

Regions to boost
National Maritime
Spatial Planning



The State of Play of MSP in Greece



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Key information about the Greek marine space (I)

Situated in the Eastern Mediterranean Basin

Greece is the 2nd most coastal and insular country in Europe

- **15,000 km of coastline** (in the continental and insular parts)
- **3.500 islands, islets and outcrops**
- **19.1% of the total surface area of the country**
- **4 out of 13 Regions** totally insular



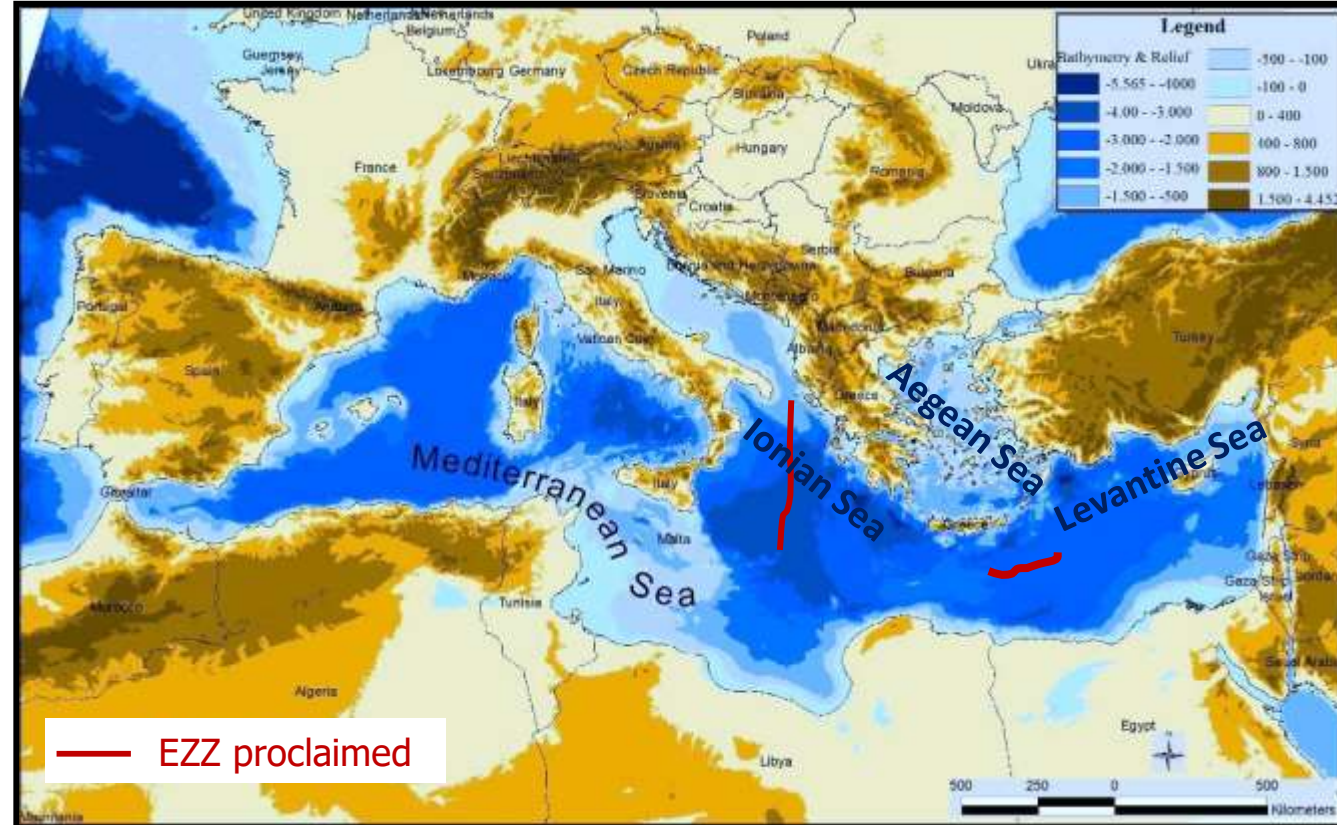
Key information about the Greek marine space (II)

More than 120 inhabited islands spreading in three seas of the Eastern Mediterranean (the Ionian, the Aegean and the Levantine Sea)

Greece fully complies with the UNCLOS

In 2020 following bilateral agreements (Laws 4716, 4717 and 4767), Greece:

- proclaimed the EEZ between Italy and Egypt
- expanded the T.W. limit in the Ionian Sea from 6 to 12 n.m.



