

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN THE GOVERNANCE OF THE PLANET OCEAN:

The Eastern Mediterranean:

Will Law of the Sea Applications Unlock Both Seabed Hydrocarbons and a Regional Peace?

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Disclaimer

- Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the graphics/figures contained in this presentation
- Nevertheless, 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

Maritime State of Play of “Eastern Mediterranean Sea”

The Eastern Mediterranean Sea is rimmed by seven (*7) Coastal States;

Greece – Turkey – Cyprus – Syria – Lebanon – Israel - Egypt

For Law of the Sea, for only these Coastal States' this covers ~**464,637 km² (Geodetic), as computed and used in the detailed Regional LOS Desktop Study being presented in this paper.

Present Status of Law of Sea for Each Coastal State;

- i) Greece = ratification/accession = July 25, 1995
- ii) Turkey = Not Party to UNCLOS
- iii) Cyprus = ratification/accession = December 12, 1988
- iv) Syria = Not Party to UNCLOS
- v) Lebanon = ratification/accession = January 5, 1995
- vi) Israel = Not Party to UNCLOS
- vii) Egypt = ratification/accession = August 26, 1983

Coastline = 4326 nm = Baselines (i) straight = 778 nm (gazetted) (ii) Normal = 2317 nm

Regional Trijunction Points = 6

(i) GR vs TK vs EG (ii) TK vs CY vs EG (iii) TK vs SY vs CY (iv) CY vs SY vs LB (v) CY vs LB vs IS (vi) EG vs CY vs IS

Maritime Boundaries in DTS = 12 (2 Bilateral Treaties & 10 unresolved/disputed)

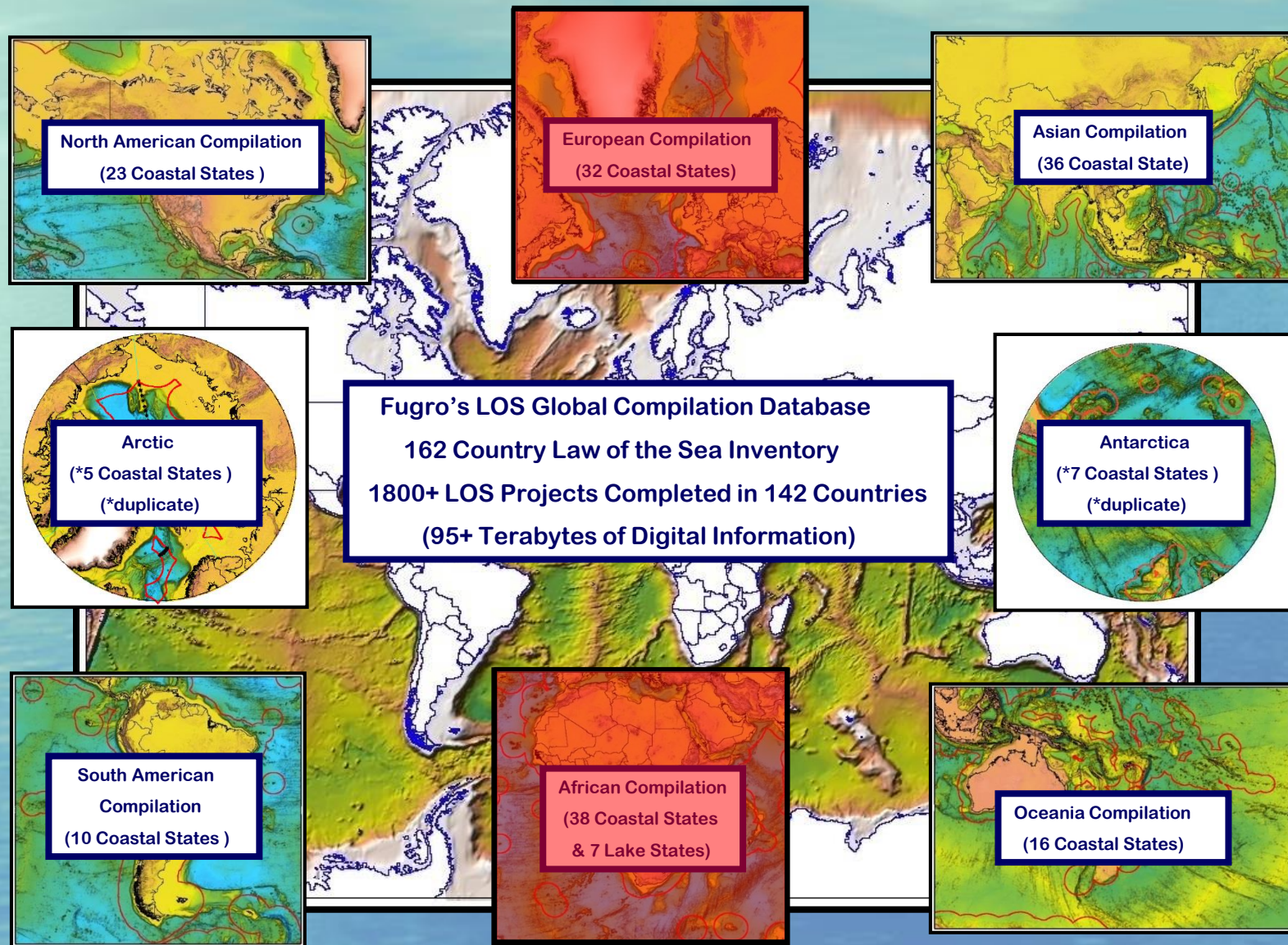
83.3% Unresolved

To Date; 5 recent Major Hydrocarbon Discoveries / Estimate = US\$ 200 Billion in Seabed Hydrocarbons

* United Nations "Table Of Claims to Maritime Jurisdiction ~ July 2011"

**Robert van de Poll (July 2019 Eastern MED Regional Desktop Study)

*** Estimate = 5x new Discoveries with ~67.1 Tcf Gas = US\$200 Billion based on Value Calculations
(<https://www.quora.com/How-much-is-a-1-trillion-cubic-feet-of-natural-gas-worth>)





Law of the Sea (by-the-book): The Regional Neutral Desktop Study Application

Step 1: Map & Review Relevant Coastlines for all applicable Coastal States

Step 2: Locate all relevant Land Terminus Points (LTP)

Step 3: Review Each Coastal States' Territorial Sea Baseline Model (TSBM)

- (i) Normal Baselines**
- (ii) Straight Baselines**

Step 4: Accurately compute all regional relevant Trijunction Points for all Coastal States.

