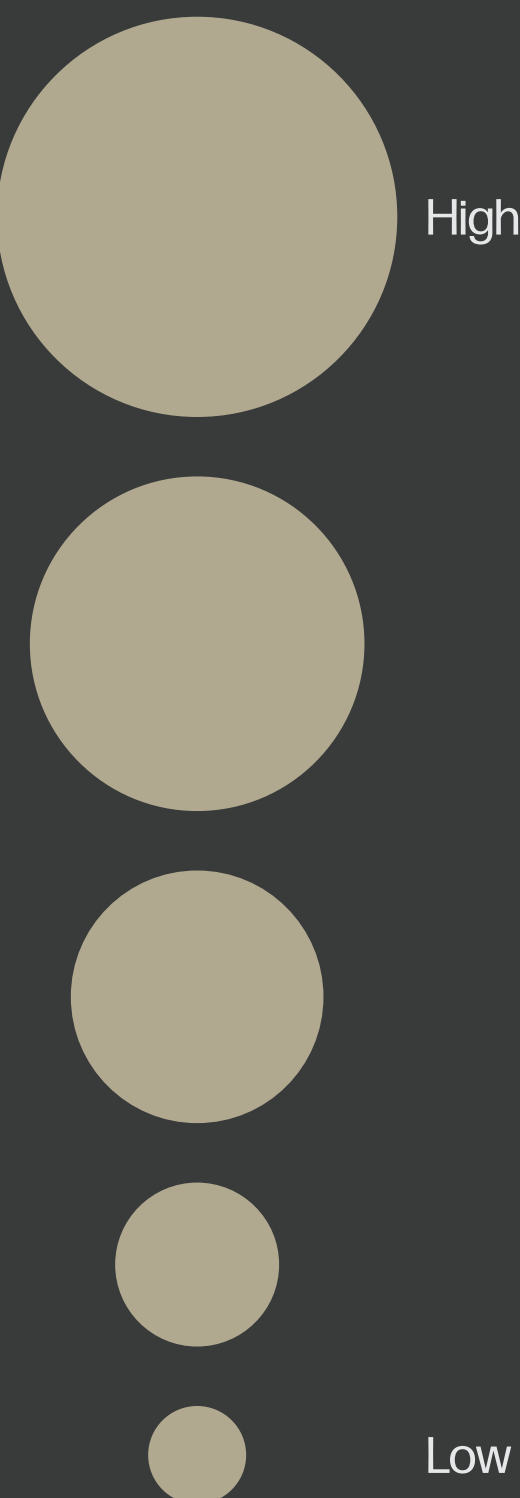


EEZ vs China Nine-dash Line

- Brunei
- Indonesia
- Malaysia
- Philippines
- Vietnam
- China (incl. Taiwan)
- China (Nine Dash Line)

Density of China-related Hostile Incidents in the Region



China's Hostility to ASEAN Countries in the Indo-Pacific Maritime Region

Chinese activity in the South China Sea, also known as the **Biển Đông** (East Sea), **West Philippine Sea**, or, in part, **North Natuna Sea**, has increased as China attempts to further control the region. While conflicting maritime claims are a grave concern, it is alarming when an immensely powerful nation circumvents international law and resorts to hostile interference to settle the problem. See the difference between China's nine-dash line claim compared to the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the involved ASEAN countries and the density of China-related hostile incidents in the region from 2012 to 2023.

