

ARTICLE 121: REGIME OF THE ISLANDS

- 1. "Island" means a naturally formed area of land surrounded by water that is above its level at high tide.
- 2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, the territorial sea, contiguous zone, exclusive economic zone and continental shelf of the island shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of this Convention applicable to other land territories.
- 3. Rocks that are not suitable for human habitation or independent economic activity have neither an exclusive economic zone nor a continental shelf.

WHAT IS THE ARTIFICIAL ISLAND?

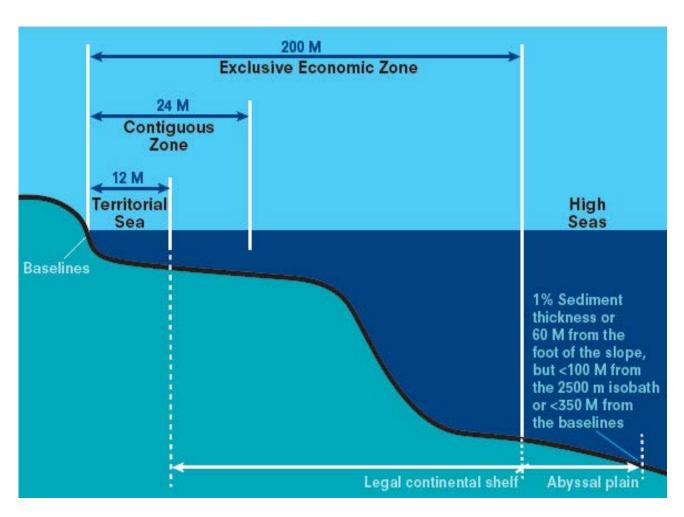


Artificial islands are islands created entirely or partially artificially in the sea or in an inland water basin.

Features:

- 1) a certain land area surrounded by water;
- 2) located above the water level;
- 3) this artificial island is habitable for humans.

INTERNATIONAL REGULATION



- Geneva Maritime Conventions of 1958 (on the territorial sea and contiguous zone; on the high seas; on the continental shelf; on fisheries and the conservation of the living resources of the sea)
- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, adopted at Montego Bay on 10 December 1982.

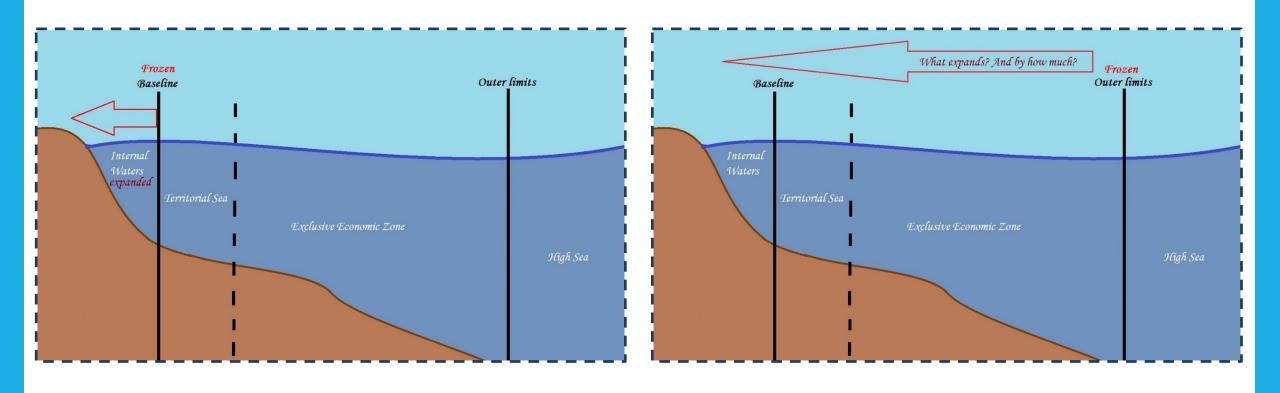
GOALS



- The first artificial islands were created as wooden or stone structures that were built in flat bodies of water.
- Modern artificial islands are mainly obtained by creating new land.
- Purpose expansion of existing islands for commercial and military purposes.

OUTER LIMITS

Baseline fixation versus outer boundary fixation



EXAMPLES AND CONTROVERSIAL SOLUTIONS?

