JPHS MUN 2024 01/UNSC/2024

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

Letter from the Executive Board

Greetings,

We as members of your executive board welcome you to the simulation of a UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL on the agenda "Deliberation On Maritime Laws And Security With Emphasis On The Red Sea Crisis" @ JPHS INTRA MUN'24. We hope to make this committee insightful and memorable for each and every one of you.

Since it is an active situation playing out in real time, most of the committee discussions would revolve around current happenings and updates around the world. The proceedings of the committee would be completely based on the decisions taken by the delegates which would be enacted through speeches and discussions. The committee requires extensive research, in depth analysis and brainstorming to tackle the crisis at hand, therefore this background guide will provide the delegates with information and methods to be understood for the committee. Therefore, it is necessary to go beyond this background guide and research on the military aspects and geopolitical aspects related to the agenda

What we expect out of the committee is that the delegates should keep in mind the powers of their portfolio and their place in the global geopolitical scenario. This would help them formulate necessary documents that do not go beyond the limits of their portfolio, therefore maintaining a balance in the committee.

We wish all the delegates to do their best in the committee and have a great learning experience from this background guide as well as the entire conference. Do feel free to contact the executive board or the secretariat for any queries or doubts.

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Regards,

Devyansh Ajmera Rishaan Jalori
(Chairperson) (Vice-Chairperson)

Historical Background and Overview of Committee

The <u>United Nations Charter</u> established six main organs of the United Nations, including the Security Council. It gives primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security to the Security Council, which may meet whenever peace is threatened.

According to the Charter, the United Nations has four purposes:

- 1. To maintain international peace and security;
- 2. To develop friendly relations among nations;
- 3. To cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights;
- 4. And to be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations.

All members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council. While other organs of the United Nations make recommendations to member states, only the Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are then obligated to implement under the Charter.

MAINTAINING PEACE AND SECURITY

When a complaint concerning a threat to peace is brought before it, the Council's first action is usually to recommend that the parties try to reach agreement by peaceful means. The Council may:

- 1. Set forth principles for such an agreement;
- 2. Undertake investigation and mediation, in some cases;
- 3. Dispatch a mission;
- 4. Appoint special envoys; or

5. Request the Secretary-General to use his good offices to achieve a pacific settlement of the dispute.

When a dispute leads to hostilities, the Council's primary concern is to bring them to an end as soon as possible. In that case, the Council may:

- 1. Issue ceasefire directives that can help prevent an escalation of the conflict;
- 2. Dispatch military observers or a peacekeeping force to help reduce tensions, separate opposing forces and establish a calm in which peaceful settlements may be sought.

Beyond this, the Council may opt for enforcement measures, including:

- 1. Economic sanctions, arms embargoes, financial penalties and restrictions, and travel bans;
- 2. Severance of diplomatic relations;
- 3. Blockade;
- 4. Collective military action

A chief concern is to focus action on those responsible for the policies or practices condemned by the international community, while minimizing the impact of the measures taken on other parts of the population and economy.

ORGANIZATION

The Security Council held its first session on 17 January 1946 at Church House, Westminster, London. Since its first meeting, the Security Council has taken permanent residence at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. It also traveled to many cities, holding sessions in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in 1972, in Panama City, Panama, and in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1990.

Important terms

Relating to UNSC;

p prevent threats to peace and security,	UNSC to compel states to comply with its decis often involving economic or diplomatic restriction
Chapter VII: A chapter of the U	
ncluding the use of force, to maintain o	IN Charter that authorizes the UNSC to take restore international peace and security.
Subsidiary Bodies: Committees of pecific issues, such as sanctions monitor	or commissions established by the UNSC to a pring or peacekeeping operations.
Arms Embargo: A restriction impose f arms and related materiel to certain co	ed by the UNSC prohibiting the sale, transfer, or ountries or entities.
	e permanent members of the UNSC (P5) plus Ge regarding nuclear non-proliferation and disarma
-	,
	Arms Embargo: A restriction impose f arms and related materiel to certain composed from the five ften used in the context of negotiations. Peacebuilding: Activities aimed at poot causes, including efforts to