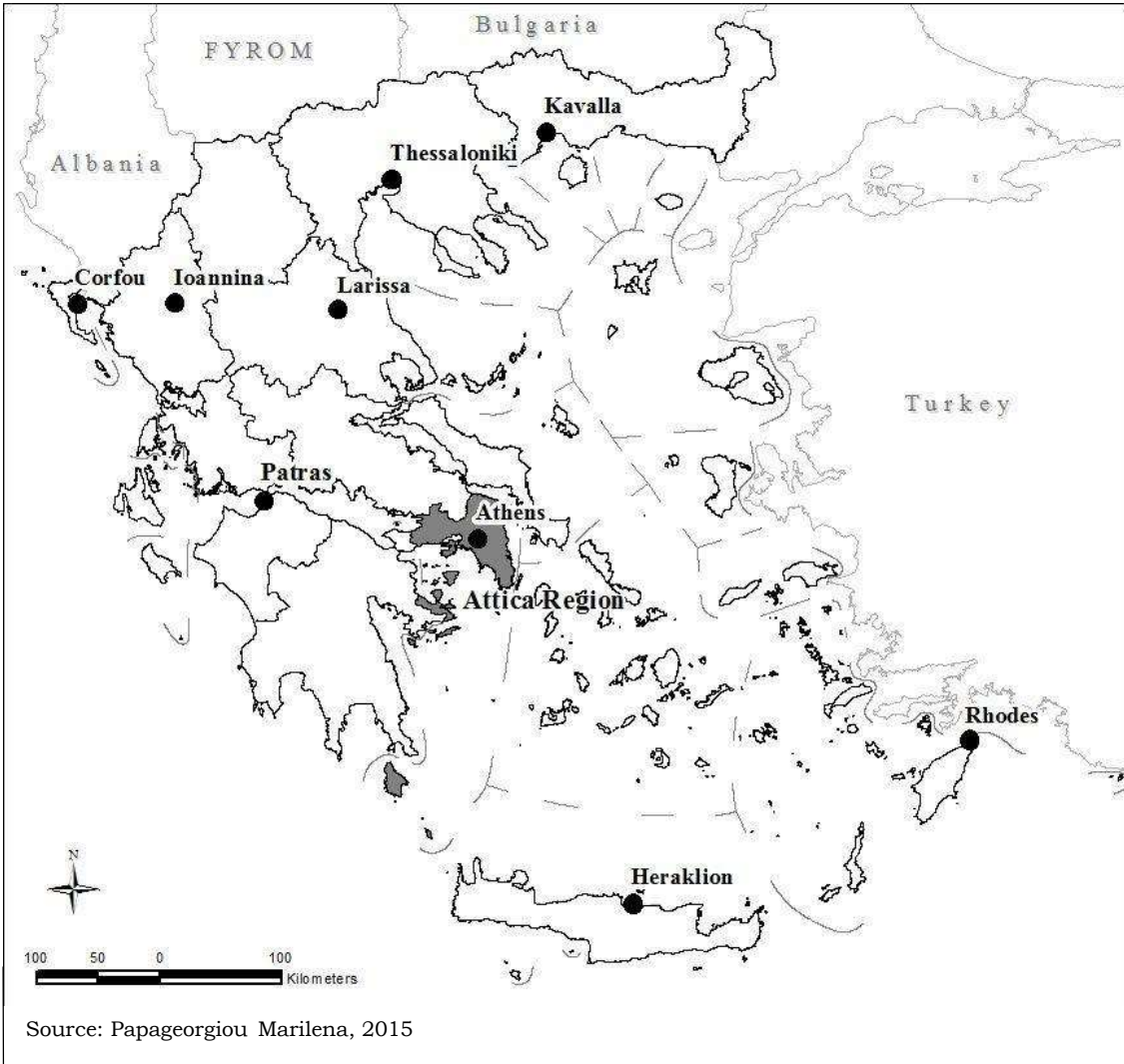
In the Aegean and the Levantine Seas: T.W. limit extends up to 6 n.m.



Co-funded by the European Union



The nautical and maritime tradition of Greece planning under the sectoral approach