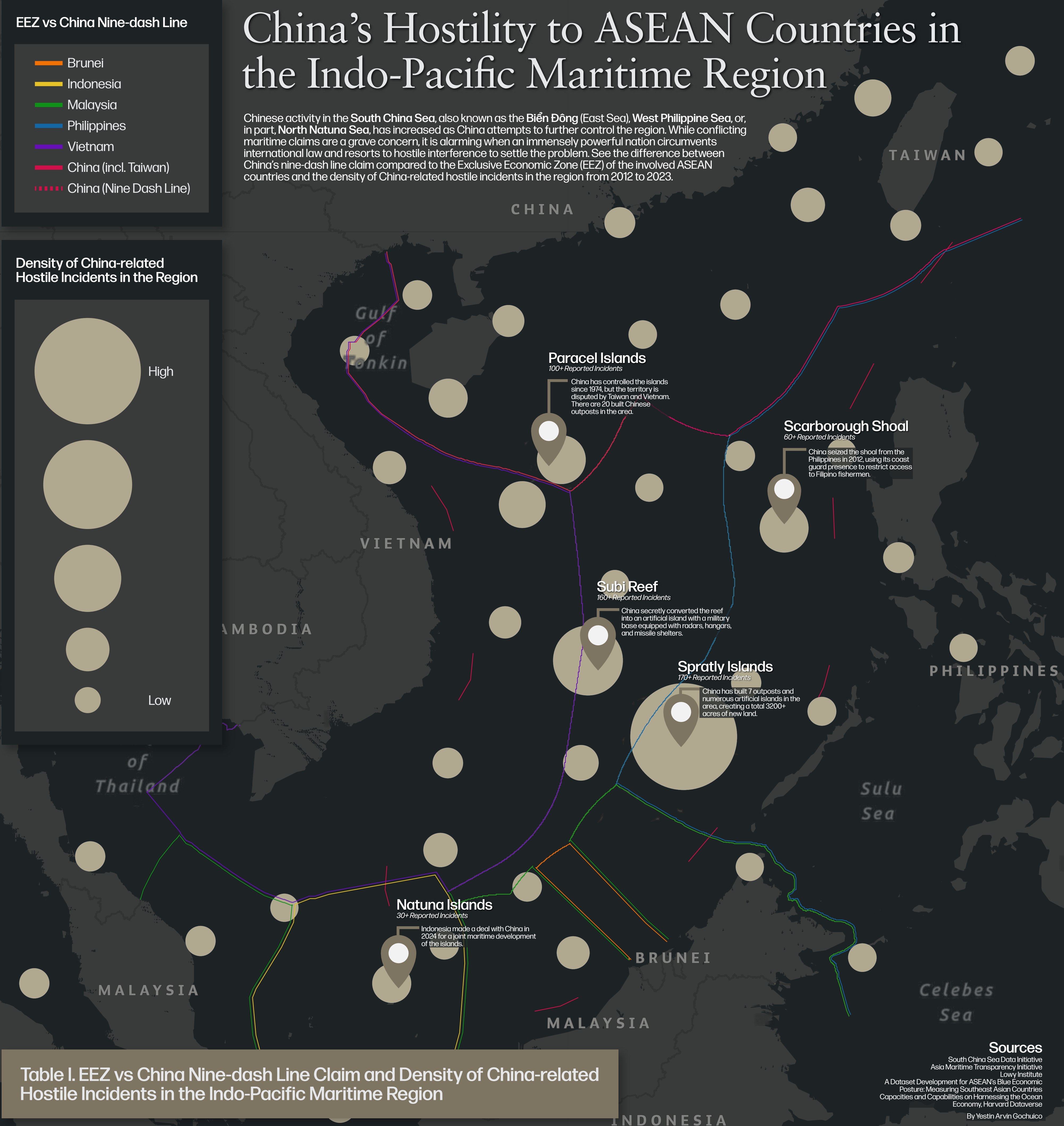


Table I. EEZ vs China Nine-dash Line Claim and Density of China-related Hostile Incidents in the Indo-Pacific Maritime Region