- 9. **Chapter VI**: A chapter of the UN Charter that outlines the principles and methods for the peaceful resolution of disputes, including negotiation, mediation, and arbitration, without resorting to force.
- 10. **Non-Proliferation:** Efforts aimed at preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), including nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, often addressed through UNSC resolutions and treaties

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea [6] (UNCLOS), adopted in 1982, serves as the primary international legal framework governing maritime affairs. This comprehensive treaty establishes the rights and responsibilities of nations concerning the use and management of the world's oceans. UNCLOS delineates maritime boundaries, including territorial seas, exclusive economic zones [7](EEZs), and the continental shelf, providing a basis for resolving disputes between states over maritime claims. It also ensures the freedom of navigation and overflight, safeguarding vital shipping routes and facilitating global trade.

One of the key provisions of UNCLOS is the establishment of exclusive economic zones (EEZs), extending 200 nautical miles from a coastal state's baseline. Within these zones, coastal states have sovereign rights over natural resources, including fish stocks and minerals, as well as jurisdiction over marine scientific research and environmental protection. UNCLOS promotes the sustainable management and conservation of marine resources, emphasizing the importance of cooperation among nations to address shared challenges such as overfishing, marine pollution, and climate change impacts on the oceans.

UNCLOS has played a crucial role in fostering peaceful cooperation and stability among nations with maritime interests. By providing a legal framework for resolving disputes and promoting cooperation in the sustainable use and conservation of marine resources, UNCLOS contributes to the maintenance of international peace and security. As of today, UNCLOS has been ratified by a large majority of nations, underscoring its status as a cornerstone of international law governing the oceans and seas.

Important Articles under UNCLOS

- Article 56 Rights, Jurisdiction, and Duties of Coastal States in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ): This article outlines the rights and responsibilities of coastal states within their exclusive economic zones, including jurisdiction over marine resources and the duty to protect and preserve the marine environment.
- Article 57 Breadth of the Exclusive Economic Zone: Article 57 establishes the breadth of the exclusive economic zone as extending up to 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the territorial sea is measured, providing a clear framework for maritime jurisdiction.
- Article 58 Rights and Jurisdiction of the Coastal State in the Exclusive Economic Zone: This article delineates the rights of coastal states in the exclusive economic zone, including sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting, conserving, and managing natural resources.
- Article 88 Freedom of High Seas: Article 88 reaffirms the principle of freedom of the high seas, emphasizing the freedom of navigation, overflight, and laying of submarine cables and pipelines beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, which is essential for maritime trade and communication.
- Article 100 Duty to Cooperate in the Conservation and Management of Living Resources: This article underscores the obligation of states to cooperate in the conservation and management of living resources in the exclusive economic zone and on the high seas, addressing issues such as overfishing and unsustainable exploitation of marine resources.
- Article 101 Duty to Protect and Preserve the Marine Environment: Article 101 emphasizes the duty of states to take measures, individually and collectively, to prevent, reduce, and control pollution of the marine environment, including pollution from vessels, to ensure the protection and preservation of the marine environment.

Violations of UNCLOS and its Consequences

Violation of UNCLOS by Nations	Consequences on the World	Reasons for Violation	Possible Steps by UNSC
Unauthorized Maritime Claims and Activities	Disruption of maritime trade, escalation of tensions, potential conflict	Desire for territorial expansion, resource exploitation, geopolitical ambitions	Condemnation through UNSC resolutions, diplomatic pressure, mediation sanctions
Illegal Fishing Practices	Depletion of marine resources, ecological damage, economic harm to coastal states	Pursuit of economic gain, inadequate enforcement of regulations	Enhanced monitoring and enforcement measures, cooperation with regional fisheries management organizations, imposition of penalties
Pollution of Marine Environment	Degradation of marine ecosystems, harm to marine life and human health, economic repercussions	Lack of environmental regulations, negligence, inadequate enforcement	Development and implementation of stricter environmental regulations, enforcement of pollution prevention measures, provision of technical

			assistance and capacity-building
Provocative Naval Maneuvers and Incursions	Heightened tensions, risk of military confrontation, undermining of regional stability	dominance,	De-escalation efforts, diplomatic dialogue, confidence-building measures, deployment of peacekeeping forces
Maritime Piracy and Armed Robbery	Threat to maritime security, disruption of trade routes, endangerment of seafarers	financial gain, weak	Cooperative efforts to combat piracy, strengthening of maritime law enforcement capabilities, prosecution of perpetrators through international legal mechanisms

