

Act dated 12 April 1959 amending Act relating to the Breadth of the Territorial Sea and Contiguous Zone of Iran dated 19 July 1934

Article 1. - The sovereignty of Iran extends beyond its land territory and its internal waters to a belt of the sea adjacent to its coast, described as the territorial sea.

Article 2. - This right of sovereignty extends to the air space over the territorial sea as well as to its bed and subsoil.

Article 3. - The breadth of the Iranian territorial sea is twelve maritime miles measuring from its baseline. The baseline will be determined by the Iranian Government in accordance with the established rules of International Law. A maritime mile is equal to 1,852 meters.

Article 4. - Where Iranian coasts are adjacent or opposite to the coast of another State, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, the boundary of the Iranian territorial sea and that State is the median line, every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points on the baseline of the other State.

Article 5. - Every island belonging to Iran, whether it is within or beyond the Iranian territorial sea, has its own territorial sea according to this law. Islands separated from each other by the distance of less than twelve maritime miles are considered as one single island and the baseline of its territorial sea measures from the islands which are farthest from the centre of the archipelago.

Article 6. - The waters between the Iranian coast and the baseline, as well as the waters between islands belonging to Iran, whose distance from each other does not exceed twelve maritime miles, are considered as internal water of the country.

Article 7. - The fishing rights and other rights of Iran beyond its territorial sea remain intact.

Article 8. - Articles contained in the Act of 24 Tir 1313 (Corresponding to 19 July 1934) and articles contained in any other acts which are incompatible with the present Act, are null and void.

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