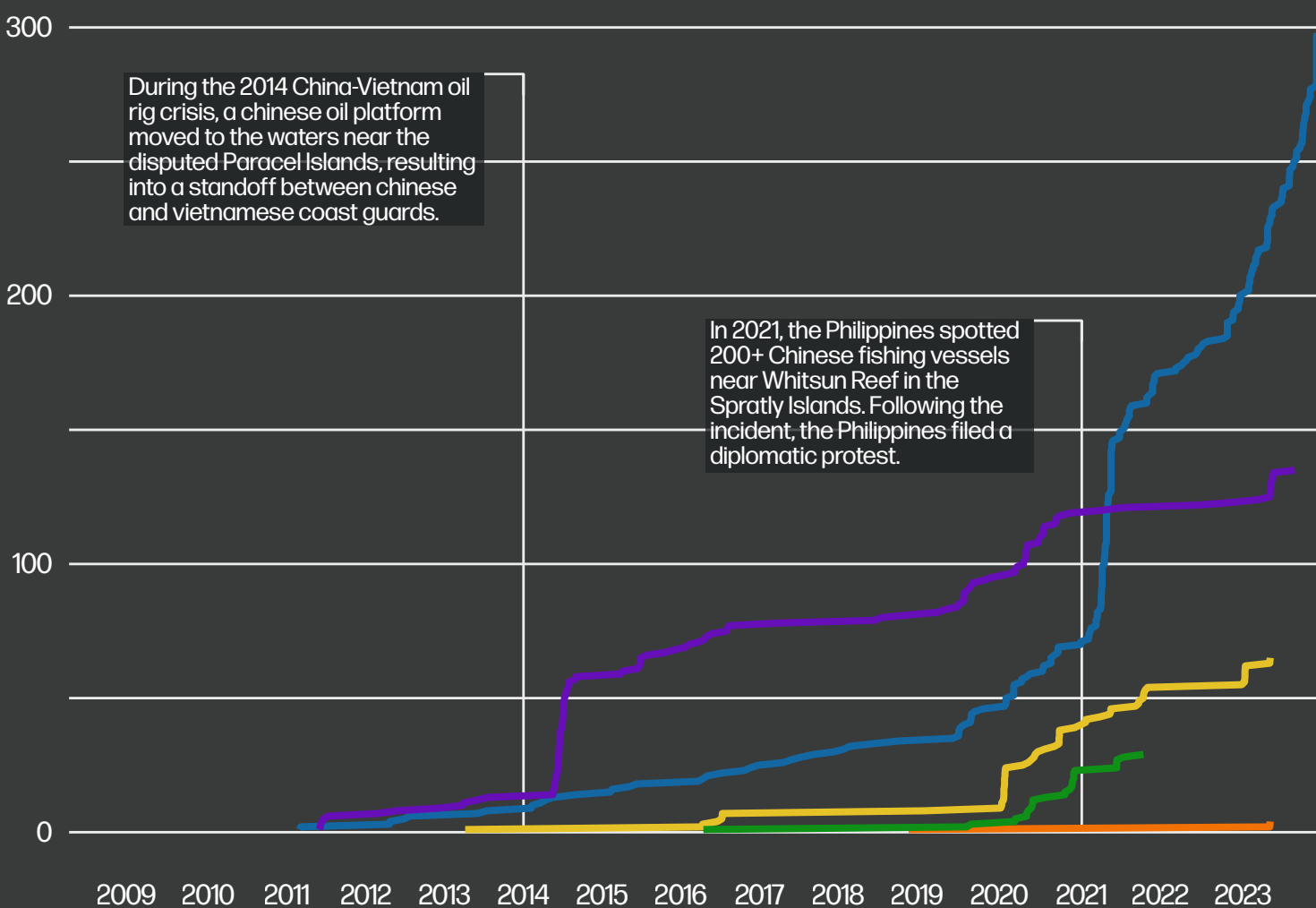
Reported hostile incidents involving China **has steadily increased since 2012.**

Chinese activity in the region continues to increase every year, with China and the Philippines clashing most frequently over territorial claims within the Philippines' EEZ.

- Brunei
- Indonesia
- Malaysia
- Philippines
- Vietnam
- China

Table II. Cumulative Hostile Incidents Recorded in Each Country by Year

China and The Philippines clashed the most with 301 recorded incidents, with Vietnam following at 141 and Indonesia at 69.



China's military capability index (MCI) & maritime sea power (MSP) is **more than twice as large than the involved ASEAN countries combined.**

China's frequent bullying through strategic coercion is undeniably rooted in its power as one of the most influential countries in the world. This influence plays a role in why China has not faced accountability under international laws despite its repeated violation of its neighbors' borders.