Step 5: Maritime Boundaries

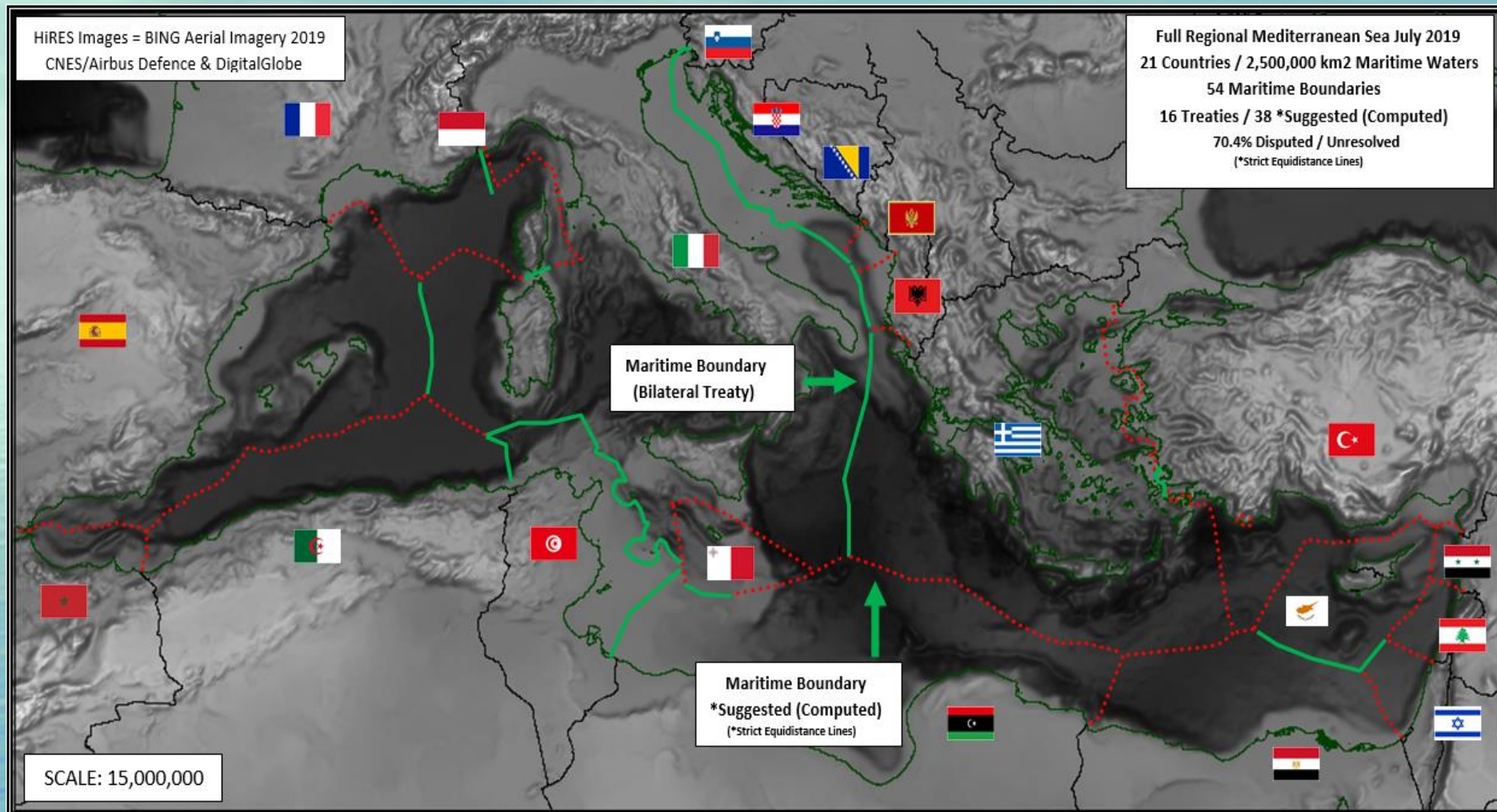
- (i) Import existing Bilateral Treated Boundary Agreements (Gazetted (Published))**
- (ii) Import existing Unilateral (suggested) Boundaries (Gazetted (Published) and/or from Maps)**
- (iii) Create/produce/compute (suggested Equitable) Maritime Boundaries (Strict Equidistance (Geodetic) Lines)**

Step 6: Review Regional Existing Recent Major Offshore Hydrocarbon Discoveries

Step 7: Regional Existing Offshore Seabed Resources Activities (Hydrocarbon Industry)

- (i) Offshore Oil & Gas PSC Concession Blocks ~ Future Bid Round**
- (ii) Offshore Oil & Gas PSC Concession Blocks ~ Current Bid Round**
- (iii) Offshore Oil & Gas PSC Concession Blocks ~ Open (defined)**
- (iv) Offshore Oil & Gas PSC Concession Blocks ~ Issued (Held by IOCs/NOCs ~ seabed exploration active)**
- (v) Offshore Oil & Gas PSC Concession Blocks ~ Production (Hydrocarbon Development & Exploitation)**

Regional Mediterranean Sea : 2,500,000 km² = 21 Countries Maritime Spaces

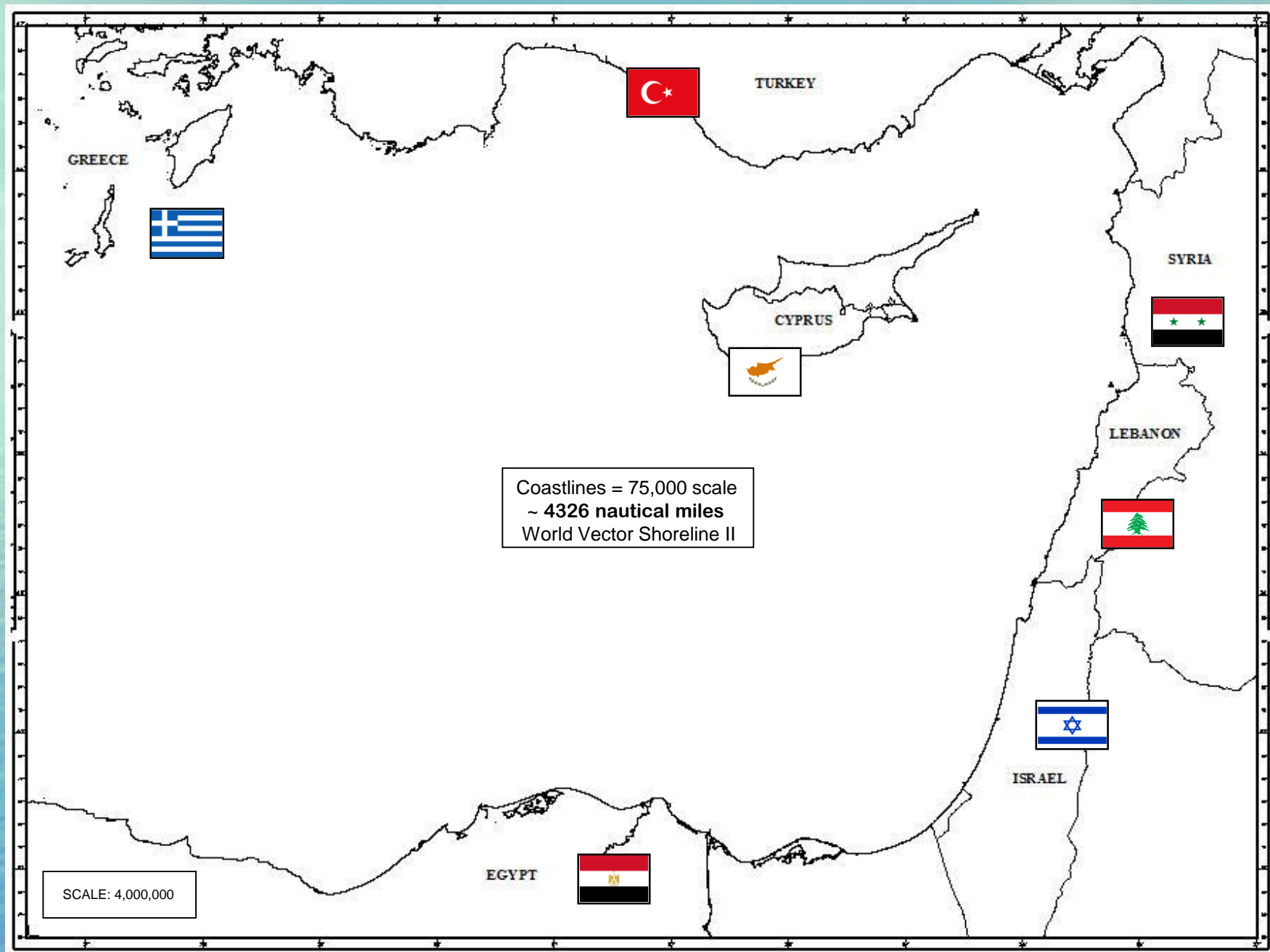




Law of the Sea (by-the-book): The Regional Neutral Desktop Study Application;

