



National University of Ireland, Galway
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

**IRELAND AND MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH:
THE CHANGING PERSPECTIVE OF A COASTAL
MEMBER STATE OF THE EU**

Overview

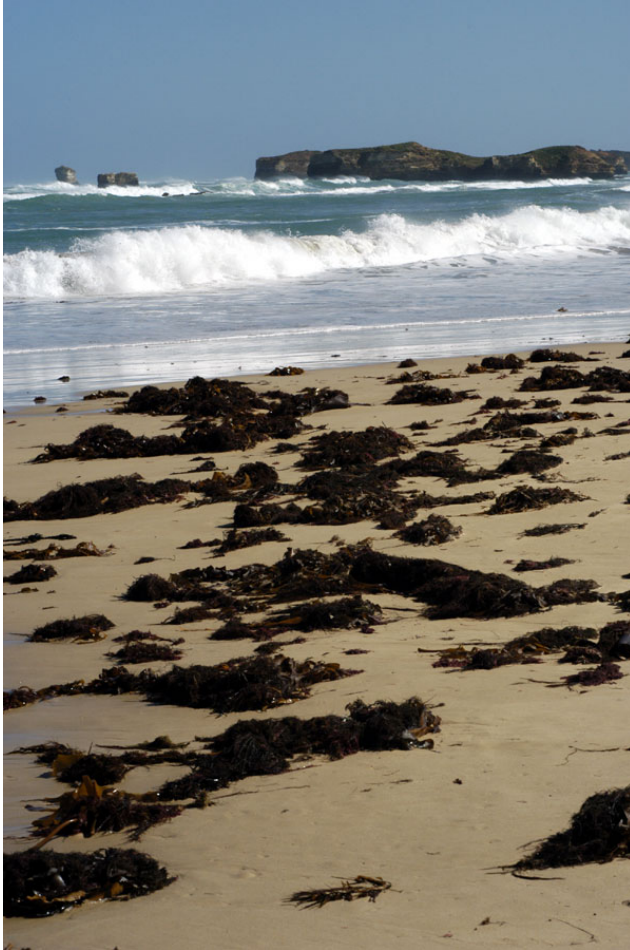
- I. Europe & Ireland
- II. MSR?
- III. Foreign MSR
- IV. Trends in EU Law & Policy
- V. Why a Changing Perspective?