Table III. MCI Per Country

Lowe Institute designates MCI based on military strength

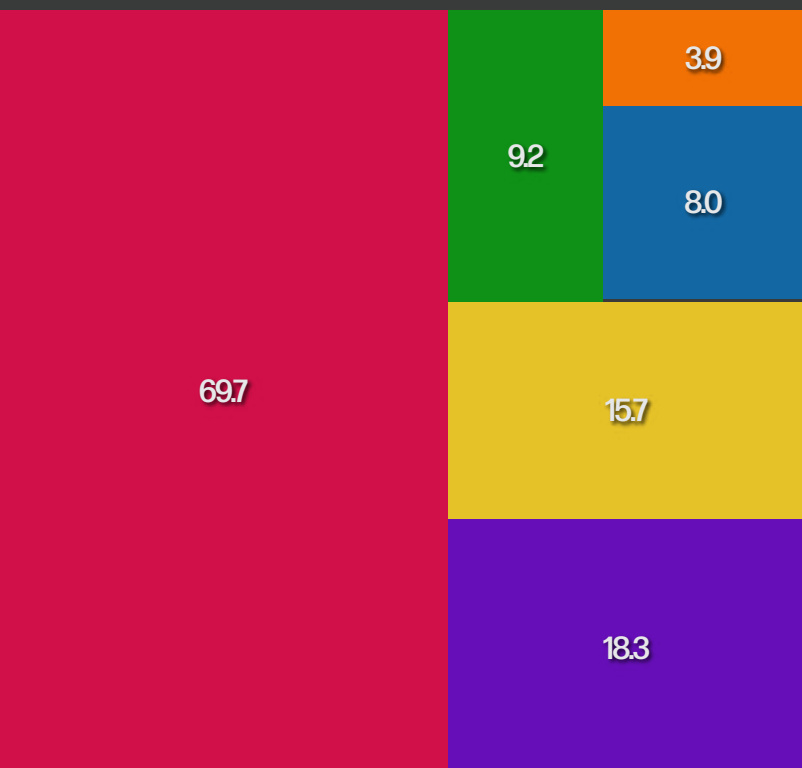
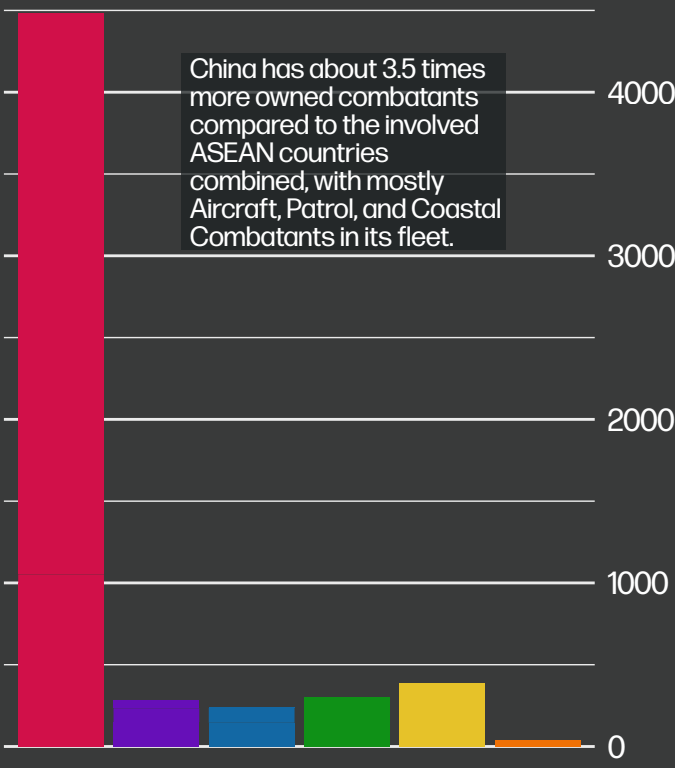


Table IV. MSP Per Country

MSP is the no. of maritime combatants owned by a country



China has **the biggest coast guard vessel in the world stationed in the region.**

The size difference of vessels between the countries further highlights the disparity of maritime power, determining who gets to control the disputed waters.

Table V. Biggest Vessel Owned By Country By Displacement Tons

Data from this table was aggregated from various sources: AMTI, Newsweek, GMA News, Military Factory, and Asian Military Review



Sources

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