Step 1: Map & Review Relevant Coastlines for all applicable Coastal States

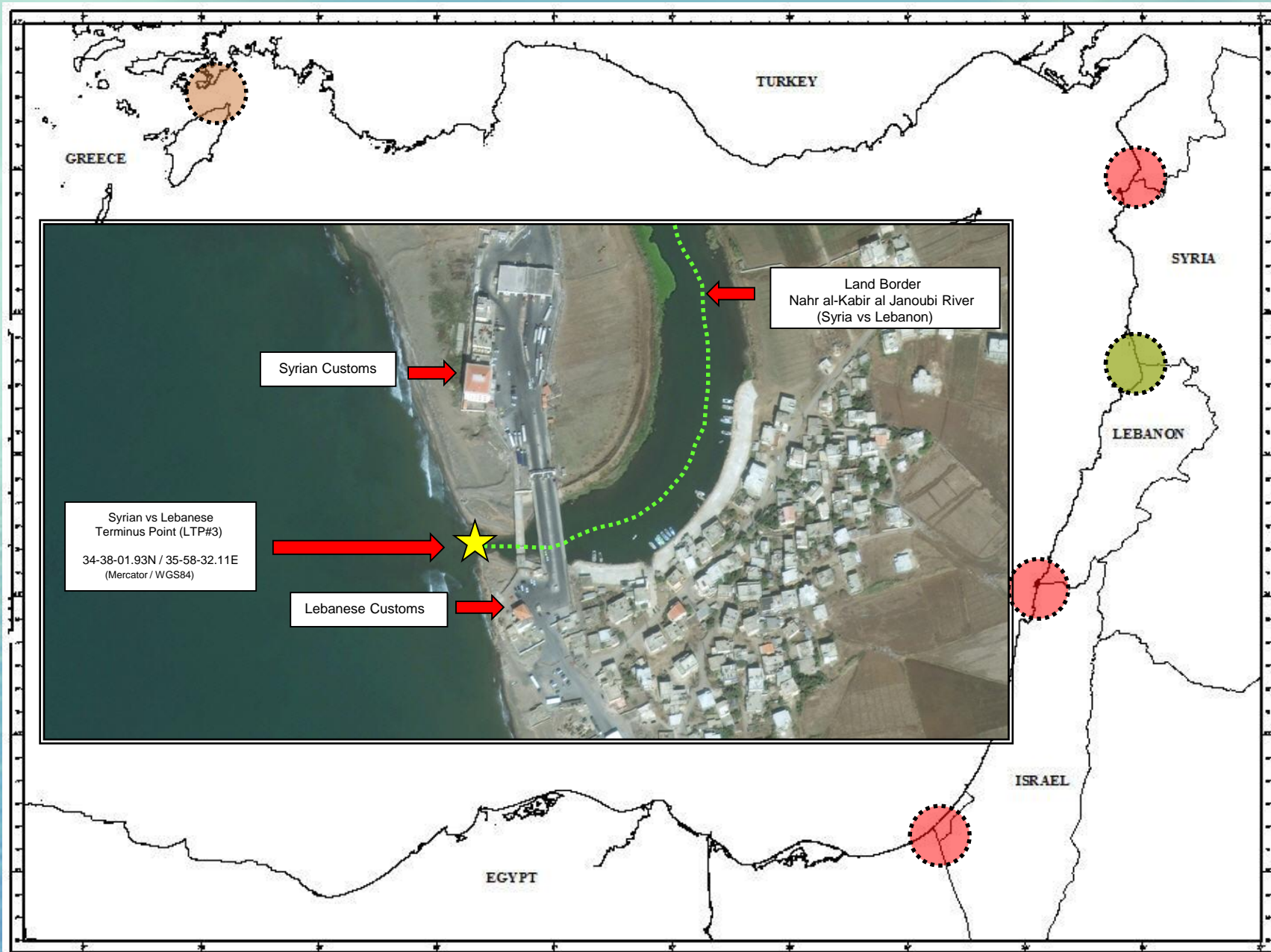
Slide 9



Law of the Sea (by-the-book): The Regional Neutral Desktop Study Application;

Step 2: Locate all relevant (4) Land Terminus Points (LTP)

Slide 10



Law of the Sea (by-the-book): The Regional Neutral Desktop Study Application; Step 3: Review Each Coastal States' Territorial Sea Baseline Model (TSBM)

Eastern Mediterranean Sea Territorial Sea Baseline Models (TSBM);

(i) Egypt

- (i) Normal (data not publically available)
- (ii) Straight (gazetted January 9, 1990)

(ii) Israel

- (i) Normal (data not publically available)

(iii) Lebanon

- (i) Normal (data not publically available)

(iv) Cyprus

- (i) Normal (data not publically available)
- (ii) Straight (gazetted May 11, 1993)

(v) Syria

- (i) Normal (data not publically available)
- (ii) Straight (not gazetted ~ limited use)