Europe

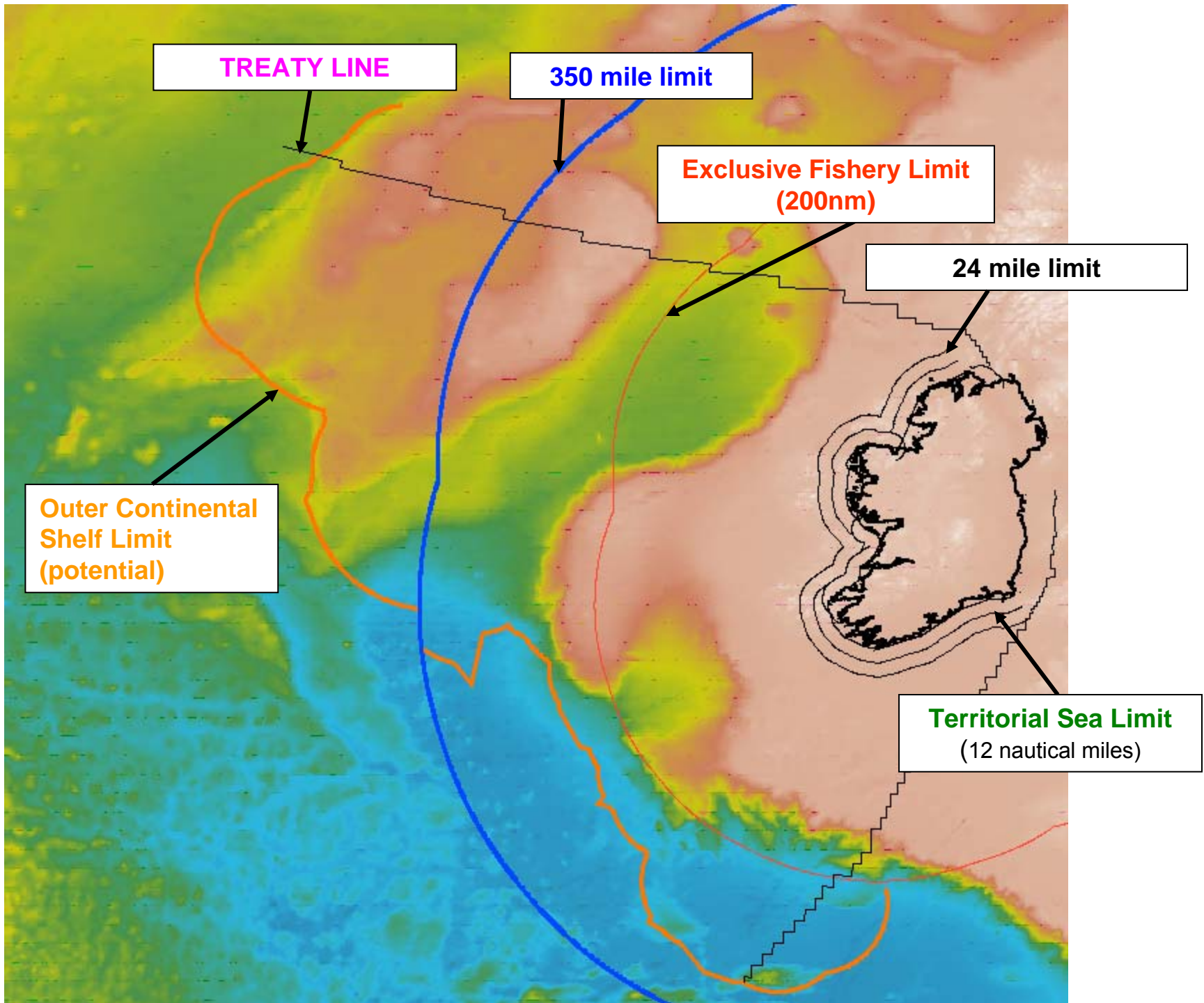


- 25 Member States (20)
- Semi-Enclosed Seas
- Regional Seas
- International Straits
- Coastline - 100K KM
- Sea Area - 3.9 million sq. KM

