Legal Status of the Arctic
Some Contemporary Issues

21 May 2008
THE ARCTIC OCEAN & MARGINAL SEAS

- Chukchi Sea
- Beaufort Sea
- Laptev Sea
- Kara Sea
- Barents Sea
- Norwegian-Greenland Sea
- East Siberian Sea
- Greenland
- Canada
- USA
- Russia
- Norway
Minimum Arctic Ice 2002
SHIPPING ROUTES BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE FAR EAST

7,900 NM VIA THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE

12,600 NM VIA THE PANAMA CANAL

RM, Jan 2002
PROPOSED ‘ARCTIC BRIDGE’?
THE FLOOR OF THE ARCTIC OCEAN
THE ARCTIC OCEAN: MORPHOLOGICAL BREAKS IN NATURAL PROLONGATIONS
THE CENTRAL ARCTIC OCEAN: AN ENCLAVE OF COMBINED CONTINENTAL SHELVES?

Prospective zone of extended sovereign rights

Zones beyond coastal state jurisdiction

2500 metres
200 nautical miles
Sector lines
Median lines
Outer shelf limits