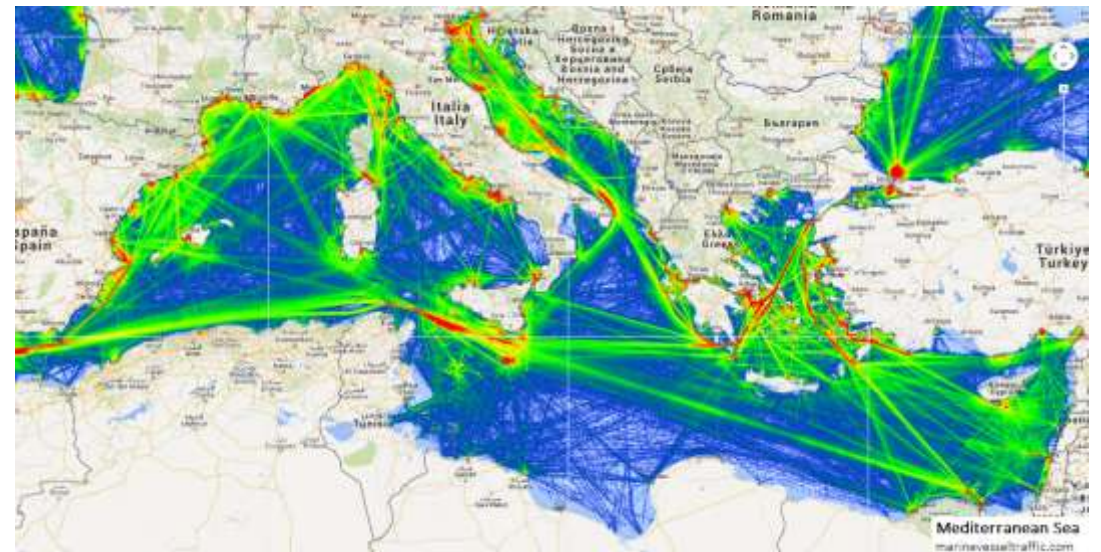


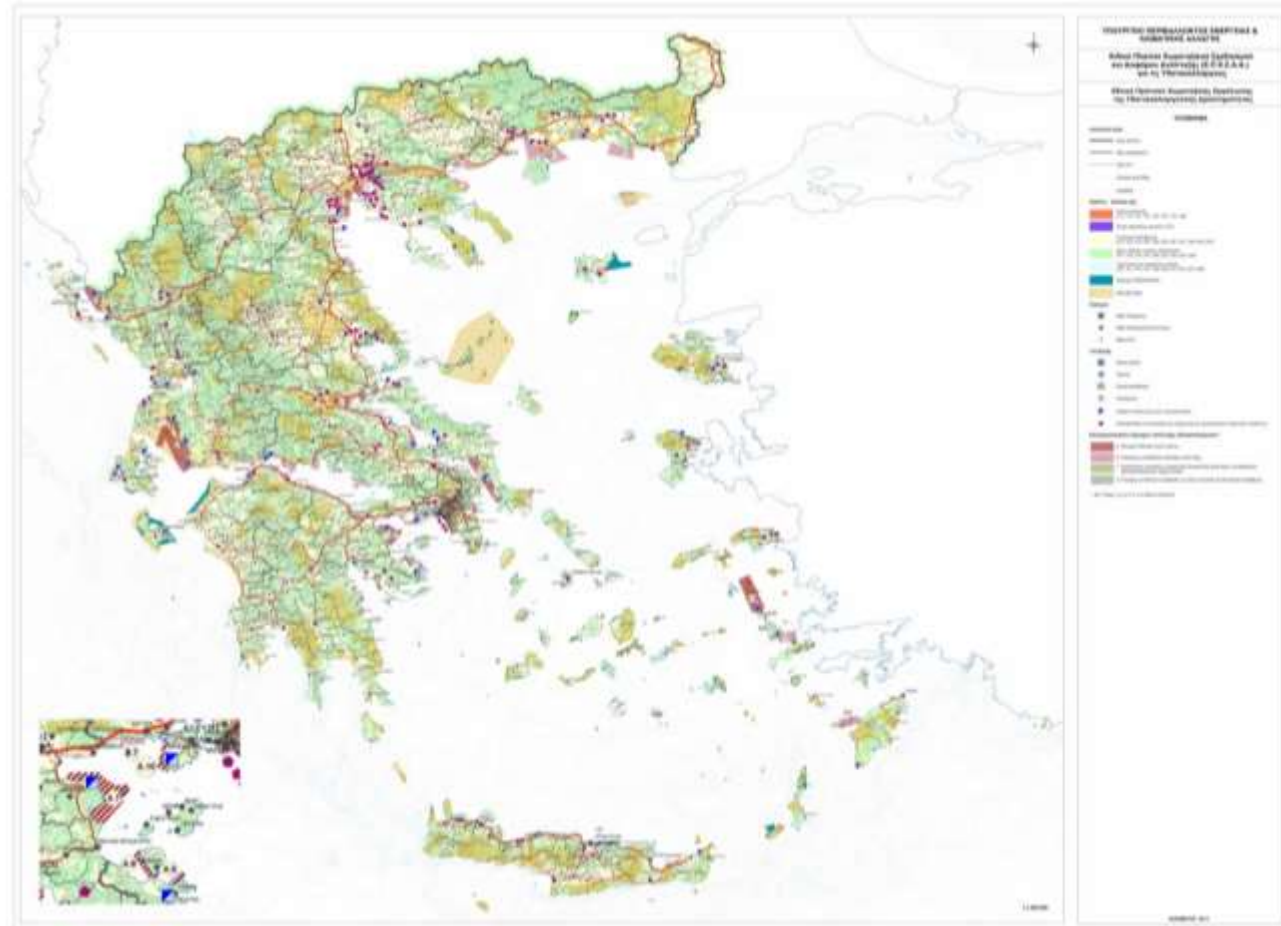
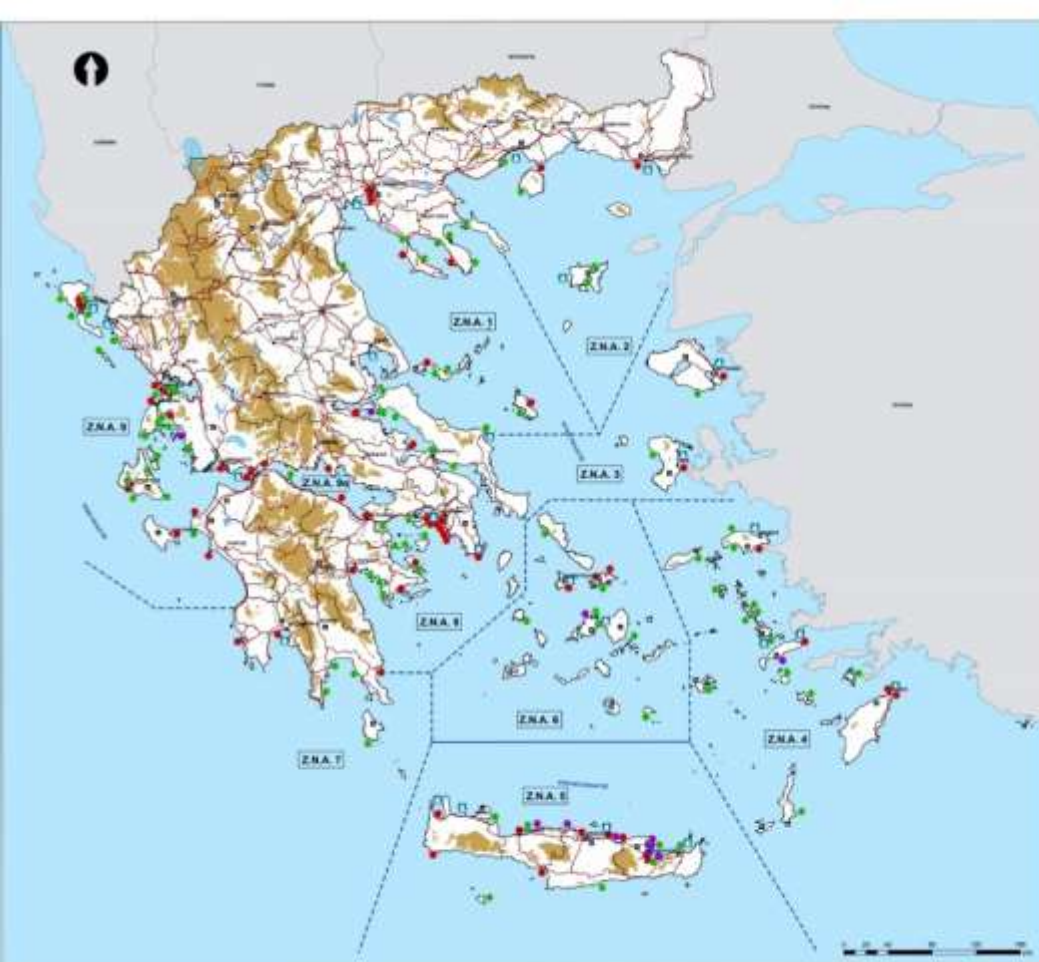
Established (and strong) economic activities