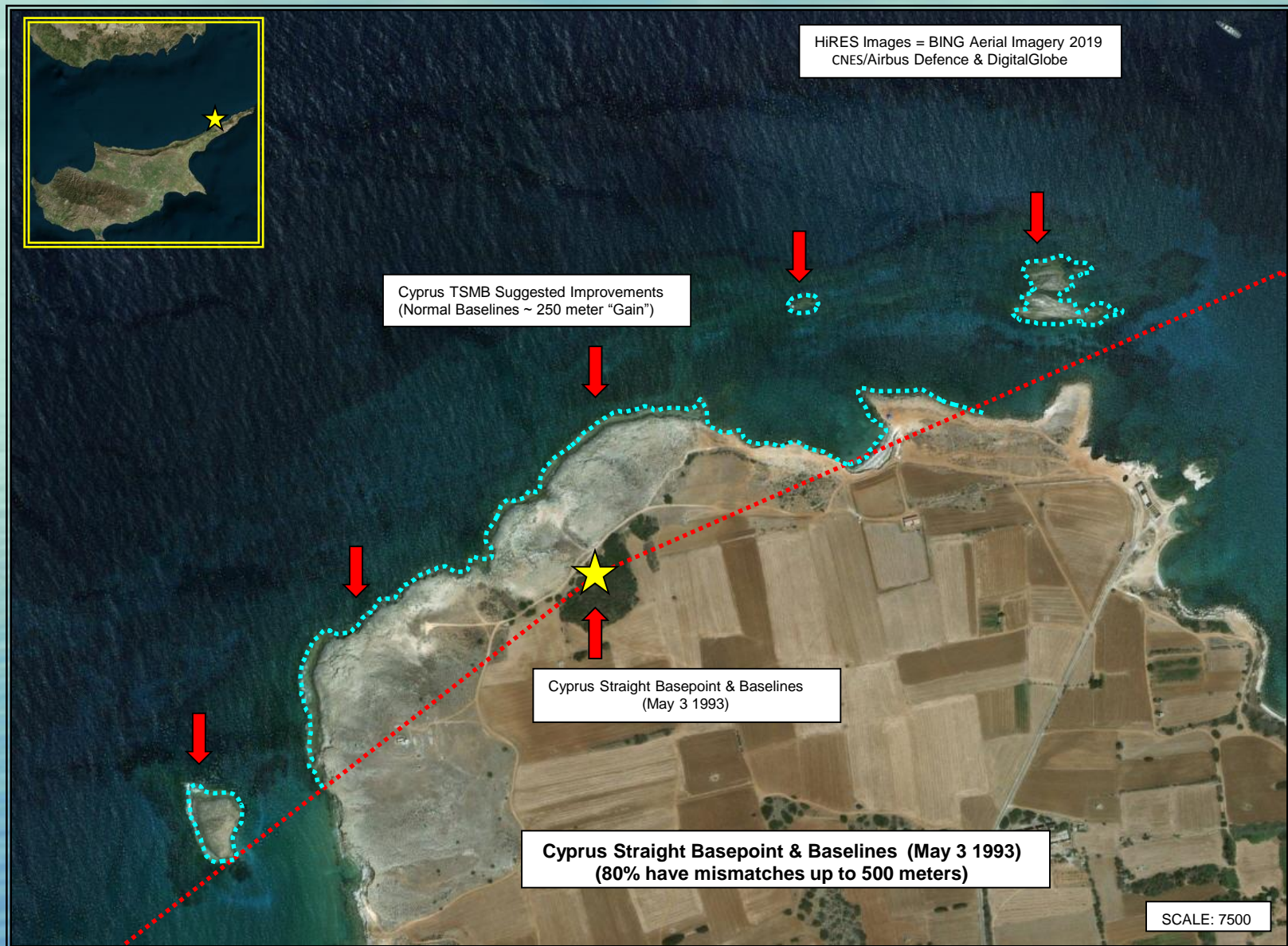
(vi) Turkey

- (i) Normal (data not publically available)
- (ii) Straight (not gazetted / Map ~ May 15, 1964 / Repealed May 20, 1982)

(vii) Greece

- (i) Normal (data not publically available)

Review Cyprus Straight Baselines for Territorial Sea Baseline Model (TSBM)



Step 4: Accurately compute all regional relevant Trijunction Points for all Coastal States.

Trijunction (Tripoint / Triple) Points;