Ireland

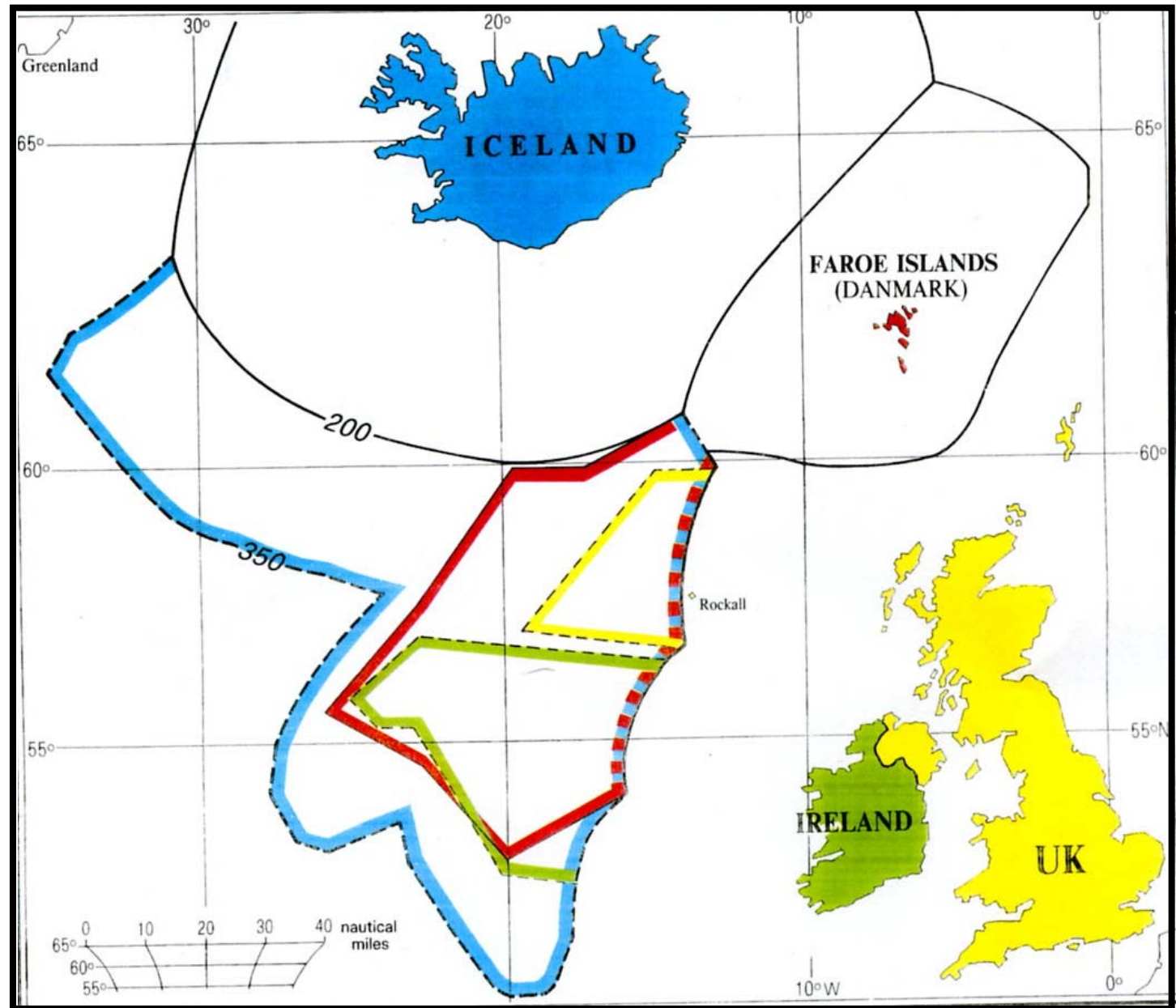


- Island
- 99% trade by sea
- 4 million ferry passengers
- Marine sector €1.2 billion p.a.
- Sea Area - 900,000 sq. KM

