

Act No. 411 of 22 May 1996 on Exclusive Economic Zones

1. Denmark's exclusive economic zone is the waters beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea up to a distance of 200 nautical miles from the baselines applicable at all times.

(2) The Minister for Foreign Affairs may, however, resolve that this Act shall not cover waters governed by special circumstances.

2. The delimitation line of the exclusive economic zones in relation to foreign States whose coasts lie opposite the coasts of the Kingdom of Denmark at a distance not exceeding 400 nautical miles or adjacent to Denmark shall in the absence of an agreement to the contrary be the line equidistant from the nearest points of the baselines of the two States' coasts (the median line principle), cf. section 2, subsection 2 of Royal Decree No. 259 of 7 June 1963 concerning the exercise of Danish sovereignty over the continental shelf.

(2) The Minister for Foreign Affairs shall promulgate the delimitation of the exclusive economic zones.

3. In the exclusive economic zones, Denmark has sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources, whether living or non-living, of the waters superjacent to the seabed and of the seabed and its subsoil, and with regard to other activities for economic exploitation and exploration of the zones, such as the production of energy from the water, currents and winds. In the exclusive economic zones, Denmark has also jurisdiction with regard to the establishment and use of artificial islands, installations and structures, marine scientific research, as well as protection and preservation of the marine environment. Furthermore, in the exclusive economic zones, Denmark has such rights as are conferred on Denmark under international law.

4. This Act shall enter into force on 1 July 1996.

5. This Act shall not apply to the Faroe Islands and Greenland, but may become effective by Royal Decree for these parts of the Kingdom of Denmark with the amendments dictated by the special conditions prevailing in the Faroe Islands and Greenland.

DONE at Christiansborg Palace, this twenty-second day of May, 1996.