(i) Trijunction Point #1 = Greece vs Turkey vs Egypt

33-43-18.28N 29-16-13.83E

(ii) Trijunction Point #2 = Turkey vs Cyprus vs Egypt

33-46-44.22N 29-49-37.11E

(iii) Trijunction Point #3 = Turkey vs Syria vs Cyprus

36-00-53.39N 35-09-42.64E

(iv) Trijunction Point #4 = Cyprus vs Syria vs Lebanon

34-49-49.05N 34-57-54.56E

(v) Trijunction Point #5 = Cyprus vs Lebanon vs Israel

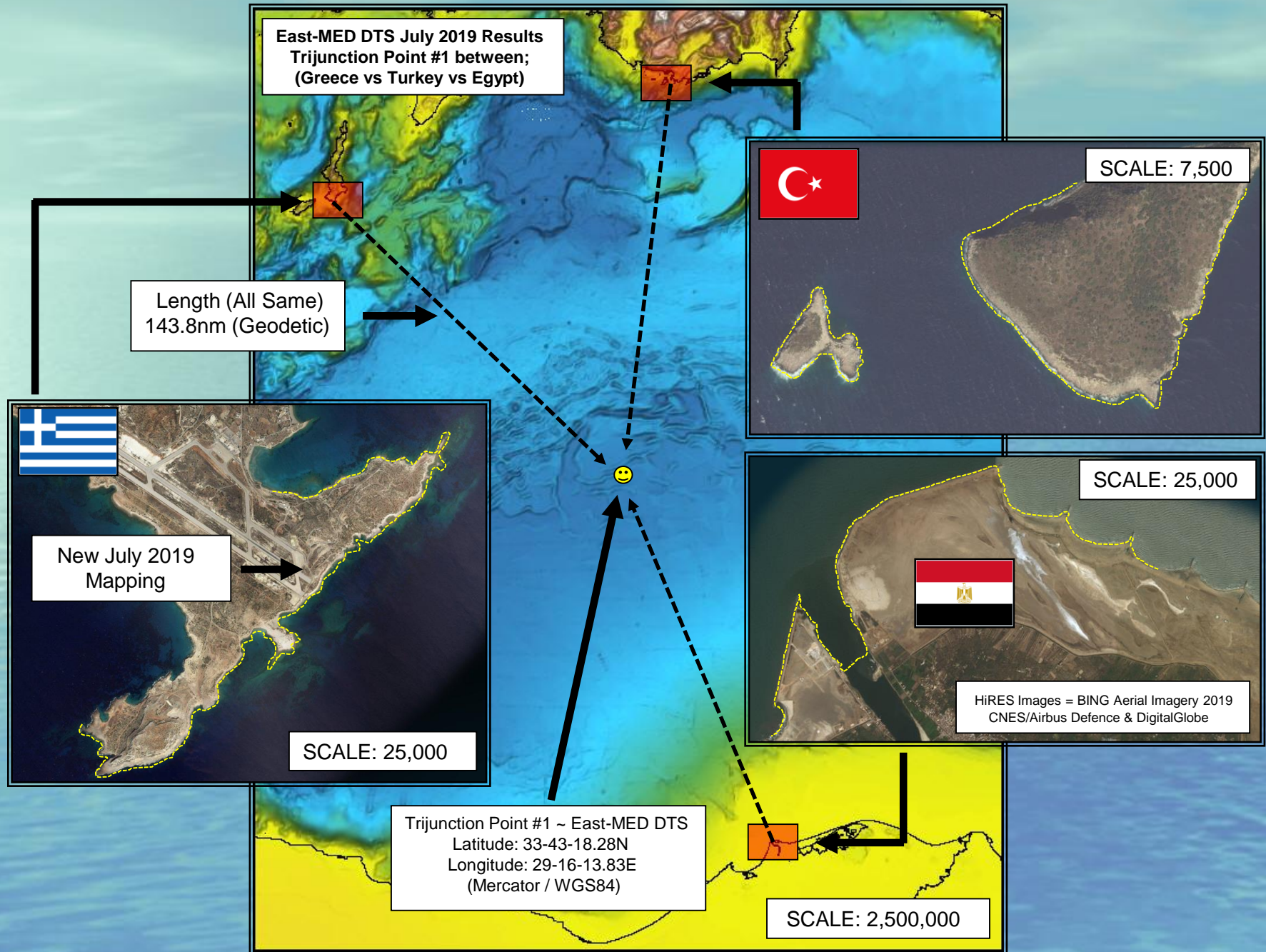
33-34-46.26N 33-49-03.36E

(vi) Trijunction Point #6 = Cyprus vs Israel vs Egypt

32-54-31.45N 32-59-31.03E

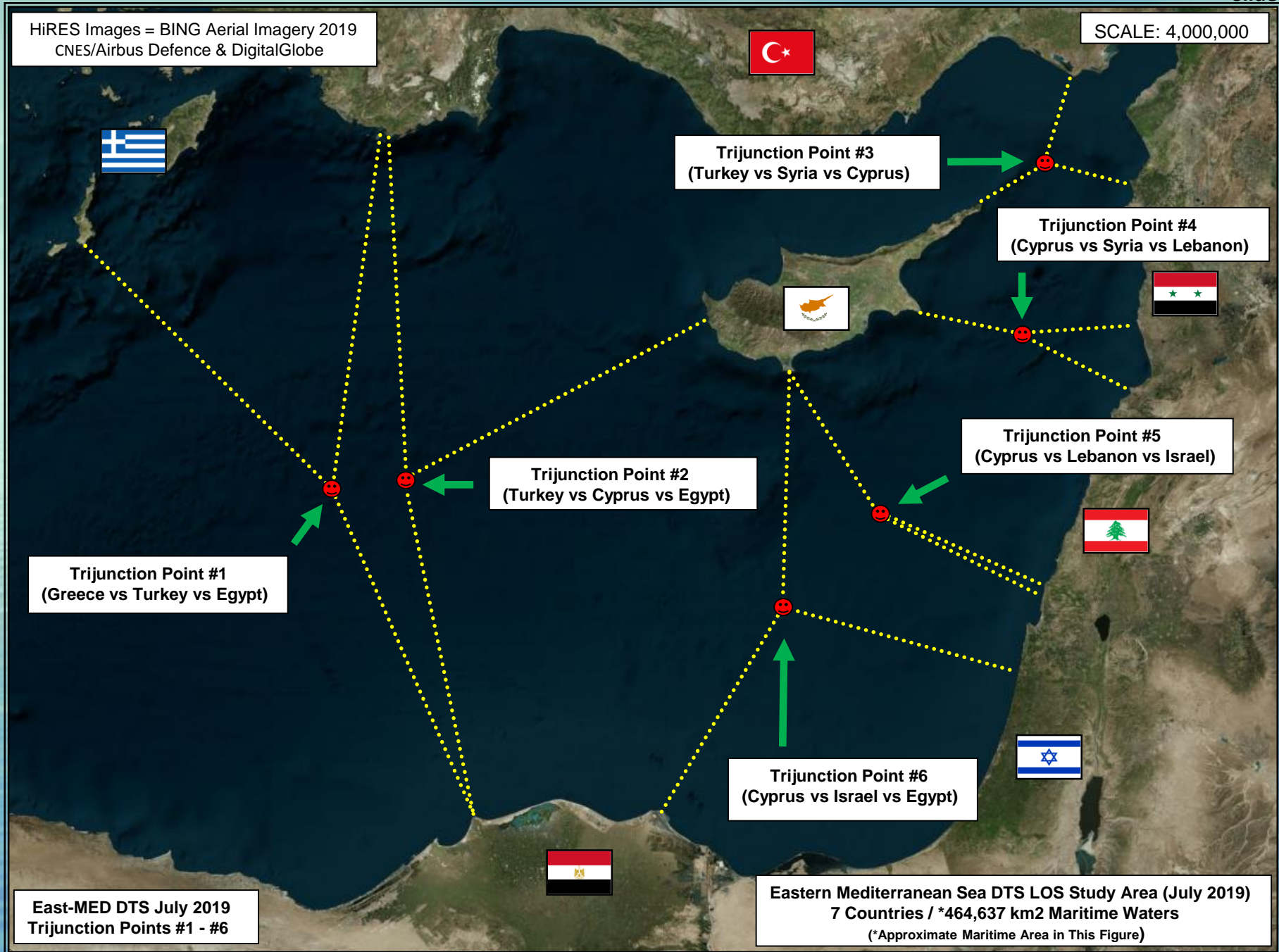
Review Trijunction Point #1 = Greece vs Turkey vs Egypt

Slide 14



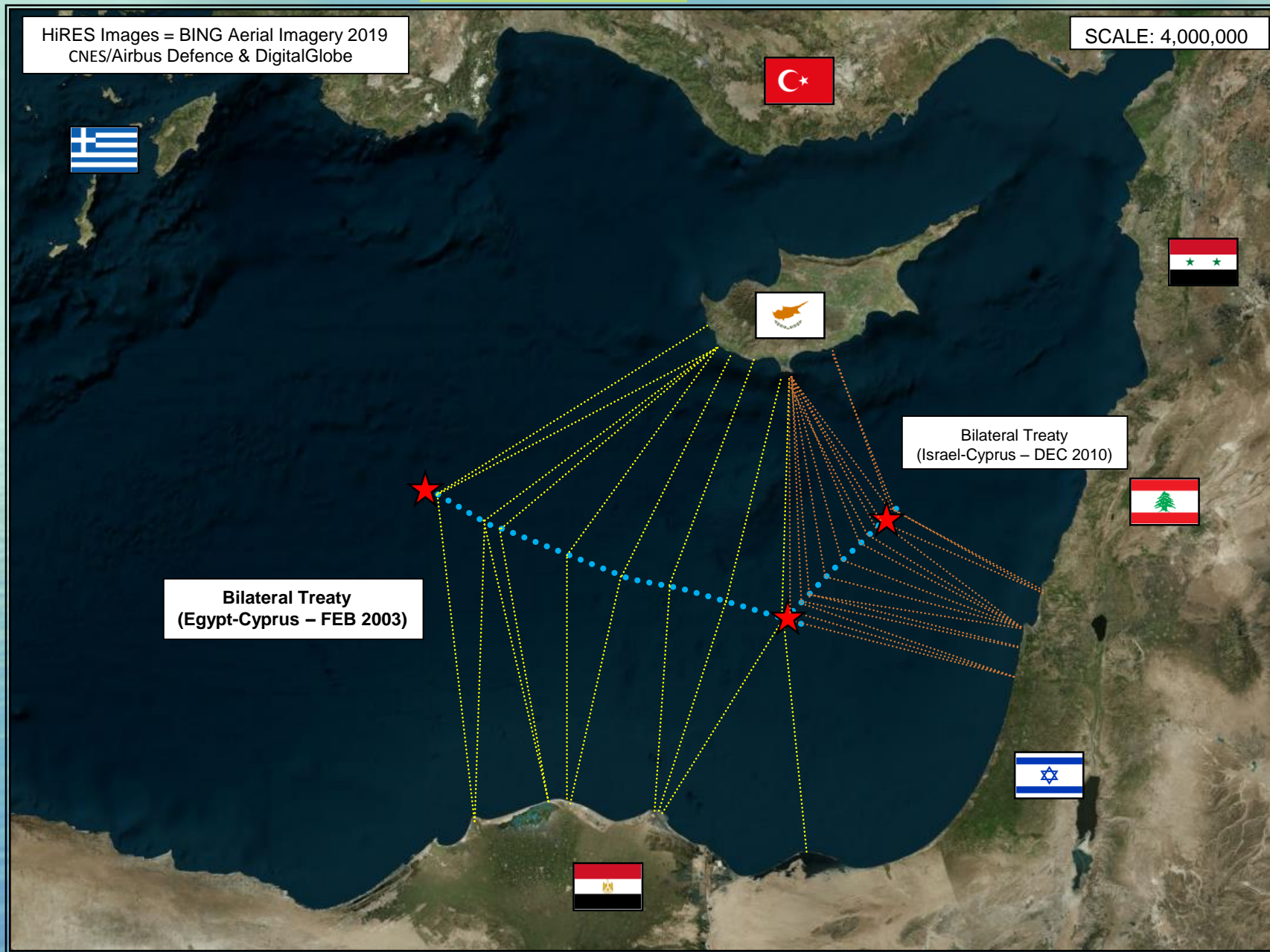
HiRES Images = BING Aerial Imagery 2019
CNES/Airbus Defence & DigitalGlobe