- ✓ Fisheries and navigation
- ✓ aquaculture and sea farming
- ✓ marine tourism

Upcoming activities

- ✓ off-shore energy farming
- ✓ fossil extraction





The National (sectoral) Plan for Tourism
(and marine tourism) - under revision

The National (sectoral) Plan for Aquaculture
under revision

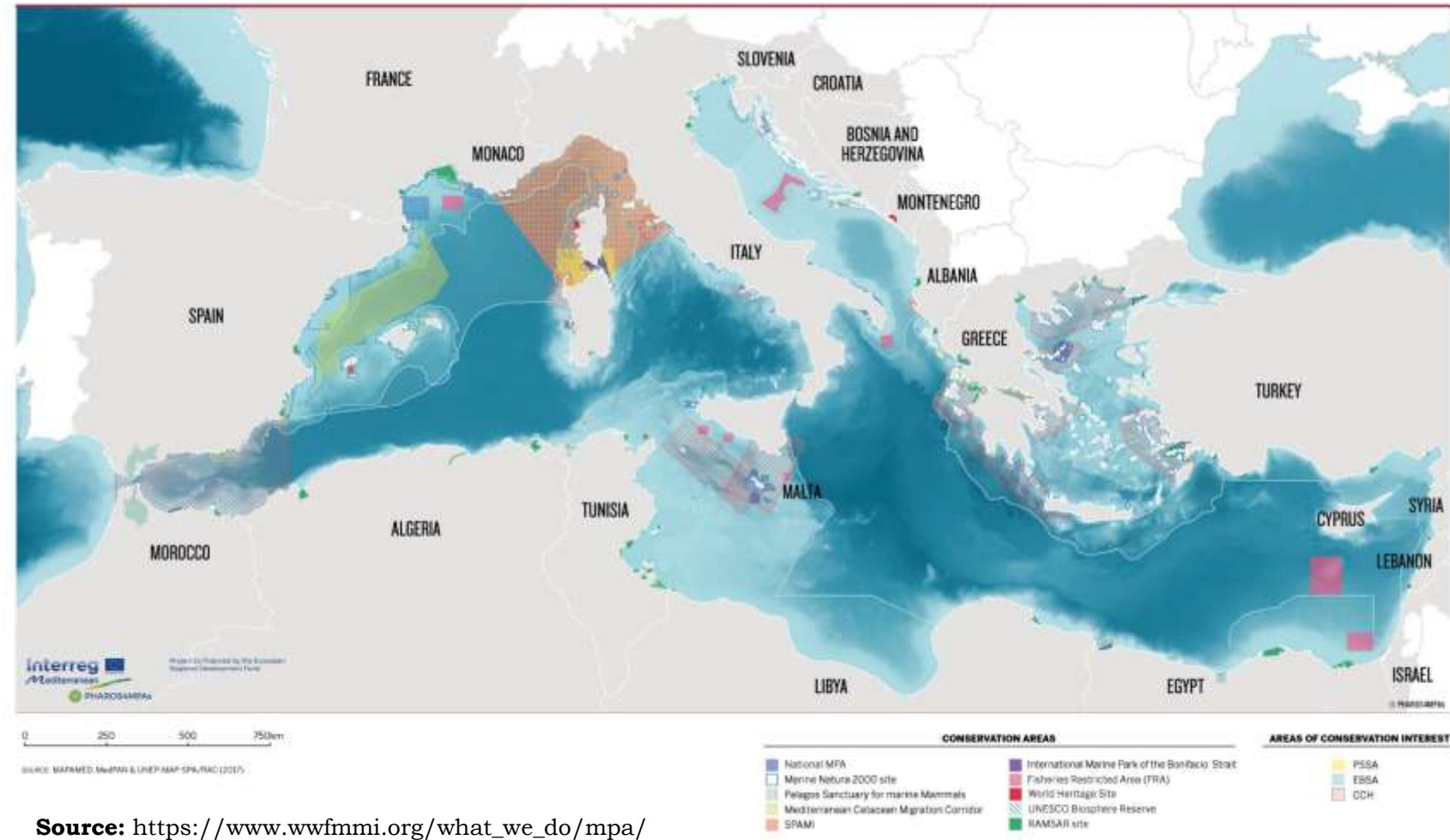


Protection status of the Greek Seas

22% of the Greek TWs under protection status (designated MPAs)

