

## INTRODUCTION

This volume of the *United Nations Legislative Series* is based on a collection of laws and regulations concerning the régime of the territorial sea, prepared for the use of the International Law Commission in its work on this subject. It consists of two parts: the first reproduces the texts of provisions of national legislation; the second reproduces the texts of provisions of treaties and international agreements. Both parts contain provisions relating to the following specific subjects:

- (1) Juridical status, breadth and delimitation of the territorial sea;
- (2) Legal régime concerning ships, other than warships, in the territorial sea;
  - (a) Navigation, security, fiscal, customs and sanitary matters;
  - (b) Criminal and civil jurisdiction;
- (3) Legal régime concerning warships in the territorial sea;
- (4) Fishing in the territorial sea;
- (5) Application of neutrality laws in the territorial sea.

In the first part, each of these five subjects is dealt with in a separate chapter in which the texts of the legislative provisions relating to the subject in question are reproduced. Not infrequently, a particular enactment contains provisions which concern two or more subjects. In these cases, the text of the enactment is reproduced in one chapter, and in the other chapters in which it is also relevant a simple reference to the same enactment is given.

The second part consists of two chapters: Chapter I. *Multilateral treaties* and Chapter II. *Bilateral treaties*. In both chapters, the treaty provisions are reproduced in the chronological order of the date of the instruments.

Each of the two parts is preceded by a subject index which refers the reader to the provisions relating to each of the five subjects mentioned above.

So far as the first part of the volume is concerned, it is based on information supplied by Governments in response to a request addressed to them by the Secretary-General. It has only been possible to include information supplied before November 1956, when this volume was sent to the printer.<sup>1</sup> Even as regards information supplied before that date it has not, for reasons of space, been possible to reproduce all the texts received from or indicated by Governments.

The second part of the volume should not be regarded as containing all the treaties that relate in one way or another to the régime of the territorial sea. Nor does the inclusion of a treaty or part of a treaty in this volume necessarily imply that the provision concerned is still in force. It is believed, however, that the texts reproduced in the second part of the volume constitute a representative selection of the provisions of treaties and other international agreements relating to the régime of the territorial sea which have been in force in recent years, and which in most cases still are in force.

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<sup>1</sup> Additional enactments, received after November 1956, have been placed in the annex to this volume.