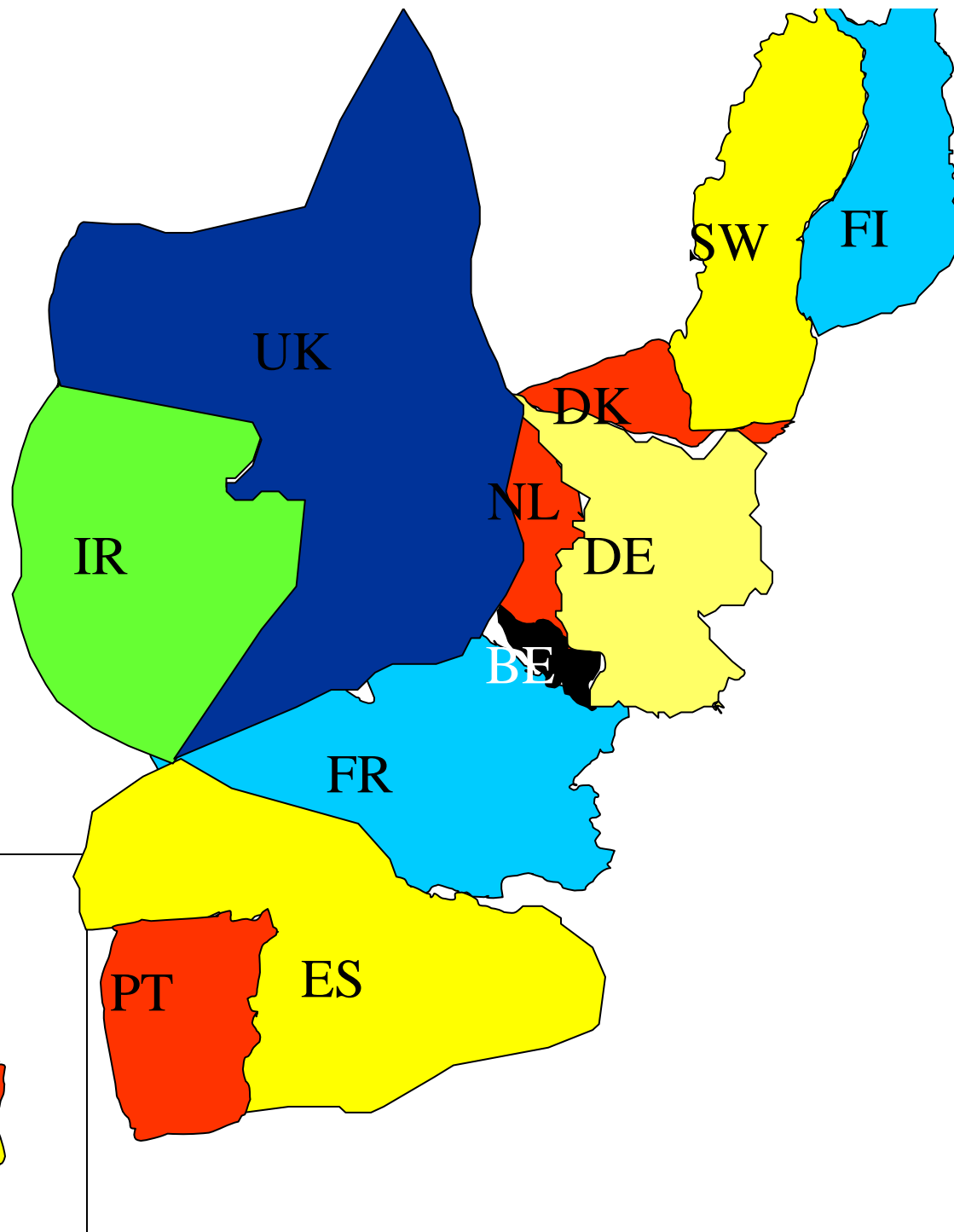


Continental Shelf Claims In the North Atlantic

Iceland – Blue
Danish – Red
UK – Yellow
Ireland - Green



NW Europe



MSR Ireland - Objectives?

- Sustainable Development
- Improve Resource & Sector Management
- Link Land & Sea
- Investment €220 million



UNCLOS III - ship borne MSR

- High Seas freedom
- Qualified Consent
- Balance
- No distinction pure and applied MSR
- One Régime



What is MSR?

- No definition
- General Expression...
 - activities undertaken in the ocean and coastal waters to expand scientific knowledge
- Hydrographic Survey?
 - Navigation Aids
 - Marine Resource Purposes
- Military Survey Activities?



Foreign MSR

- About 500 foreign MSR vessels
- (1992-2005)
- 37 per annum
- 1980s - 70 per annum



Origin Foreign MSR (1992-2005)

- United Kingdom >260
- France >35
- Norway >30
- Russia >20
- Germany >60
- Netherlands >35
- USA / Belgium / Spain /
Others >15 (per State)



MSR Activities

- Fisheries - 200
- Oceanography
& Climatology - 144
- Geology - 45
- Pollution Monitoring - 7
- Marine Biology - 20
- Benthic Ecology - 20
- Equipment Trials & Training - 2
- Radiation Monitoring -7



Oversight

- TS/EFZ/CS
 - Consent
- Distinction:
 - Pure: Consent
 - Applied: Discretion
- 6 weeks Application
- Participation



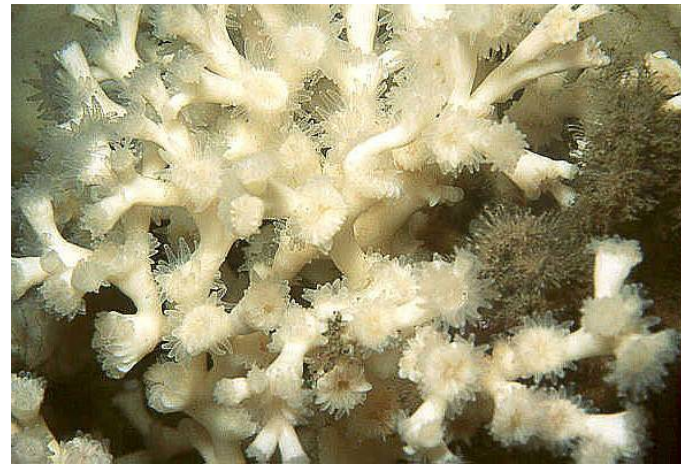
Participation

- 3 cruises per annum
- Data (No facilities)
- Cruise Reports
- Role of the Scientific Observer?



Trends EC Law

- Research and Development(€200m)
- Common Fisheries Policy
- Habitats Directive
- Network of MPAs
- Water Framework Directive
- EU Maritime Policy



