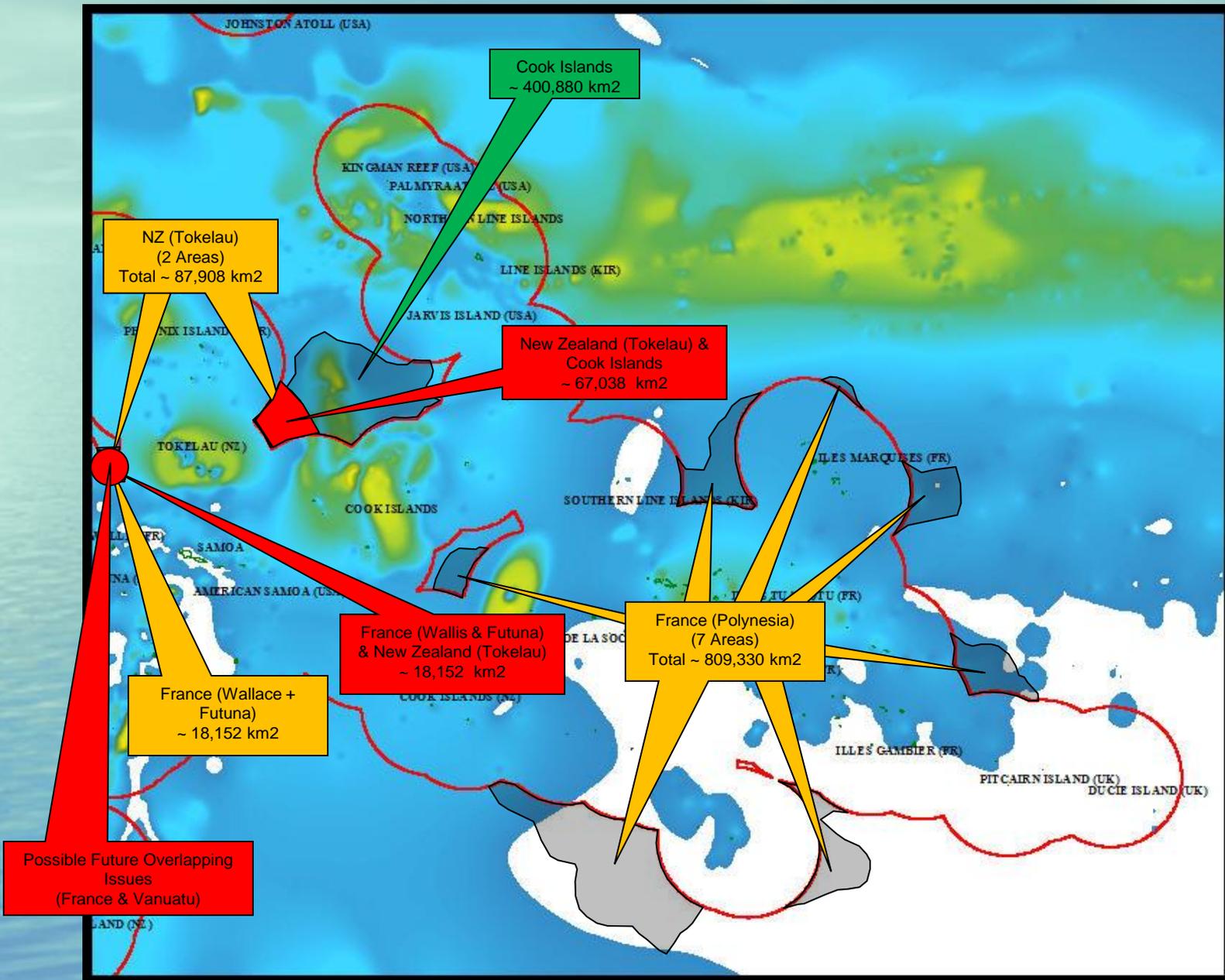
# Oceania UNCLOS A76 Summary (Northwestern Quadrant)