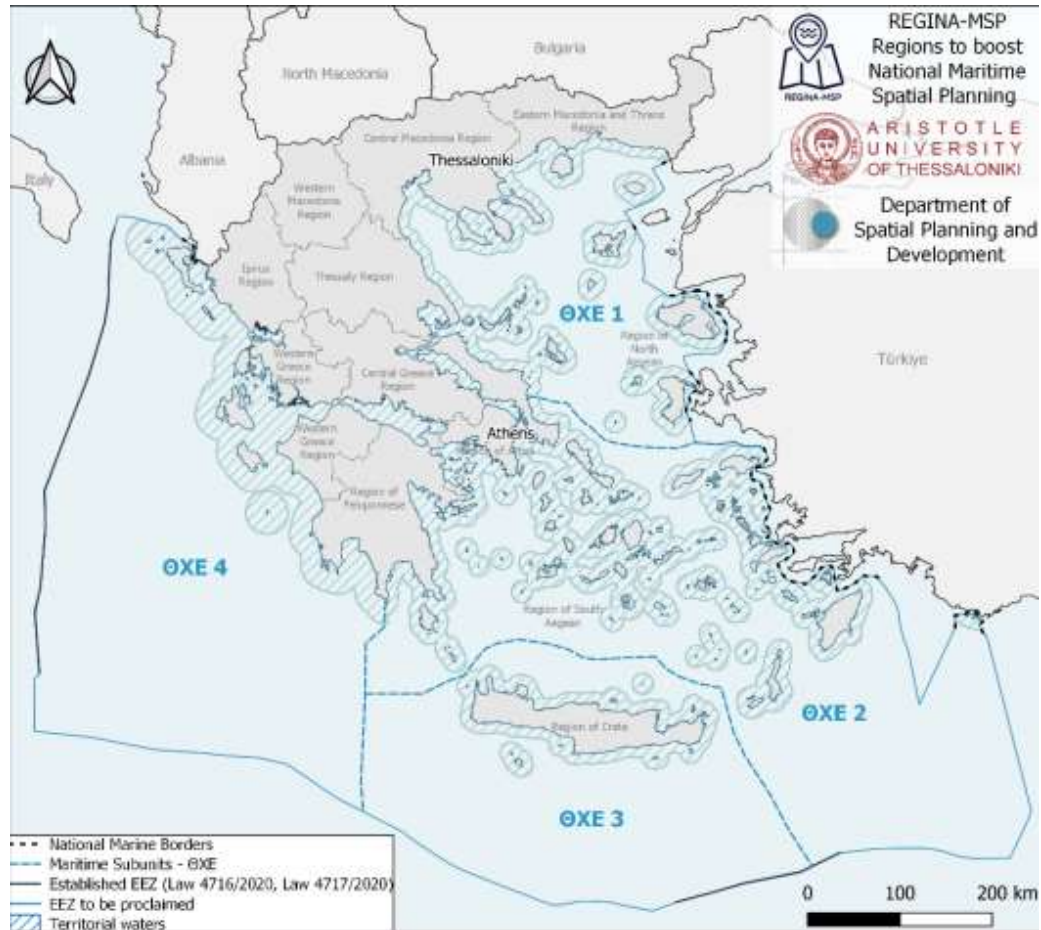
2 National Marine Parks (the one being the largest in Europe)

Appx. 100 designated underwater cultural and archaeological sites





The (maritime) spatial planning system of Greece harmonizing the MSP Directive (EU 2014/89)



According to the national legislation, MSP in Greece is performed at two levels:

- ✓ the national level - National Spatial Strategy
- ✓ the (inter)regional level - Maritime Spatial Plans

Maritime Spatial Plans, are introduced in the planning system of Greece as Regional Plans / Frameworks)

The MSP Directive 2014/89 was introduced to the national legislation in 2018, by **Law 4546**. This Law was amended in 2020 by Law 4759).

Competencies for MSP in Greece

Laws 4546/2018 and 4957/2020



Competent Authority

(elaboration, implementation, monitoring)

Ministry of the Environment and Energy

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy (responsible for the surveillance of the seas) along with nine (9) more Ministries (having an interest in the marine space) are involved in the approval of the Maritime Spatial Plans.

Key governance issues



National Spatial Strategy for the marine space (national level):

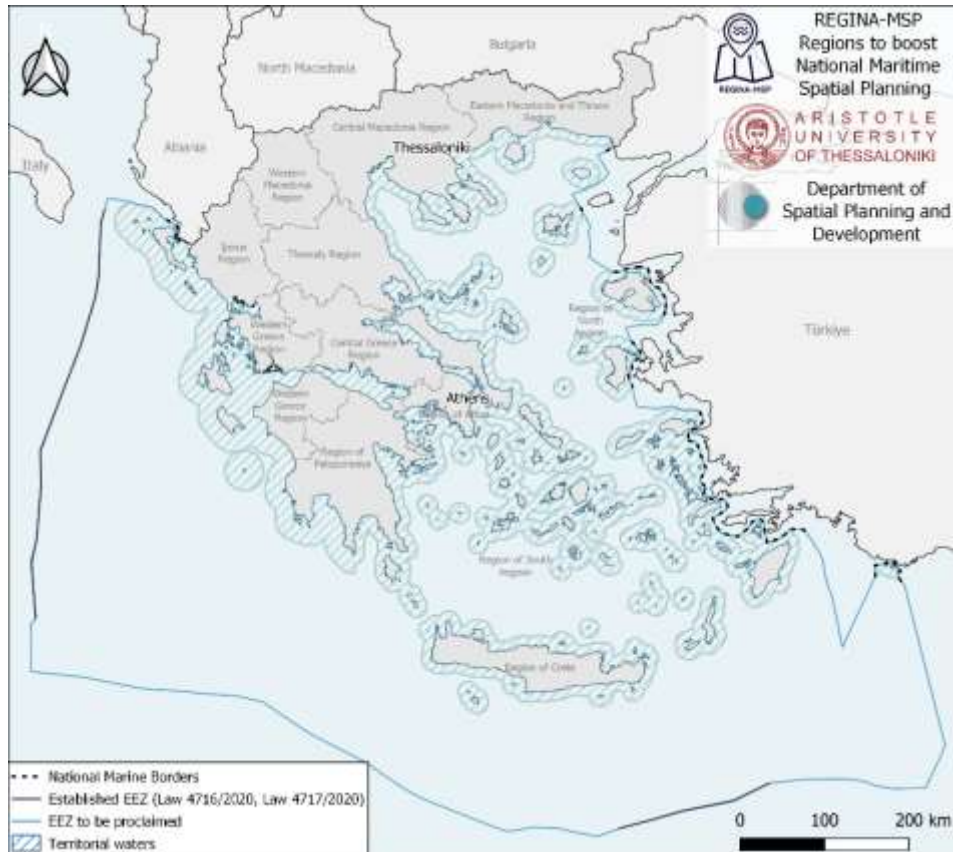
- It is submitted to public participation.
- It undergoes consultation within the National Spatial Planning Council and the Ministries that are involved in the approval of the Maritime Spatial Plans.
- It is approved by the Council of Ministers and notified to the Parliament.