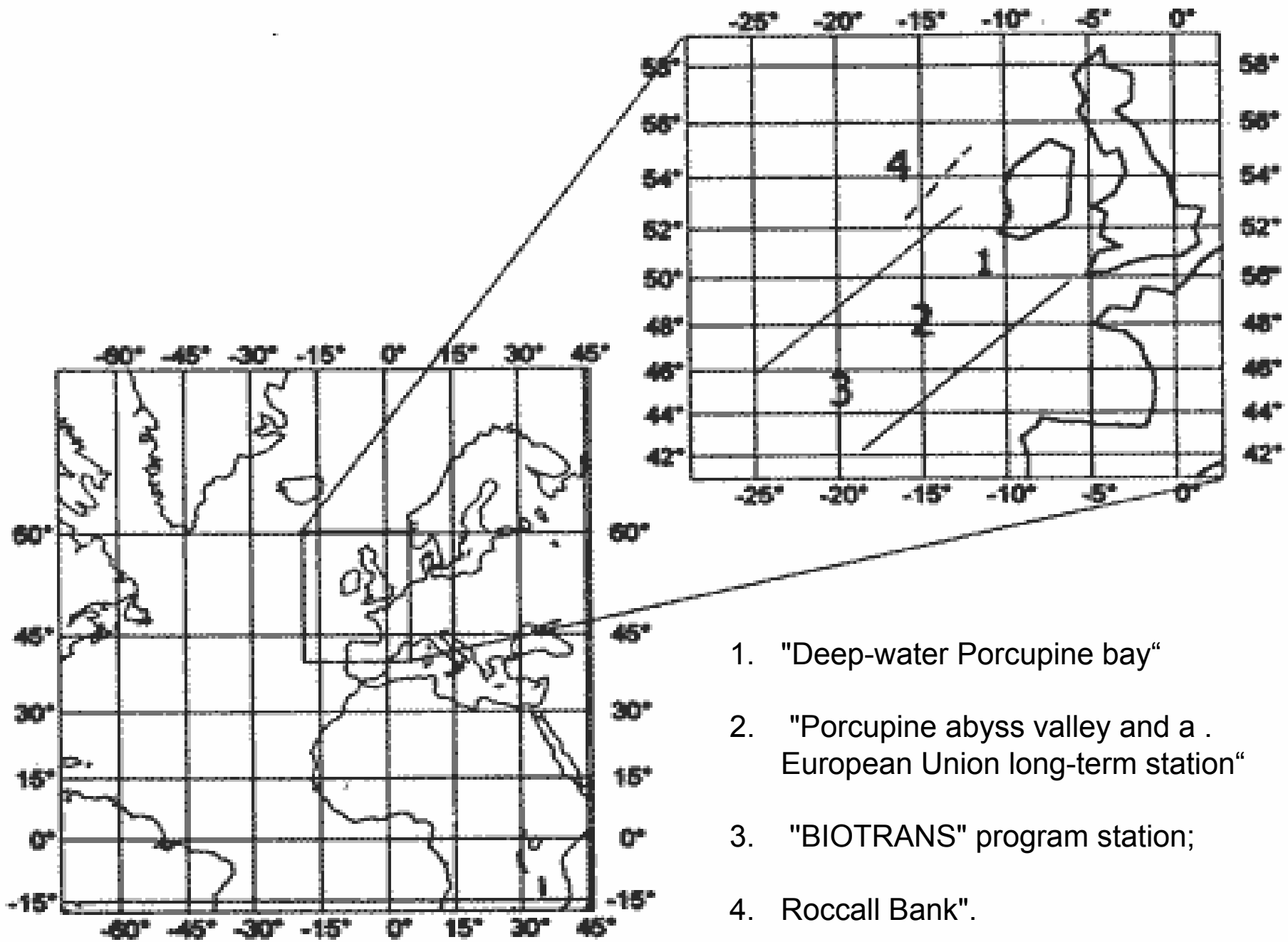
Member States - Summary

Europe/ Country	Oceans Act	Oceans Policy	Strategy/ x.cutting Structures	MSR
Europe	X	U/D	U/D	?
UK	x	U/D	U/D	?
Portugal	X	U/D	U/D	?
Sweden	X	U/D	U/D	?

Comparative Law - Summary

Country	Oceans Act	Oceans Policy	Strategy/ x.cutting Structures	Jurisdiction
Canada	√	√	√	√
Australia	x	√	√	√
New Zealand	?	U/D	U/D	3
United States	?	U/D	D	√

Unique Science Priority Area



1. "Deep-water Porcupine bay"
2. "Porcupine abyss valley and a .
European Union long-term station"
3. "BIOTRANS" program station;
4. Roccan Bank".

Changing Perspective?

1. **Confusion over Terminology**
2. **New Tools & Principles**
 1. Ecosystems Approach
 2. Precautionary Principle
3. **Seabed Designations**
4. **Time for Regulation**
5. **Normative Framework**
LOS Convention



Law, Science & Ocean Management

30th Virginia Law of the Sea Conference

Dublin Castle Ireland

July 12-14, 2006