SCALE: 4,000,000

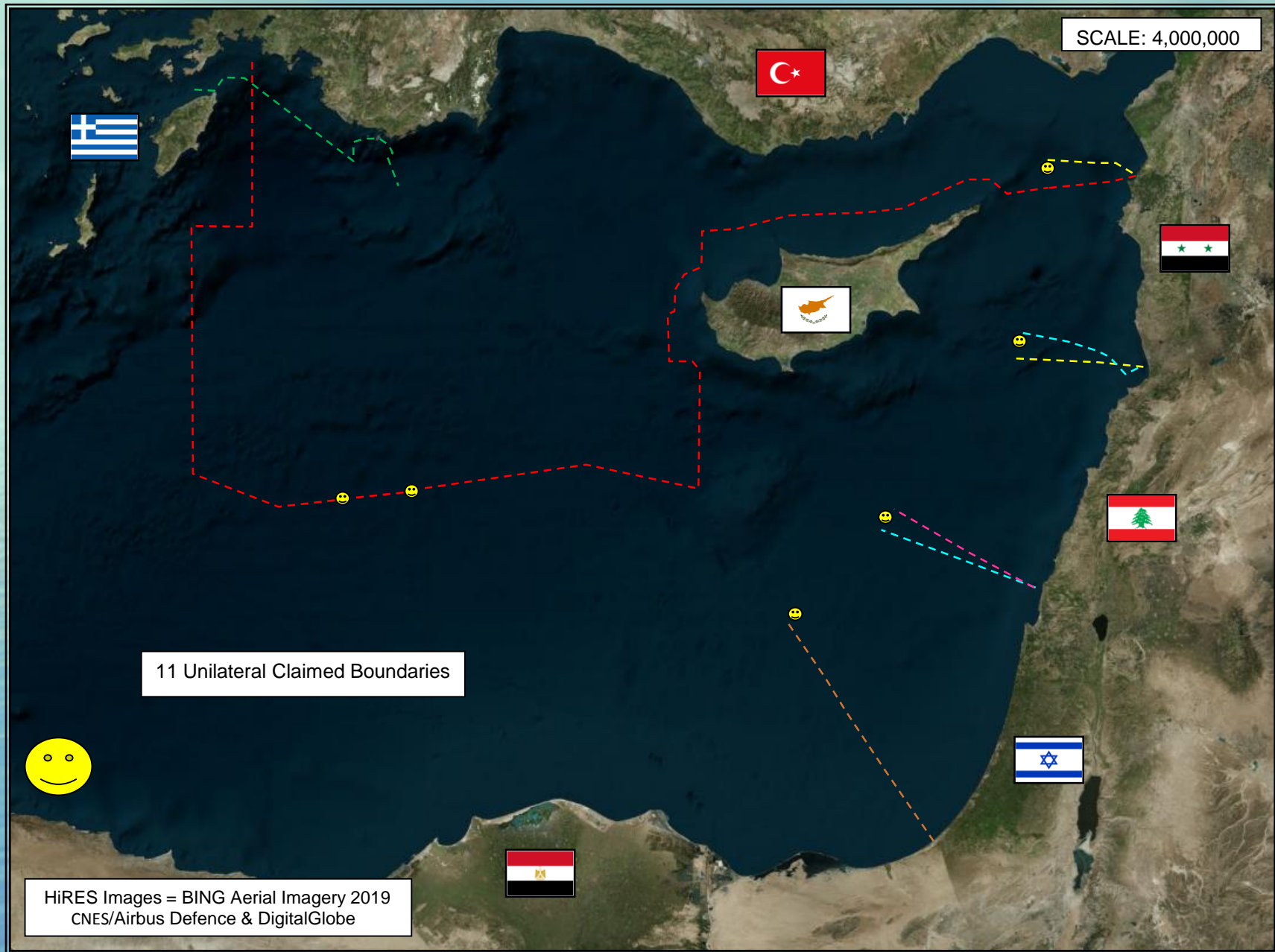


Law of the Sea (by-the-book): The Regional Neutral Desktop Study Application;

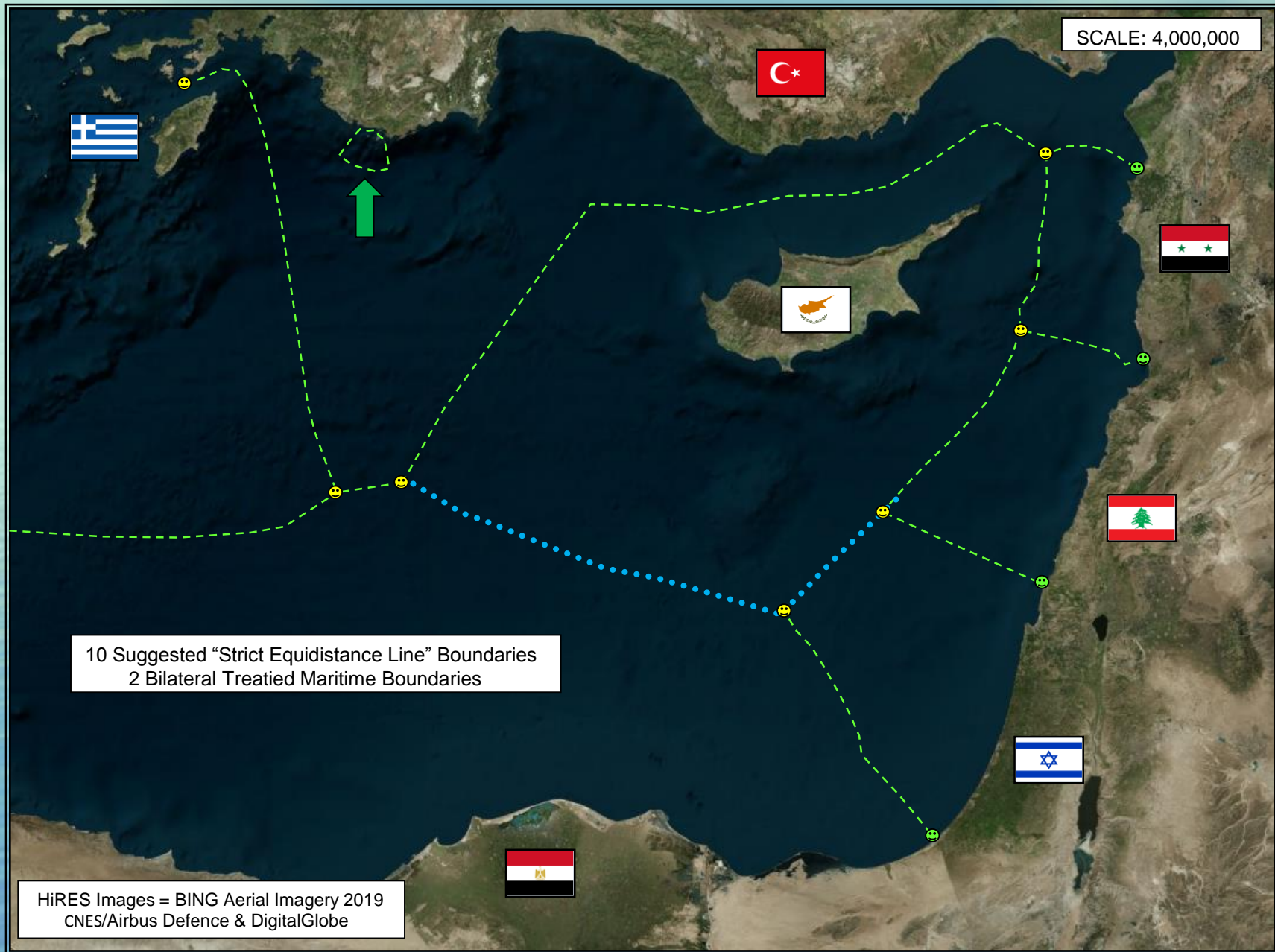
Step 5: Maritime Boundaries (i) **Bilateral Treaties** (ii) Unilateral Claimed (iii) Computed SEL



