

Joint Submission by France, Ireland, United Kingdom, and Spain

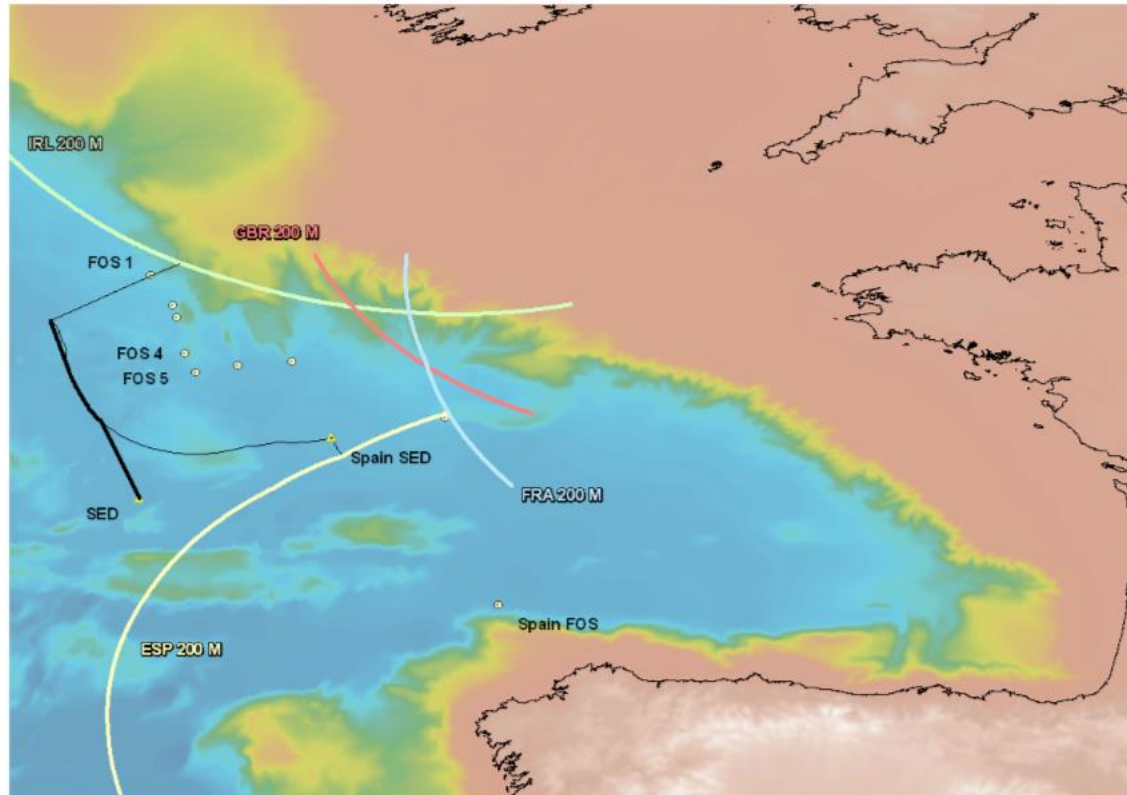
recommendations (ECS ID-600)

The area includes the Celtic Sea and the Bay of Biscay and extends from the southern limit of the partial submission of Ireland to a point on the Spanish 200 M line. The Bay of Biscay is a triangular-shaped gulf bounded by the North Biscay Margin and the North Iberian Margin.

The Commission acknowledged the natural prolongation of the continental shelf shared by Ireland, the United Kingdom, France and Spain. The Irish, United Kingdom and French FOS points extend from the northern Goban margin. In this area, the continental slope has a complex morphology including a series of southeast trending elongate spurs and tilt blocks. The base of slope lies adjacent to these rift related highs. The Spanish claim lies in the Southern portion of the submission area where its continental shelf extends northwards.

Eight FOS points were used to determine the ECS. Only three of these were critical FOS points. FOS-1 corresponds with FOS-60 in the bordering Ireland submission. All FOS points were agreed upon by the sub-commission.

The FOS+60M formula was used to delineate the outer edge of the continental margin. The sub-commission agreed on the methods used to apply this formula. One sediment thickness point (FP-30) was not used because while the sub-commission agreed on the methods used to determine the point they disagreed with the location as the point fell beyond three out of four of the states 350M constraint lines. The point was revised and accepted by the sub-commission. The 350M constraint made up the entire constraint line in this region. A different 350M limit corresponded to each of the four states.



Map indicating the basis of the entitlement to the continental shelf beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baselines of Ireland (IRL200M, pale green), the United Kingdom (GBR200M, pink), and France (FRA200M, pale blue) as illustrated by the 60 M formula line (thin black arcs) and the sediment thickness point labelled 'SED' (triangle), and beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baselines of Spain (ESP200M, white) by the sediment thickness point labelled 'Spain SED' (triangle). Also shown are the outer edge of the continental margin (thick black line) and FOS points (small circles with critical FOS points).