Delving into the Past: Unveiling Historical Insights

Several past incidents have underscored the significance of upholding maritime laws and the role of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in addressing violations that threaten global security. One notable incident occurred with the territorial disputes in the South China Sea, where certain nations engaged in unauthorized maritime claims and activities, leading to heightened tensions and concerns over regional stability. In response, the UNSC condemned such actions through resolutions and called for diplomatic dialogue to de-escalate tensions and uphold the principles of international law. Additionally, incidents of maritime piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia posed significant challenges to maritime security and the safety

of international shipping routes. The UNSC responded by authorizing international naval missions and promoting cooperation among states to combat piracy, demonstrating its commitment to safeguarding global maritime interests and maintaining peace and security at sea.

1. Territorial Disputes in the South China Sea:

- a. Nations such as China, Vietnam, the Philippines, and others have engaged in unauthorized maritime claims, including the construction of artificial islands and military installations in disputed waters.
- b. This has led to heightened tensions and concerns over regional stability, as well as potential conflicts over control of vital shipping lanes and natural resources.
- c. The UNSC has condemned such actions through resolutions, emphasizing the importance of upholding international law and peaceful resolution of disputes through diplomatic dialogue.
- d. Read more

2. Maritime Piracy off the Coast of Somalia:

- a. Somali pirates have carried out numerous attacks on commercial vessels, hijacking ships and demanding ransom payments, particularly in the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean.
- b. These incidents posed significant challenges to maritime security and the safety of international shipping routes, leading to disruptions in global trade and economic repercussions.
- c. The UNSC authorized international naval missions, such as Operation Atalanta, to combat piracy and protect shipping lanes, along with promoting cooperation among states and regions to address the root causes of piracy.
- d. Read more

3. North Korean Maritime Provocations:

- a. North Korea has engaged in provocative maritime activities, including missile tests and naval incursions into South Korean waters, raising tensions and risks of military confrontation in the region.
- b. These actions have undermined regional stability and posed threats to global security, particularly amid concerns over North Korea's nuclear weapons program.
- c. The UNSC has issued condemnations and sanctions against North Korea in response to such provocations, aiming to deter further escalation and promote diplomatic solutions to the underlying conflicts.
- d. Read more

Geographical Importance and marine structure

The geographical importance of sea routes cannot be overstated, as they serve as vital arteries of global trade and commerce. Maritime routes connect distant regions, facilitating the movement of goods, resources, and people across the world. The strategic location of certain sea routes, such as the Strait of Hormuz, the Suez Canal, and the Malacca Strait, holds immense significance due to their role in connecting major economic regions. Disruptions or blockades in these critical chokepoints can have far-reaching consequences, leading to trade disruptions, supply chain bottlenecks, and economic instability on a global scale. Furthermore, the geographical positioning of nations along these routes often translates into geopolitical leverage, with states vying for control and influence to safeguard their economic interests and security concerns.

Trade wars and geopolitical tensions frequently intersect with the geography of maritime routes, amplifying their impact on global affairs. Competing interests among nations for dominance over strategic sea lanes or access to crucial resources can escalate into trade disputes and diplomatic standoffs. The South China Sea, for instance, has become a hotspot for territorial disputes among littoral states, leading to heightened tensions and the risk of conflict. Similarly, geopolitical rivalries in the Indian Ocean region have raised concerns over maritime security and stability, impacting trade flows and regional cooperation efforts. In an interconnected world, the

geography of sea routes shapes the dynamics of international relations, influencing trade alliances, military strategies, and diplomatic negotiations.