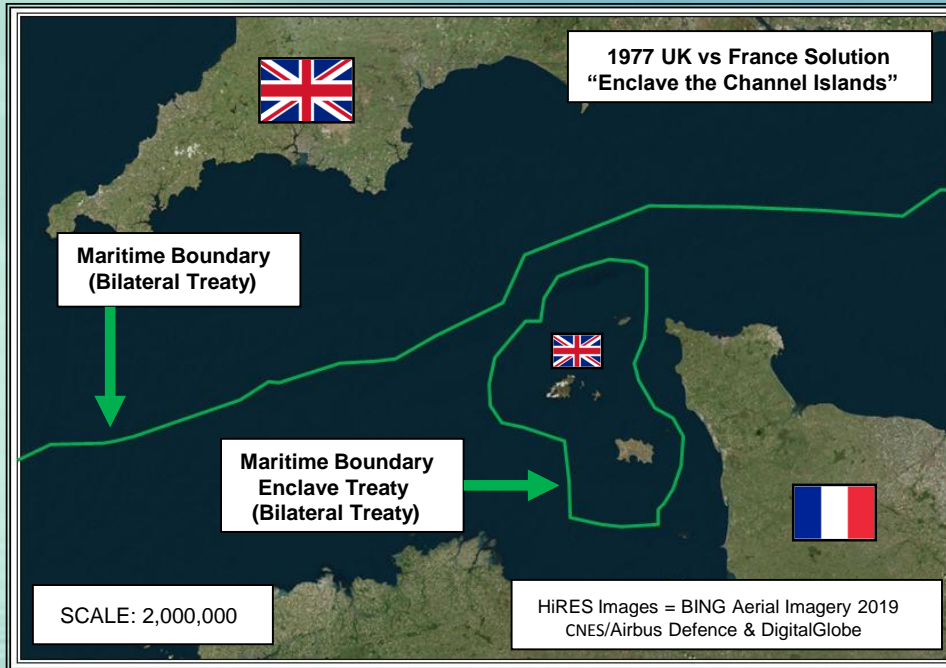
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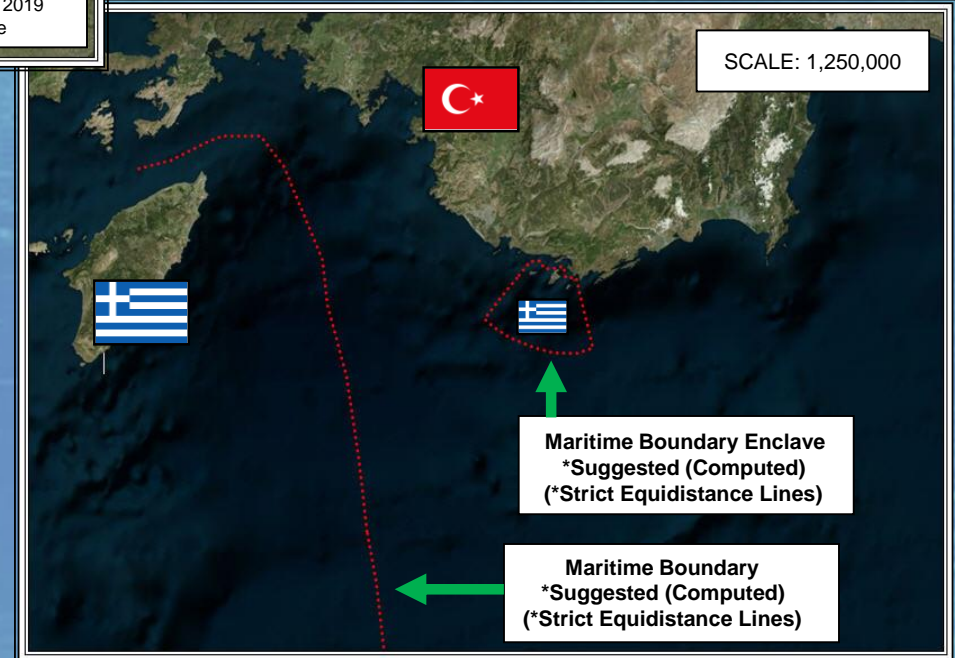


Law of the Sea (by-the-book): The Regional Neutral Desktop Study Application; Step 5: Maritime Boundaries : Enclave = One Possible way to address Kastellorizo (Greece)

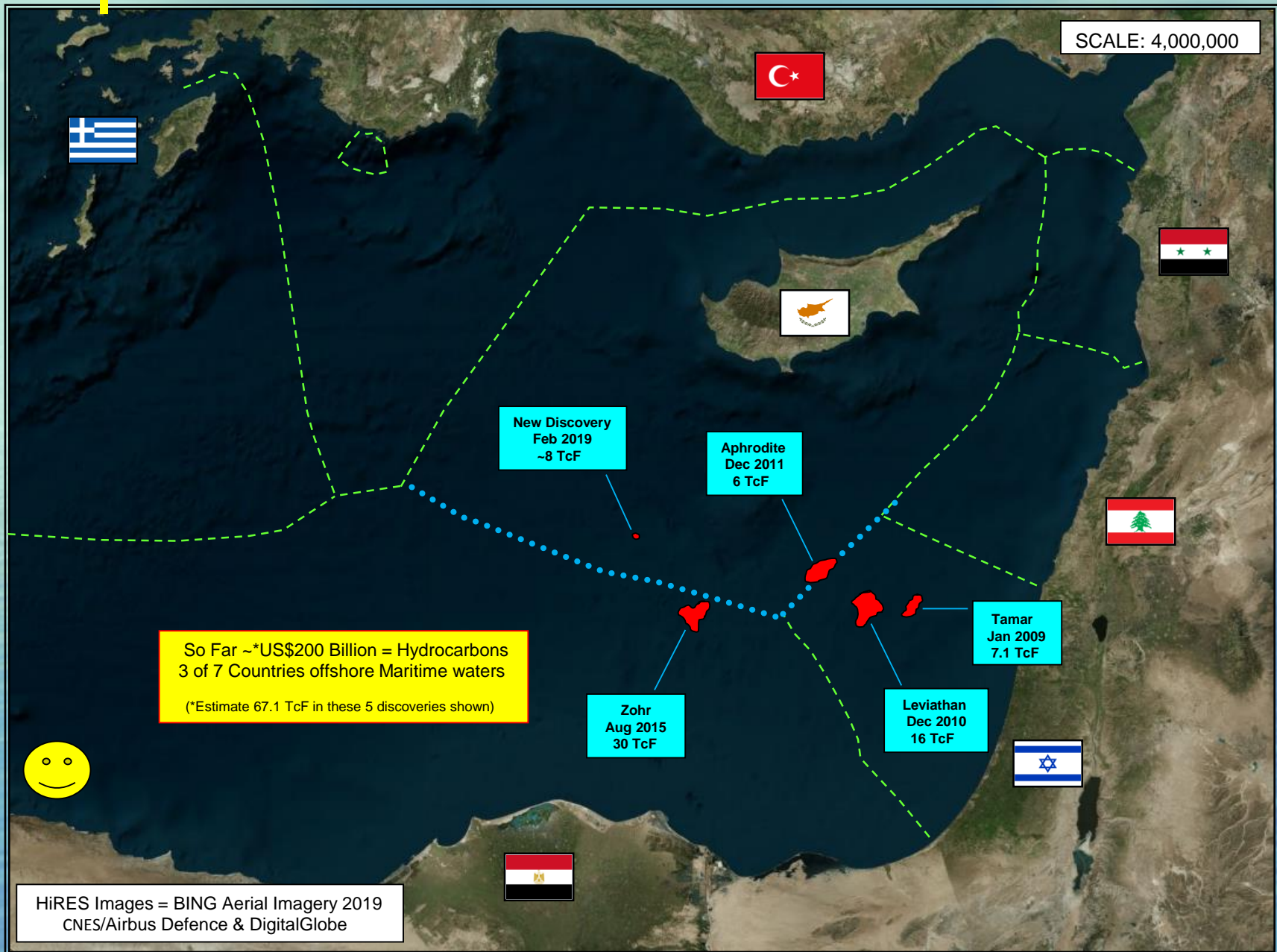


Law of the Sea "Enclaves" Techniques;
A proven equitable solution, for tiny distant-isolated
Islands (Islets) inside other countries EEZ waters.

