

# Large Scale International Boundaries

Version 11.1

Release Date: August 22, 2022



## Overview

The Office of the Geographer and Global Issues at the U.S. Department of State produces the Large Scale International Boundaries (LSIB) dataset. These data and their derivatives are the only international boundary lines approved for U.S. Government use. They reflect U.S. Government policy, and not necessarily de facto limits of control. This dataset is a National Geospatial Data Asset.

## Details

Sources for these data include treaties, relevant maps, and data from boundary commissions and national mapping agencies. Where available, the dataset incorporates information from courts, tribunals, and international arbitrations. The research and recovery of the data involves analysis of satellite imagery and elevation data. Due to the limitations of source materials and processing techniques, most lines are within 100 meters of their true position on the ground.

## Attributes

The dataset uses the following attributes:

Attribute Name	Explanation
Country Code	Country-level codes are from the Geopolitical Entities, Names, and Codes Standard (GENC). The Q2 code denotes a line representing a boundary associated with an area not in GENC.
Country Names	Names approved by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN). Names for lines associated with a Q2 code are descriptive and are not necessarily BGN-approved.
Label	Required text label for the line segment where scale permits
Rank/Status	<b>Rank 1:</b> International Boundary <b>Rank 2:</b> Other Line of International Separation <b>Rank 3:</b> Special Line
Notes	Explanation of any applicable special circumstances

## Cartographic Usage

Depiction of the LSIB requires a visual differentiation between the three categories of boundaries: International Boundaries (Rank 1), Other Lines of International Separation (Rank 2), and Special Lines (Rank 3). Rank 1 lines must be the most visually prominent. Rank 2 lines must be less visually prominent than Rank 1 lines. Rank 3 lines must be shown in a manner visually subordinate to Ranks 1 and 2. Where scale permits, Rank 2 and 3 lines must be labeled in accordance with the “Label” field. Data marked with a Rank 2 or 3 designation does not necessarily correspond to a disputed boundary.

Additional cartographic information can be found in Guidance Bulletins

([https://hiu.state.gov/data/cartographic\\_guidance\\_bulletins/](https://hiu.state.gov/data/cartographic_guidance_bulletins/)) published by the Office of the Geographer and Global Issues.

Please direct inquiries to [internationalboundaries@state.gov](mailto:internationalboundaries@state.gov).

## Credits

The lines in the LSIB dataset are the product of decades of collaboration between geographers at the Department of State and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency with contributions from the Central Intelligence Agency and the UK Defence Geographic Centre.

Attribution is welcome: *U.S. Department of State, Office of the Geographer and Global Issues.*

## Changes from Prior Release

This version of the LSIB contains changes and accuracy refinements for the following line segments. These changes reflect improvements in spatial accuracy derived from newly available source materials, an ongoing review process, or the publication of new treaties or agreements. Changes to lines include:

- Akrotiri (UK) / Cyprus
- Albania / Montenegro
- Albania / Greece
- Albania / North Macedonia
- Armenia / Turkey
- Austria / Czechia
- Austria / Slovakia
- Austria / Hungary
- Austria / Slovenia
- Austria / Germany
- Austria / Italy
- Austria / Switzerland
- Azerbaijan / Turkey
- Azerbaijan / Iran
- Belarus / Latvia
- Belarus / Russia
- Belarus / Ukraine
- Belarus / Poland
- Bhutan / India
- Bhutan / China
- Bulgaria / Turkey
- Bulgaria / Romania
- Bulgaria / Serbia
- Bulgaria / Romania
- China / Tajikistan
- China / India
- Croatia / Slovenia
- Croatia / Hungary
- Croatia / Serbia
- Croatia / Montenegro
- Czechia / Slovakia
- Czechia / Poland
- Czechia / Germany
- Finland / Russia
- Finland / Norway
- Finland / Sweden
- France / Italy
- Georgia / Turkey
- Germany / Poland
- Germany / Switzerland
- Greece / North Macedonia
- Guyana / Suriname
- Hungary / Slovenia
- Hungary / Serbia
- Hungary / Romania
- Hungary / Ukraine
- Iran / Turkey
- Iraq / Turkey
- Italy / Slovenia
- Italy / Switzerland
- Italy / Vatican City
- Italy / San Marino
- Kazakhstan / Russia
- Kazakhstan / Uzbekistan
- Kosovo / north Macedonia
- Kosovo / Serbia
- Kyrgyzstan / Tajikistan
- Kyrgyzstan / Uzbekistan
- Latvia / Russia
- Latvia / Lithuania
- Lithuania / Poland
- Lithuania / Russia
- Moldova / Ukraine
- Moldova / Romania
- Norway / Russia
- Norway / Sweden
- Poland / Russia
- Poland / Ukraine
- Poland / Slovakia
- Romania / Ukraine
- Romania / Serbia
- Russia / Ukraine
- Syria / Turkey
- Tajikistan / Uzbekistan

This release also contains topology fixes, land boundary terminus refinements, and tripoint adjustments.

### Copyright Notice and Disclaimer

While U.S. Government works prepared by employees of the U.S. Government as part of their official duties are not subject to Federal copyright protection (see [17 U.S.C. § 105](#)), copyrighted material incorporated in U.S. Government works retains its copyright protection. The works on or made available through download from the U.S. Department of State's website may not be used in any manner that infringes any intellectual property rights or other proprietary rights held by any third party. Use of any copyrighted material beyond what is allowed by fair use or other exemptions may require appropriate permission from the relevant rightsholder.

With respect to works on or made available through download from the U.S. Department of State's website, neither the U.S. Government nor any of its agencies, employees, agents, or contractors make any representations or warranties—express, implied, or statutory—as to the validity, accuracy, completeness, or fitness for a particular purpose; nor represent that use of such works would not infringe privately owned rights; nor assume any liability resulting from use of such works; and shall in no way be liable for any costs, expenses, claims, or demands arising out of use of such works.