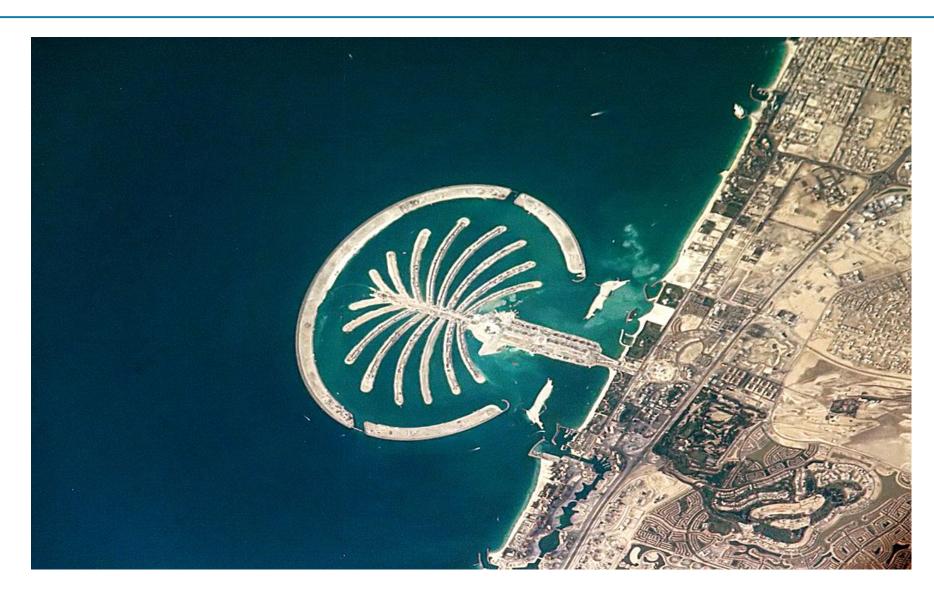
- Article 60
- Artificial islands, facilities and structures in the exclusive economic zone

Article 121

Islands mode



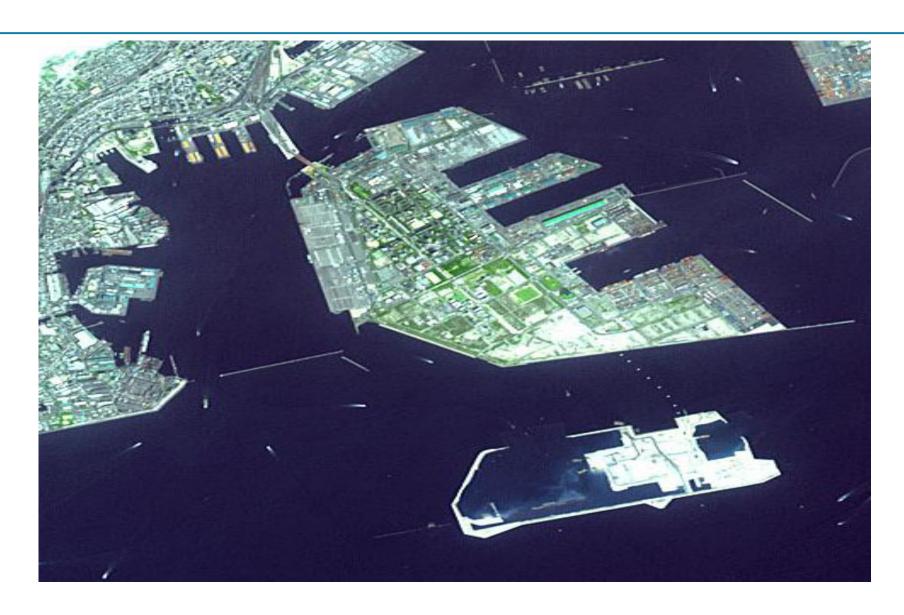
An artificial island in the South China Sea