Several critical marine locations around the world have emerged as flashpoints of tension among nations due to their strategic significance and contested sovereignty. The Strait of Hormuz, located between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula, is a prime example, accounting for a significant portion of global oil shipments. Tensions in this region often flare up due to geopolitical rivalries and maritime security concerns, posing risks to energy supplies and global stability. Similarly, the South China Sea witnesses competing territorial claims by multiple states, leading to naval standoffs and diplomatic disputes. The Bab-el-Mandeb Strait, connecting the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden, is another critical chokepoint prone to regional tensions, particularly amid piracy threats and geopolitical rivalries in the Horn of Africa. These maritime locations serve as focal points of geopolitical competition, underscoring the intricate linkages between geography, geopolitics, and global security.

Tale of the legendary Red Sea

Once upon a time, in the heart of the Middle East, lay a shimmering body of water known as the Red Sea. This majestic sea wasn't just any ordinary stretch of water; it was a bustling highway of global trade and a treasure trove of natural riches.

At the heart of the Red Sea's importance was its strategic location. Stretching between Africa and Asia, it formed a crucial link between the Mediterranean Sea and the Indian Ocean. This meant that ships could avoid the long and perilous journey around the southern tip of Africa, instead taking a shortcut through the Red Sea's narrow straits.

One such strait, the Bab-el-Mandeb, was a key chokepoint controlling the flow of maritime traffic between the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. Another, the Strait of Tiran, guarded the entrance to the Red Sea from the Gulf of Aqaba. Whoever controlled these passages held immense strategic power, influencing trade routes and naval movements.

But the Red Sea wasn't just important for its strategic value. Beneath its azure waters lay vast reserves of oil and natural gas, providing energy to nations around the world. Its coastal areas

teemed with life, from colorful coral reefs to schools of fish, making it a haven for tourists and fishermen alike.

Yet, amid its beauty and bounty, the Red Sea also harbored challenges. Political instability, fueled by historical rivalries and ongoing conflicts, cast a shadow over its waters. Tensions simmered between nations vying for control over its resources and strategic chokepoints, leading to occasional flare-ups and diplomatic standoffs.

Despite these challenges, the Red Sea remained a beacon of hope and opportunity. Its waters continued to be a lifeline for global trade, connecting nations and fueling economic growth. And as the sun set over its tranquil shores, it reminded all who beheld it of the delicate balance between prosperity and peace in this vast and wondrous sea.

Events around the Red Sea

- 1. The Red Sea region has become a hotspot of geopolitical tensions and maritime security challenges, with far-reaching implications for global maritime laws and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Ongoing conflicts, such as the civil war in Yemen, have ravaged the region, resulting in devastating humanitarian consequences. According to the United Nations, Yemen is facing the world's largest humanitarian crisis, with an estimated 24 million people nearly 80% of the population in need of humanitarian assistance. The conflict has led to widespread displacement, food insecurity, and loss of life, exacerbating political instability and security risks in the Red Sea area.
- 2. Moreover, the presence of regional rivalries and proxy conflicts has further compounded the challenges facing the Red Sea region. The rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran, for instance, has played out in Yemen, fueling the conflict and undermining prospects for peace. According to the Institute for Economics and Peace, Yemen ranks among the least peaceful countries in the world, with high levels of political instability and violence. The proliferation of armed groups and the flow of weapons exacerbate security risks, including maritime piracy and attacks on commercial vessels navigating the Red Sea.

- 3. These security challenges have significant implications for global maritime laws and trade. The Red Sea is one of the world's busiest maritime routes, with an estimated 10% of global trade passing through its waters annually. According to the International Maritime Organization (IMO), piracy incidents in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden have declined in recent years, but the threat persists, particularly off the coast of Somalia. In addition, the blockade of key ports in Yemen has disrupted the flow of humanitarian aid and commercial goods, exacerbating food insecurity and economic hardship in the region.
- 4. In response to these challenges, the UNSC has been actively engaged in diplomatic efforts to address the root causes of instability and promote peace and security in the Red Sea region. Resolutions such as Resolution 2216, which calls for an end to violence in Yemen and the restoration of the country's legitimate government, demonstrate the UNSC's commitment to upholding international law and addressing security threats in the region. By fostering dialogue, promoting conflict resolution, and supporting humanitarian assistance efforts, the UNSC aims to mitigate the impact of conflicts in the Red Sea region and uphold the principles of global maritime laws.