Maritime Spatial Plans / Frameworks (regional level):

- A Strategic Environmental Assessment is required, subject to consultation with public authorities, stakeholders and the public.
- It undergoes consultation with the National Spatial Planning Council and the Ministries that are involved in the national marine affairs.
- The Maritime Spatial Plans are approved along with the SEA by Ministerial Decision (Minister for the Environment).



The National Spatial Strategy for the marine space



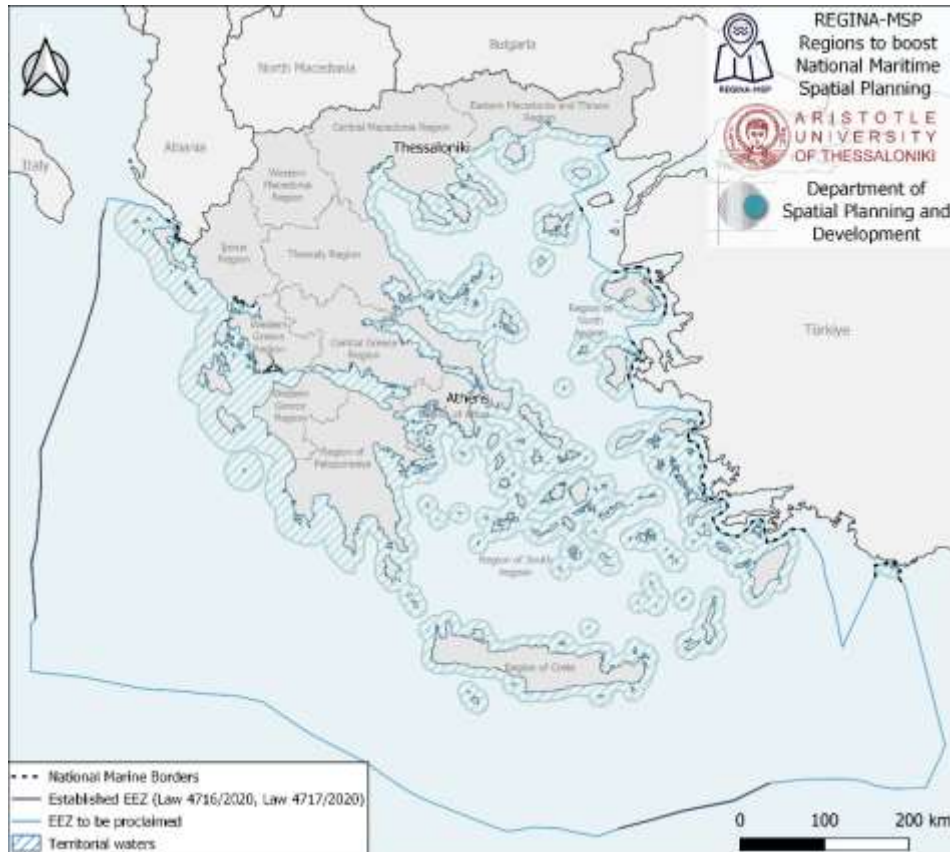
The **NSS for the marine space** of Greece, underwent:

- Consultation with the public for the NSS lasted until February 2022
- Consultation with the National Council took place in summer 2022
- Approval by the Council of Ministers involved in MSP process, is pending



The National Spatial Strategy for the marine space (pending approval)

The **NSS for the marine space** of Greece, constitutes a POLICY Document, setting the framework and the strategic guidelines at the national level, for the marine parts of the country.



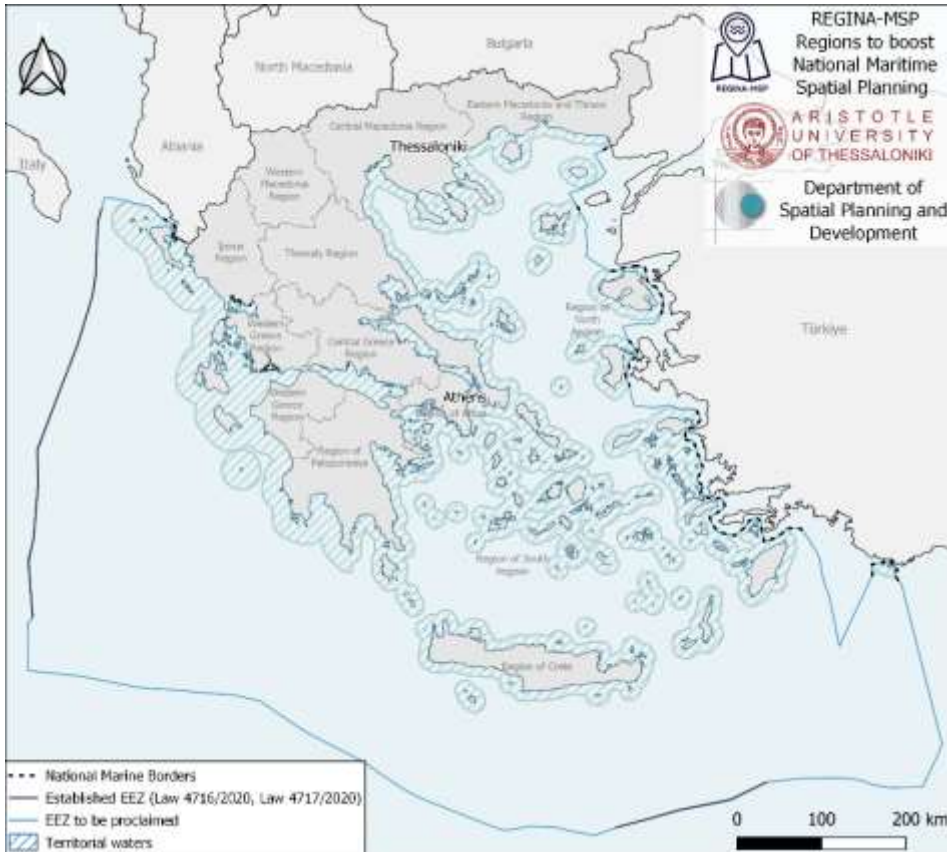
It includes guidelines for:

- ✓ the organization of the existing and future activities (under the multi-use concept)
- ✓ the protection of the natural and cultural heritage and seascapes
- ✓ the coherence between terrestrial and maritime spatial planning (consideration of LSIs)
- ✓ the promotion of cross-border cooperation
- ✓ the monitoring and evaluation of the MSP process
- ✓ the public participation and consultation process
- ✓ the geo-spatial data management and access to information



The National Spatial Strategy for the marine space (pending approval)

The NSS for the marine space includes more detailed guidelines for the following marine uses:



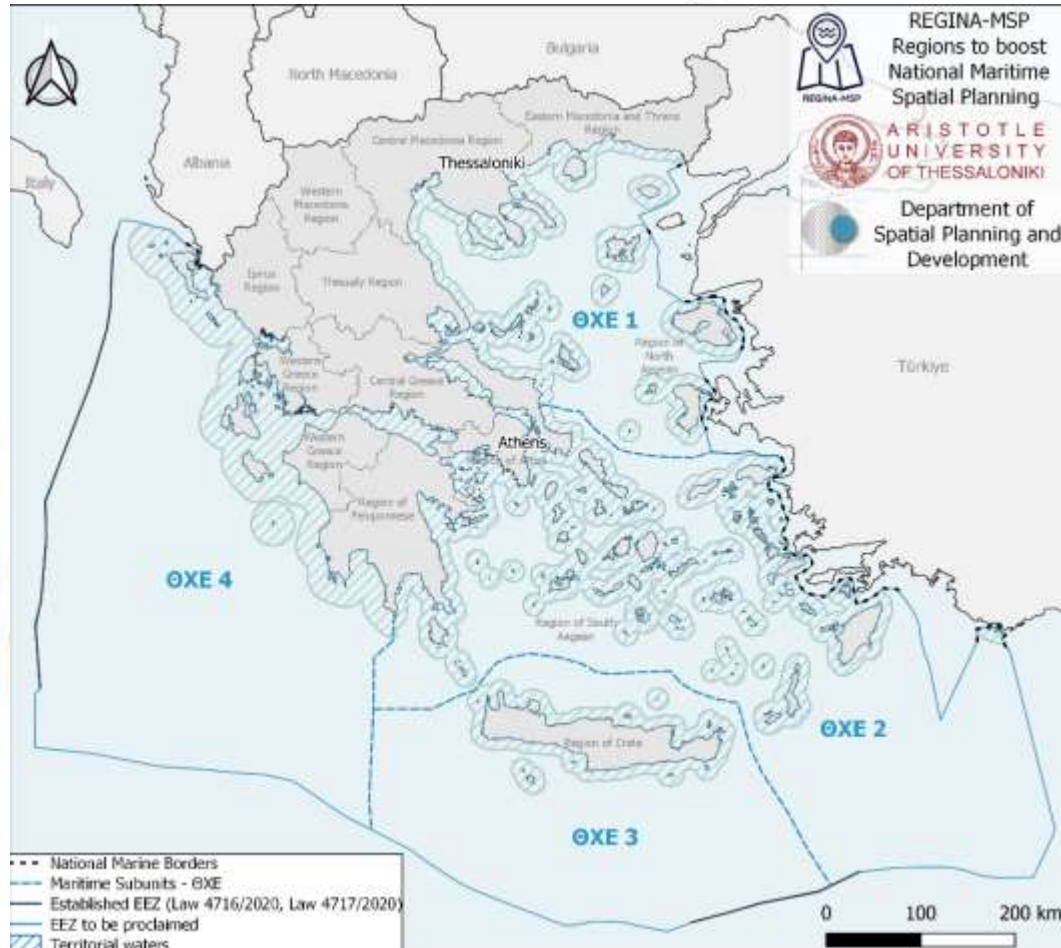
- ✓ MPAs and National Marine Parks
- ✓ Maritime archaeological sites
- ✓ Defense restricted areas
- ✓ Off-shore renewable energy farming and related facilities and infrastructure
- ✓ Fossil exploration, exploitation and extraction
- ✓ Minerals and aggregates extraction
- ✓ Maritime transportation – navigation
- ✓ Fisheries
- ✓ Aquaculture
- ✓ Marine tourism

It also includes guidelines for the localization of:

- ✓ Exclusive Economic Activity Zones



Maritime Spatial Plans in Greece

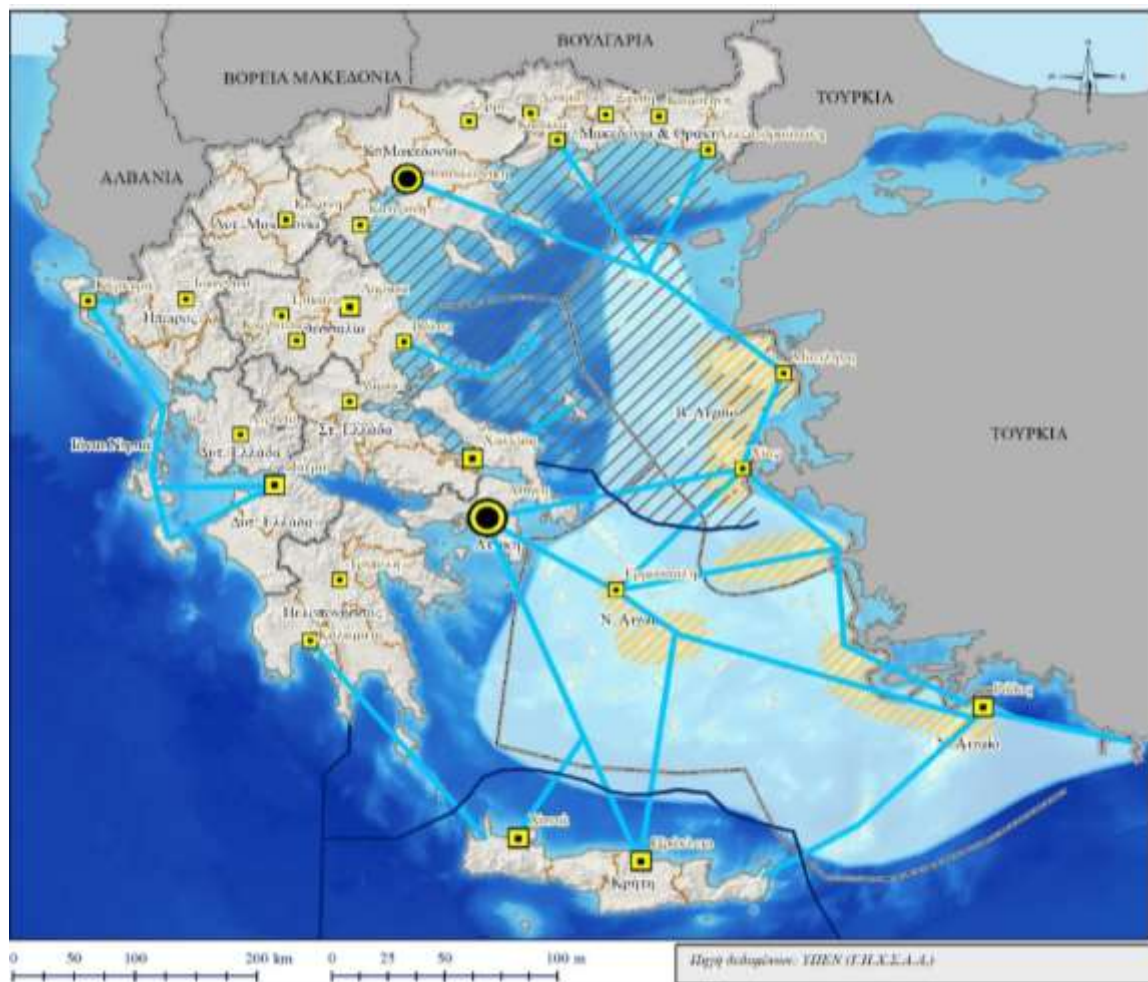


The NSS for the marine space **proposes four (4) marine subunits** for the optimal management of the extensive marine parts of the country.

Separate Maritime Spatial Plans must be adopted for all these four (4) marine subunits (MXE).

Maritime Spatial Plans are authorized to provide strategic guidelines, but they can also become more detailed and provide guidelines of a regulatory nature, depending on the case. |

The Maritime Spatial Plan for the Northern Aegean Sea (pending approval)



The **Maritime Spatial Plan for the Northern Aegean Sea** is the first Plan (out of 4) to be adopted in Greece.

The Plan for ΘΧΕ 1 has been completed.

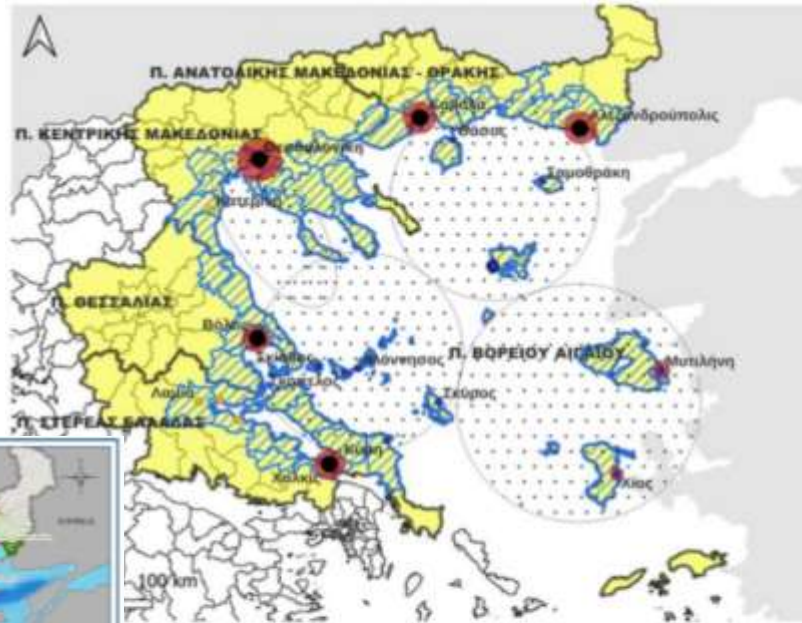
Consultation and public participation ended in 2022.

Approval is pending.



The Maritime Spatial Plan for the North Aegean Sea (pending approval)

The subunits of
North Aegean
Sea (ΘΧΕ1)



ια
 ιες σε άμεση σχέση με τη ΘΧΕ1
 αλληρότητα
 οι Δήμοι ΘΧΕ1
διαφέροντος
 Περιοχές με Σημαντικό Μεταφορικό/Ενεργειακό Ρόλο
 κές Χωρο-αναπτυξιακές Ενότητες

According to this Maritime Spatial Plan:
 ΘΧΕ 1 is further subdivided into **4 Development Zones/Units** (also considering ecosystem criteria).

Key prevailing – and **further prioritized - activities**, in ΘΧΕ1:

- maritime transportation
- fisheries
- aquaculture
- LNG platforms
- energy networks and farms
- coastal (and marine) tourism

Following the EcAp, the natural and cultural ecosystems are also highly prioritized in ΘΧΕ 1.

Tourism sector organization



Contact

Thank you!

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