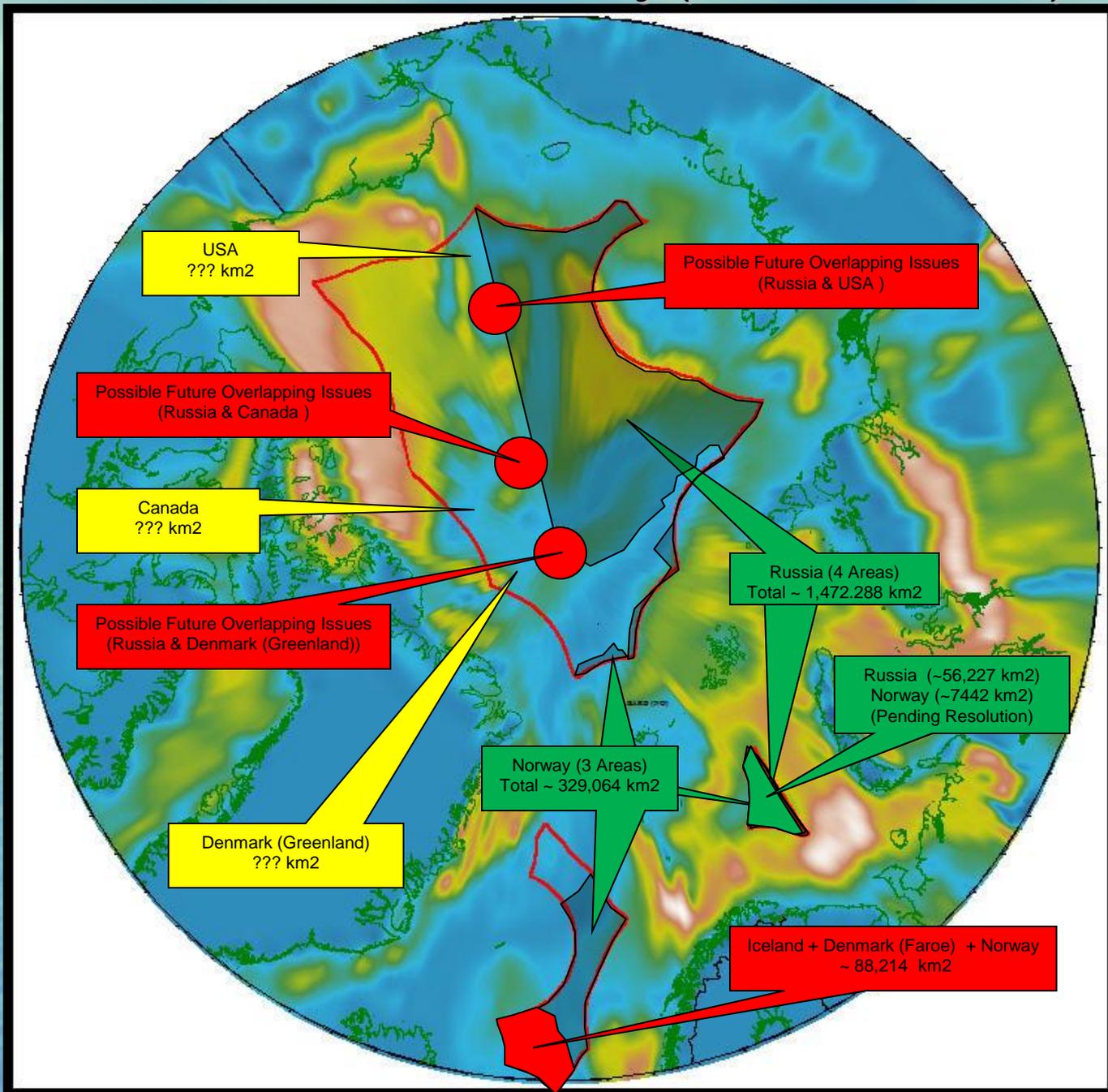
# Oceania UNCLOS A76 Summary (Southwestern Quadrant)