What significance does it hold?

The situation in the Red Sea region has garnered global attention and raised significant concerns for the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) due to its implications for maritime security, international trade, and regional stability. The strategic significance of the Red Sea as a vital maritime route connecting Europe, Asia, and Africa underscores the importance of addressing the challenges facing the region.

One of the key concerns for the international community and the UNSC is the escalation of conflicts and political instability in countries bordering the Red Sea, particularly Yemen. The protracted civil war in Yemen has resulted in a dire humanitarian crisis, with millions of people facing food insecurity, displacement, and lack of access to essential services. The conflict has

also led to the blockade of key ports, disrupting maritime trade routes and hindering the delivery of humanitarian aid to those in need.

Moreover, the Red Sea region has witnessed an increase in maritime security threats, including piracy and armed robbery. While piracy incidents have declined in recent years, the threat persists, particularly off the coast of Somalia. These security challenges pose risks not only to commercial shipping but also to global energy supplies and the overall stability of the region.

The geopolitical dynamics and rivalries in the Red Sea area, including tensions between regional powers such as Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Egypt, further exacerbate concerns for the UNSC. The involvement of external actors and the proliferation of arms in the region contribute to the complexity of the situation and raise fears of broader regional destabilization.

Given these challenges, the UNSC has a crucial role to play in addressing the situation in the Red Sea region. By promoting dialogue, supporting conflict resolution efforts, and facilitating humanitarian assistance, the UNSC aims to mitigate the impact of conflicts, uphold maritime security, and safeguard the stability of the region. The significance of the Red Sea extends beyond its immediate shores, affecting global trade and security, making it imperative for the UNSC to remain actively engaged in addressing the challenges facing the region.

Rules for committee

Do's:

- 1. Research: Prepare thoroughly by researching the country you are representing, its policies, and its stance on various global issues.
- 2. Know the Rules: Familiarize yourself with the rules of procedure specific to the MUN conference you are attending, as well as the rules of the UNSC.
- 3. Engage Diplomatically: Engage in diplomatic dialogue with other delegates. Listen actively, be respectful, and seek consensus where possible.

- 4. Follow Protocol: Respect the hierarchy and protocol of the UNSC. Address other delegates by their country or their official title, and use formal language.
- 5. Contribute Constructively: Contribute meaningfully to discussions by offering well-researched proposals and solutions to the issues on the agenda.
- 6. Be Assertive: Assert your country's interests and priorities, but also be willing to compromise and negotiate to achieve consensus.
- 7. Respect Time Limits: Stick to the time limits for speeches and interventions to ensure everyone has an opportunity to speak.
- 8. Build Coalitions: Build alliances and coalitions with like-minded countries to advance common objectives and resolutions.

Don'ts:

- 1. Dominate Discussions: Avoid monopolizing the floor or dominating discussions. Give other delegates a chance to express their views.
- 2. Use Offensive Language: Refrain from using offensive language or making personal attacks against other delegates. Maintain a professional and respectful tone.
- 3. Ignore Rules of Procedure: Do not ignore the rules of procedure or disrupt the flow of the debate. Follow the established procedures for submitting motions, speaking, and voting.
- 4. Act Unilaterally: Avoid taking unilateral actions or making decisions without consulting other delegates or seeking consensus.
- 5. Lose Patience: Remain patient and composed, even in the face of disagreement or deadlock. Diplomacy often requires persistence and resilience.
- 6. Be Inflexible: Avoid being too rigid or inflexible in your positions. Be open to compromise and negotiation to reach mutually acceptable solutions.
- 7. Disregard Resolutions: Once a resolution is passed, do not disregard its provisions or fail to implement its recommendations. Honor the agreements made during the debate.

