The Caribbean and the Convention

By

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This paper considers the relationship between the Caribbean and the Law of the Sea Convention.

The Caribbean was pivotal to the conceptualization, negotiation, and adoption of the Convention, and virtually all Caribbean States have accepted the Convention and incorporated it into their domestic legal systems through constitutional law principles or by specific legislative enactments and judicial decisions. The others apply most of its provisions tacitly. Provisions in the Convention identify the Caribbean Region as a legal entity possessed of international rights and obligations. The territorial limits and maritime areas entitlements of Caribbean States are dictated by the Convention.


The correlation between the Caribbean and the Convention continues to evolve as the region explores entitlements in such areas as the global cruise ship industry; living marine resources; the ISA’s Deep Sea Bed regime; and the Caribbean Sea as a Special Area within the context of Sustainable Development.