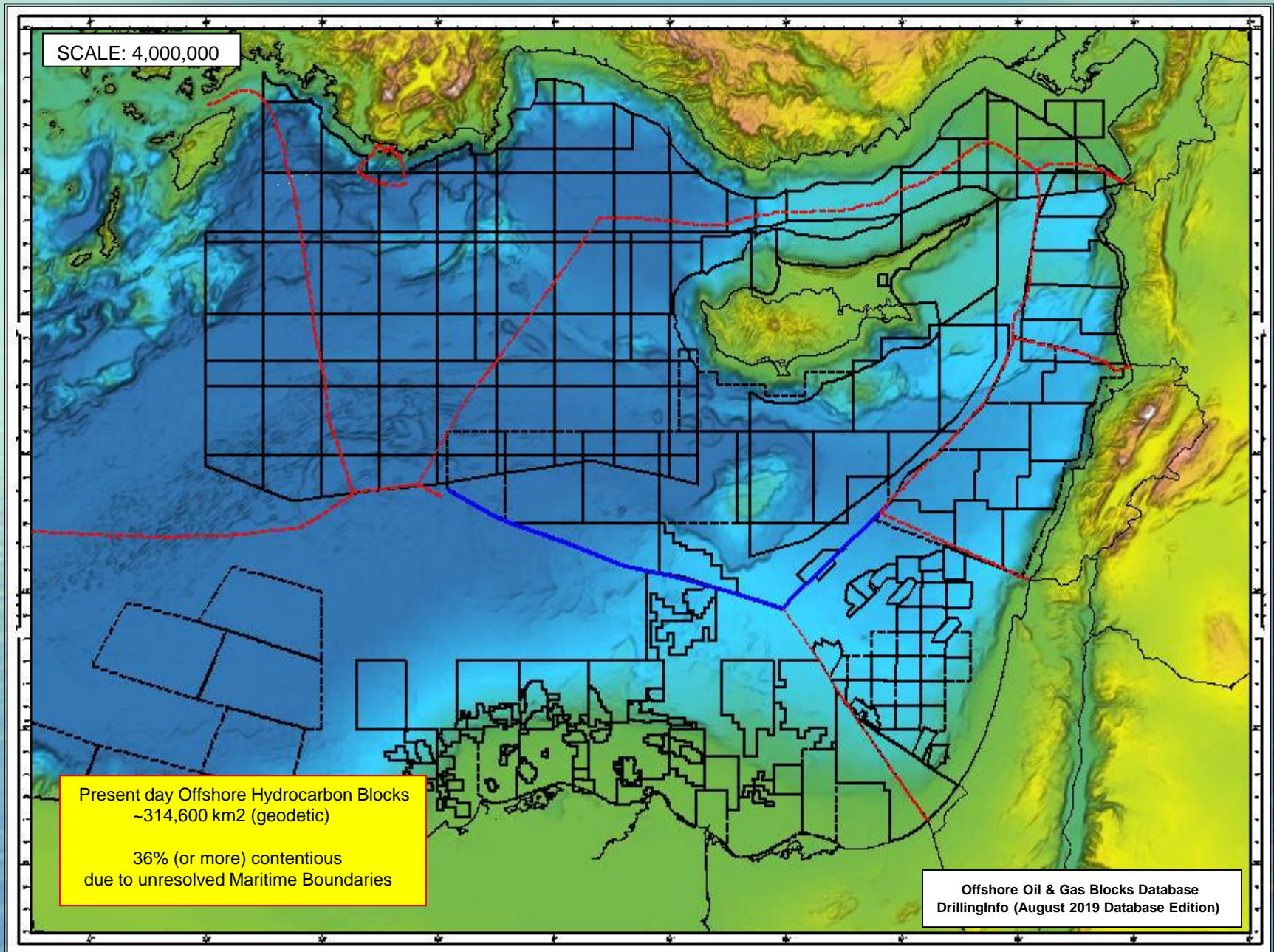
2019 Greece vs Turkey "Possible" Solution
"Enclave the Megisti (Kastellorizo) Islands"



Law of the Sea (by-the-book): The Regional Neutral Desktop Study Application; Step 6: Review Regional Existing Recent Major Offshore Hydrocarbon Discoveries



Law of the Sea (by-the-book): The Regional Neutral Desktop Study Application; Step 7: Regional Existing Offshore Seabed Resources Activities (Hydrocarbon Industry)



We know that for much of history, the strong have gained unfair advantage over the weak. Even today some smaller nations are routinely bullied by larger ones.

But given what we have discussed here today, it is clear that when it comes to maritime boundaries at least, the international system has developed tools that virtually guarantee fair and practical outcomes for any states that commit to peaceful solutions. These tools are rooted in a comprehensive set of United Nations institutions, international laws and the precedents set by judicial verdicts, bi- or multilateral agreements, and arbitration settlements. What is more, they are all based on science, so once all the facts are known, once the area in question has been precisely mapped, all the guesswork is gone and delineating maritime boundaries becomes a relatively simple exercise.

Such solutions are rarely zero-sum games. Instead, they benefit all of the parties by removing a huge element of risk for would-be investors, freeing up the states in question to find the trustworthy partners and hammer out the mutually beneficial contracts required to safely and effectively exploit their natural resources.

The peoples of the Mediterranean deserve the chance at affluence that new oil and gas revenues would provide. They deserve the modern schools, hospitals, roads, and other infrastructure that would reinvigorate their economies, eliminate poverty, and reduce inequality.

Outside parties can help too. The European Union, for instance, has a clear interest in promoting full demarcation, not just because it would remove uncertainties affecting its southern members, but also because it would open up new opportunities for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership by reducing frictions and strengthening business ties.

It is the United States, though, that could have the most profound impact on this process – and it, too, has a interest in the maintenance of stability across the Mediterranean region. The US has never ratified UNCLOS, but it was Washington that originally championed the need for such a mechanism, successive administrations have largely accepted the tenets of UNCLOS rules and procedures, American influence is often the only way to get some parties in the same room, and American companies have a lot to gain from an improved investment climate. For these and other reasons, there are some instances – for example, Lebanon and Israel – in which US involvement may well be essential to a successful outcome.

The bottom line is that a host of opportunities are available to all nations that honor their UN Charter obligations by seeking and obtaining negotiated solutions to maritime disputes. The question is how many of their governments have the foresight to appreciate the gains within their reach, the political will to insist on peaceful means of securing their rights, and the good faith to play by the rules until solutions are arrived at. Their peoples deserve nothing less.

Thank You

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