Essential points for framing questions

The quality of questions in a Model United Nations (MUN) committee is paramount for several reasons:

- 1. Depth of Understanding: Thoughtful questions demonstrate a deep understanding of the topic being discussed. They show that the delegate has done thorough research and is engaged with the complexities of the issue.
- 2. Clarification: Questions can help clarify ambiguous or unclear points raised during debate. They provide an opportunity for delegates to seek clarification from other delegates or the chair, ensuring that everyone has a clear understanding of the topic at hand.
- 3. Encouraging Dialogue: Well-crafted questions can stimulate meaningful dialogue and debate within the committee. They prompt other delegates to articulate their positions and contribute to the discussion, fostering a more dynamic and engaging debate environment.
- 4. Challenging Assumptions: Thought-provoking questions can challenge prevailing assumptions and perspectives on the issue. They encourage delegates to critically evaluate their own positions and consider alternative viewpoints, leading to a more nuanced understanding of the topic.
- 5. Problem-Solving: Questions that focus on practical solutions and actionable measures can contribute to the development of effective resolutions. They prompt delegates to brainstorm ideas and explore potential solutions to the problems being addressed by the committee.
- 6. Building Consensus: Strategic questions can help build consensus among delegates by highlighting areas of common ground and identifying potential compromises. They facilitate negotiation and collaboration, ultimately leading to the formulation of resolutions that are acceptable to a majority of the committee.
- 7. Demonstrating Leadership: Asking insightful questions demonstrates leadership and initiative on the part of the delegate. It shows that they are actively engaged in the

committee proceedings and are committed to advancing the debate in a productive direction.

Annexure 1

- [1] UN Charter: The UN Charter is the foundational document of the United Nations, establishing its purposes, principles, and structure. It sets out the framework for international cooperation and the responsibilities of member states in maintaining peace and security, promoting human rights, and fostering economic and social progress.
- [2] Blockade: A blockade refers to the act of obstructing a port or region to prevent the passage of goods, vessels, or people. It can be implemented as a military strategy during conflicts or as a means of exerting economic pressure on a country. Blockades are subject to international law and may require authorization from the UN Security Council.
- [3] Veto Power: Veto power refers to the authority held by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) to block any substantive resolution, irrespective of the level of support it receives from other member states. This power is intended to ensure that major powers have a say in decisions affecting international peace and security.
- [4] UNSC Resolutions: UNSC resolutions are formal decisions adopted by the Security Council to address specific issues related to international peace and security. Resolutions can range from condemning acts of aggression to imposing sanctions or authorizing peacekeeping missions. They are legally binding on member states and carry significant weight in shaping international responses to crises.
- [5] Subsidiary Bodies:Subsidiary bodies of the UN Security Council are specialized committees or working groups established to assist the Council in fulfilling its mandate. These bodies may focus on specific regions or thematic issues, such as peacekeeping operations, sanctions monitoring, or counterterrorism efforts. They play a crucial role in gathering information, conducting investigations, and making recommendations to the Security Council.
 - Subsidiary Bodies of the UNSC:

- 1. Sanctions Committees: Responsible for monitoring and implementing sanctions imposed by the Security Council on countries or entities involved in threats to international peace and security.
- 2. Peacekeeping Operations: Oversees the planning, deployment, and management of UN peacekeeping missions established by the Security Council to help maintain or restore peace in conflict-affected regions.
- 3. Counter-Terrorism Committees: Coordinates international efforts to combat terrorism, including the implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions and the promotion of cooperation among member states.
- 4. Ad Hoc Working Groups: Address specific issues or crises as mandated by the Security Council, conducting investigations, providing recommendations, and facilitating dialogue to resolve conflicts and promote peace.
- 5. Subsidiary Bodies on Regional Conflicts: Focus on specific regional conflicts or crises, such as those in the Middle East, Africa, or Asia, providing analysis, recommendations, and support to the Security Council in addressing these challenges.
- [6] UNCLOS: The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is an international treaty that governs the use of the world's oceans and seas. It establishes the rights and responsibilities of states in maritime zones, including territorial waters, exclusive economic zones, and the high seas. UNCLOS also addresses issues such as navigation, marine pollution, and the conservation of marine resources.
- [7] Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs): Exclusive Economic Zones are maritime zones extending up to 200 nautical miles from a coastal state's baseline. Within these zones, the coastal state has sovereign rights over the exploration and exploitation of natural resources, including fish, oil, and minerals. Other states enjoy freedom of navigation and overflight in EEZs, but must respect the coastal state's rights.