Palm Jumeirah, Dubai



World Islands, Dubai



Port Island, Japan



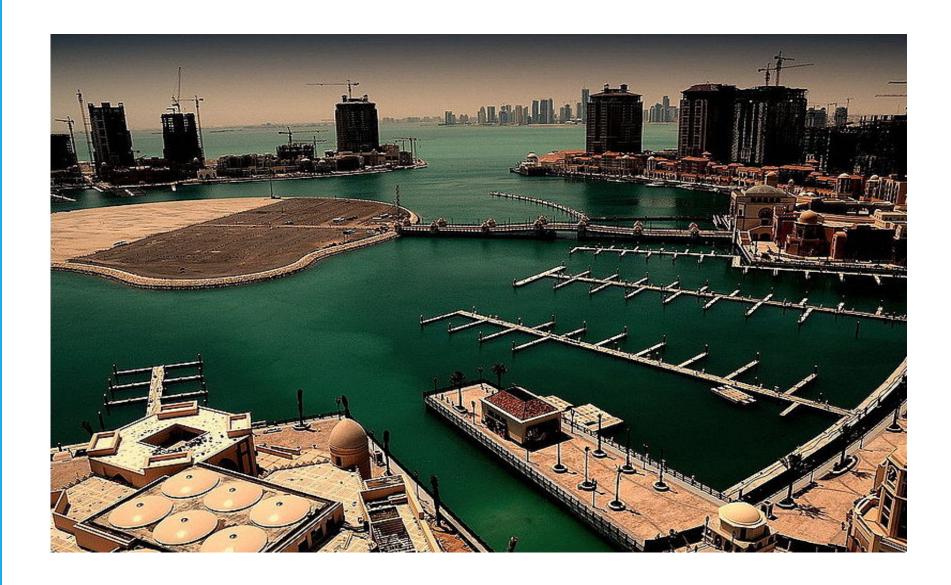
International airport Hong Kong



Burj Al Arab, Dubai



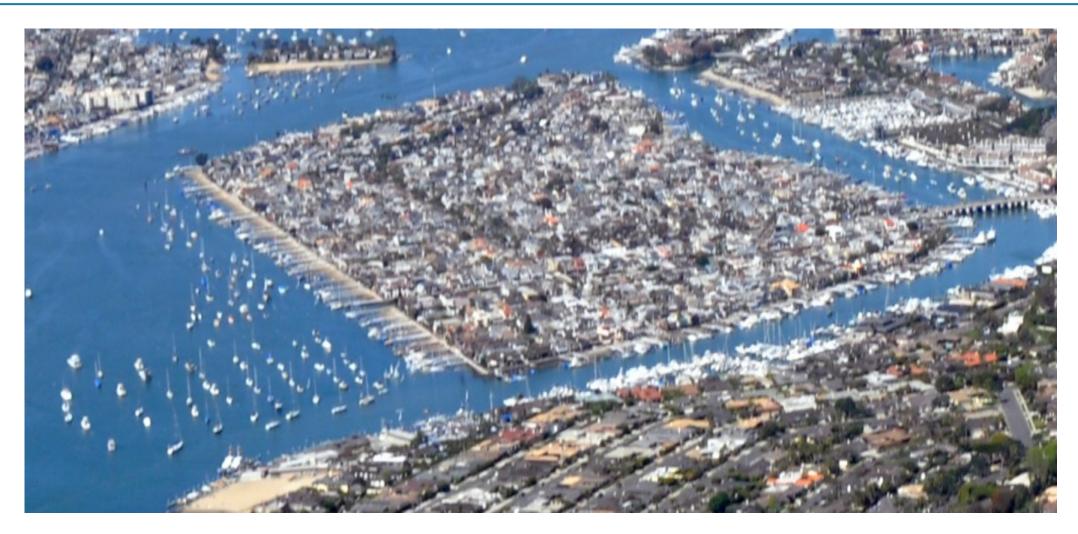
Venation Islands, Florida, USA



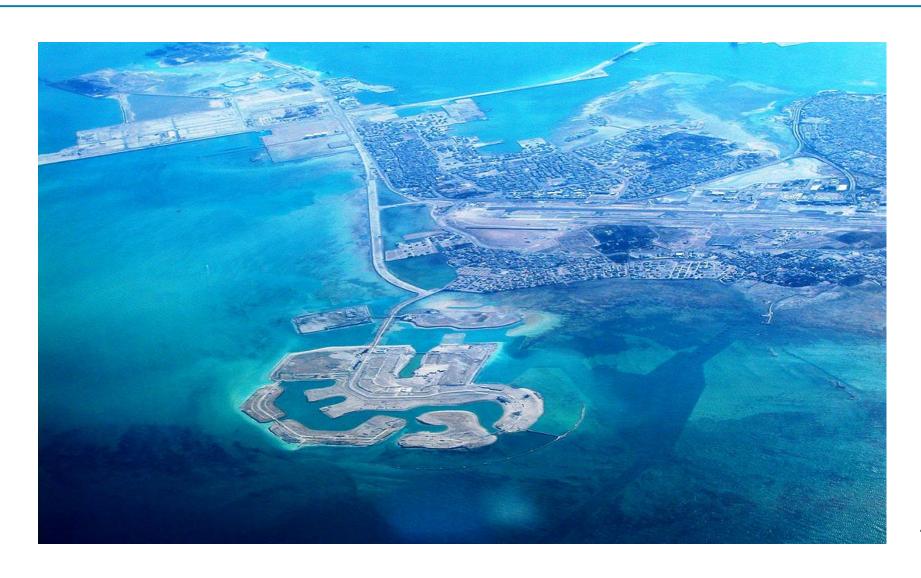
The Pearl, Qatar



Kansai International Airport, Japan



Balboa Islands, California, USA



Amwaj Islands, Bahrain

THE ISTANBUL CANAL PROJECT



- The Istanbul canal project dates back to 1994.
- It is planned to be 45 kilometers long and turn the European part of Istanbul into an island.
- The Bosphorus and Dardanelles are closed to warships.