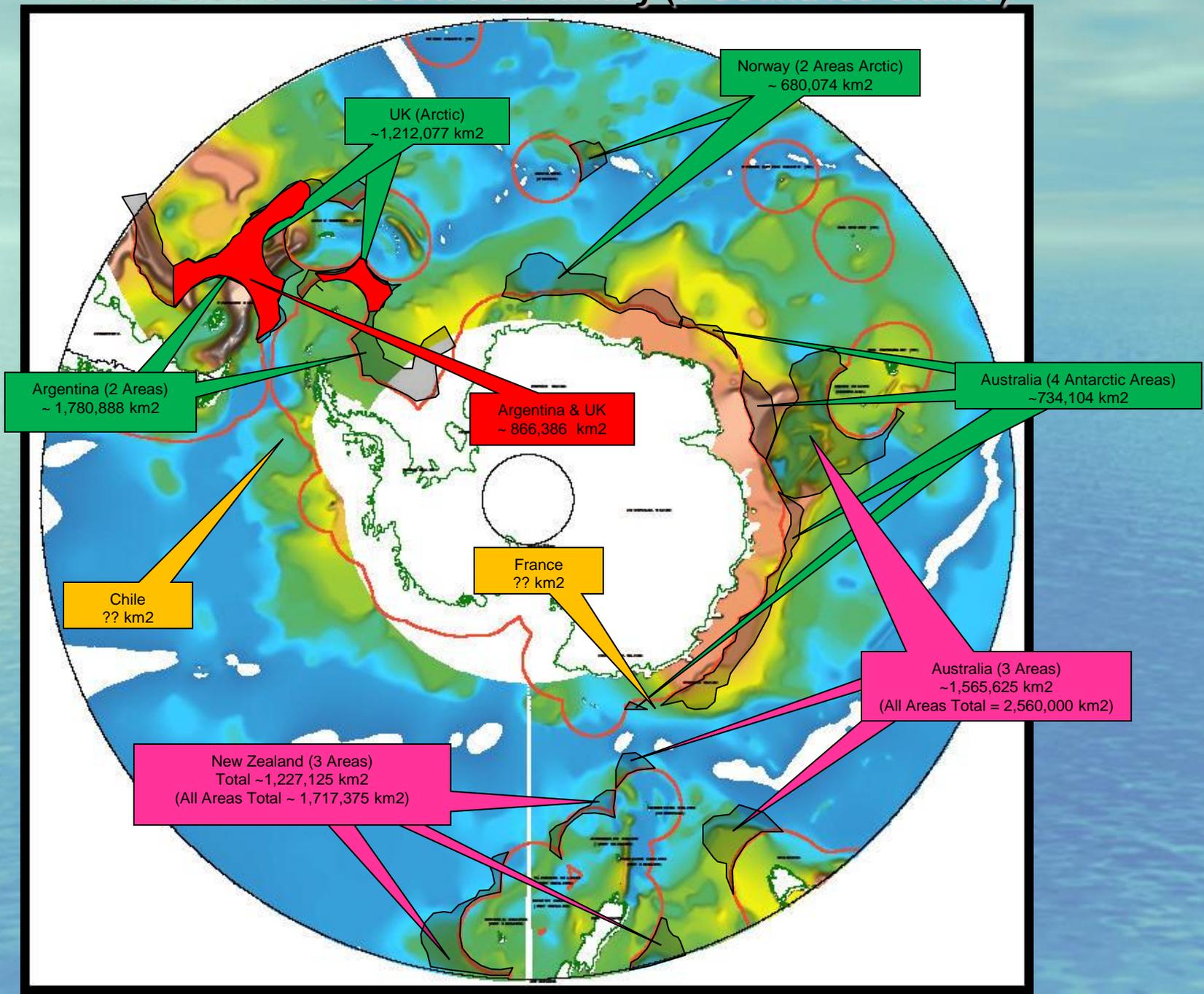
# Oceania UNCLOS A76 Summary (Northeastern Quadrant)



# Arctic UNCLOS A76 Summary (5 Countries Claims)



# Antarctica UNCLOS A76 Summary (7 Countries Claims)



## Summary .....

These new potential ECS maritime spaces will become the “*Next Frontier*” for all resource exploration / exploitation for decades to come ....

As of today, ~30,155,031 km<sup>2</sup> of new possible/probable ECS of seabed based on the current 75 countries “Submissions & Preliminary Information” that has already been submitted to the CLCS ....

.... possibly 32 areas with approximate total area of ~2,711,107 km<sup>2</sup> (~9%) will involve ECS maritime overlapping claim (OCA) disputes (beyond 200NM (EEZ)

... and a further possibility for up to 16 more areas (for the additional 9 Coastal States submissions yet to come) ...

It is quite obvious that we will be busy with

Law of the Sea activities for some time to come .....

**Thank You**

**Questions ???**

**ROBERT VAN DE POLL**

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