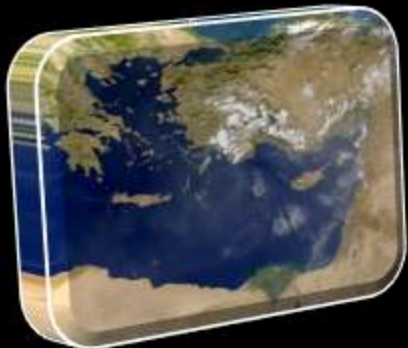




MARITIME DELIMITATION & OFFSHORE ACTIVITIES IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN LEGAL & POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

TUROGE-21 March 2012 - Ankara



ÇAĐATAY ERCİYES

Deputy Director General
for Maritime and Aviation Affairs
Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs



GEOGRAPHY AND OTHER RELEVANT FACTORS in the Mediterranean

- ❖ Multiple littoral states in a semi-enclosed sea
 - ❖ 6 & 12 nm territorial sea limit
 - ❖ 200 nm EEZ & CS limit is not automatically applicable
- ❖ Few yet challenged-disputed EEZ delimitation agreements
 - ❖ No CS delimitation agreement
 - ❖ Cyprus – Middle East Issues



200 NM LIMIT CANNOT BE UNILATERALLY APPLICABLE



HOW TO ACHIEVE MARITIME DELIMITATION?



- ❖ should be on the basis of **international law**
- ❖ should not infringe upon 3rd parties' rights

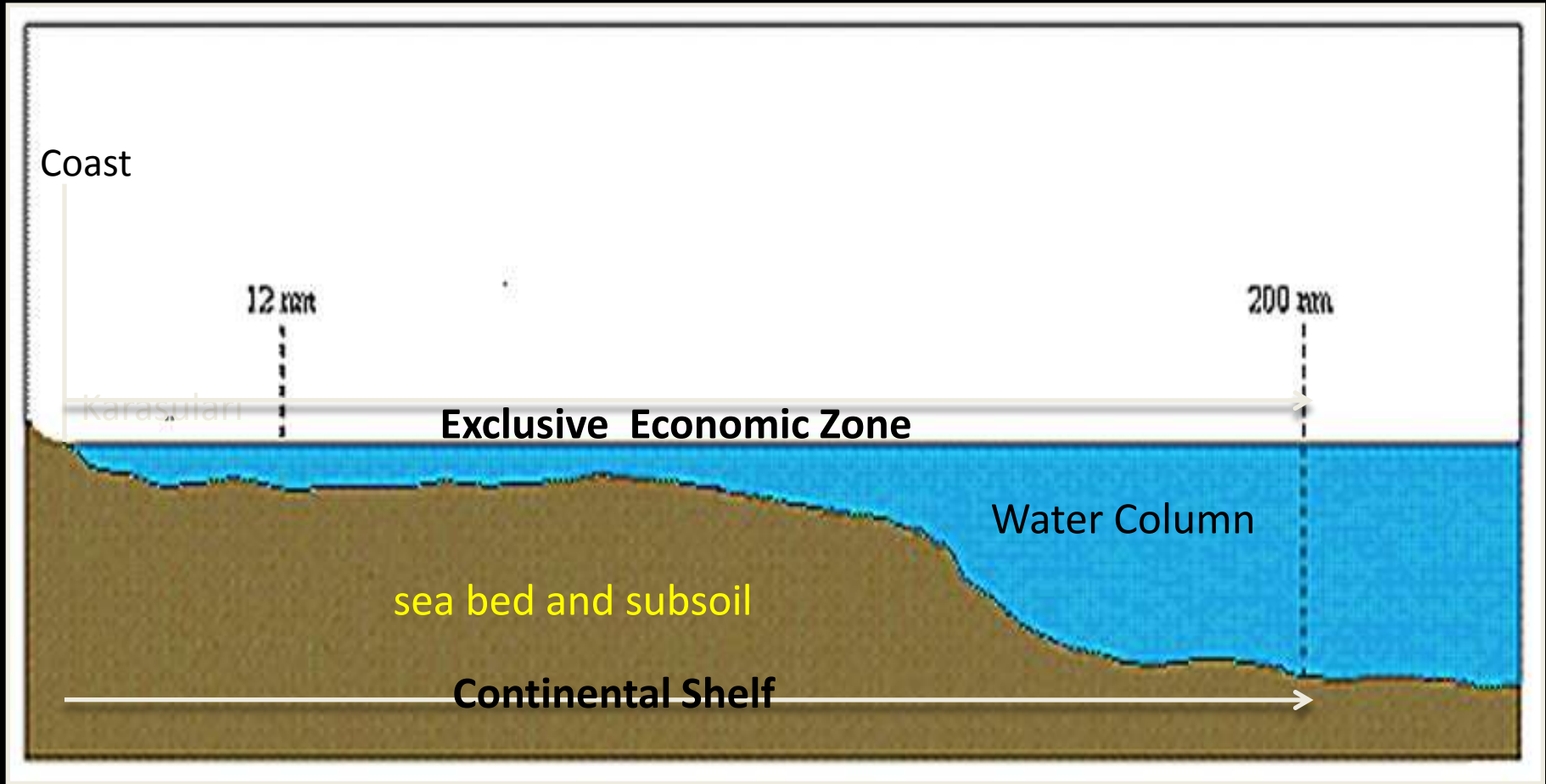
(Provisional arrangement until final delimitation is also possible)

IF NO DELIMITATION IS ACHIEVED

OVERLAPPING & DISPUTED CLAIMS

Overlapping entitlements to maritime rights and jurisdiction

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CS & EEZ ???



Continental Shelf & EEZ

CONTINENTAL SHELF

200 NM (+)

seabed and subsoil

ab initio and ipso facto

(inherent right -no need
for proclamation)

EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE

200 NM

seabed and subsoil
+ WATER COLUMN

Needs to be proclaimed
for enforcement

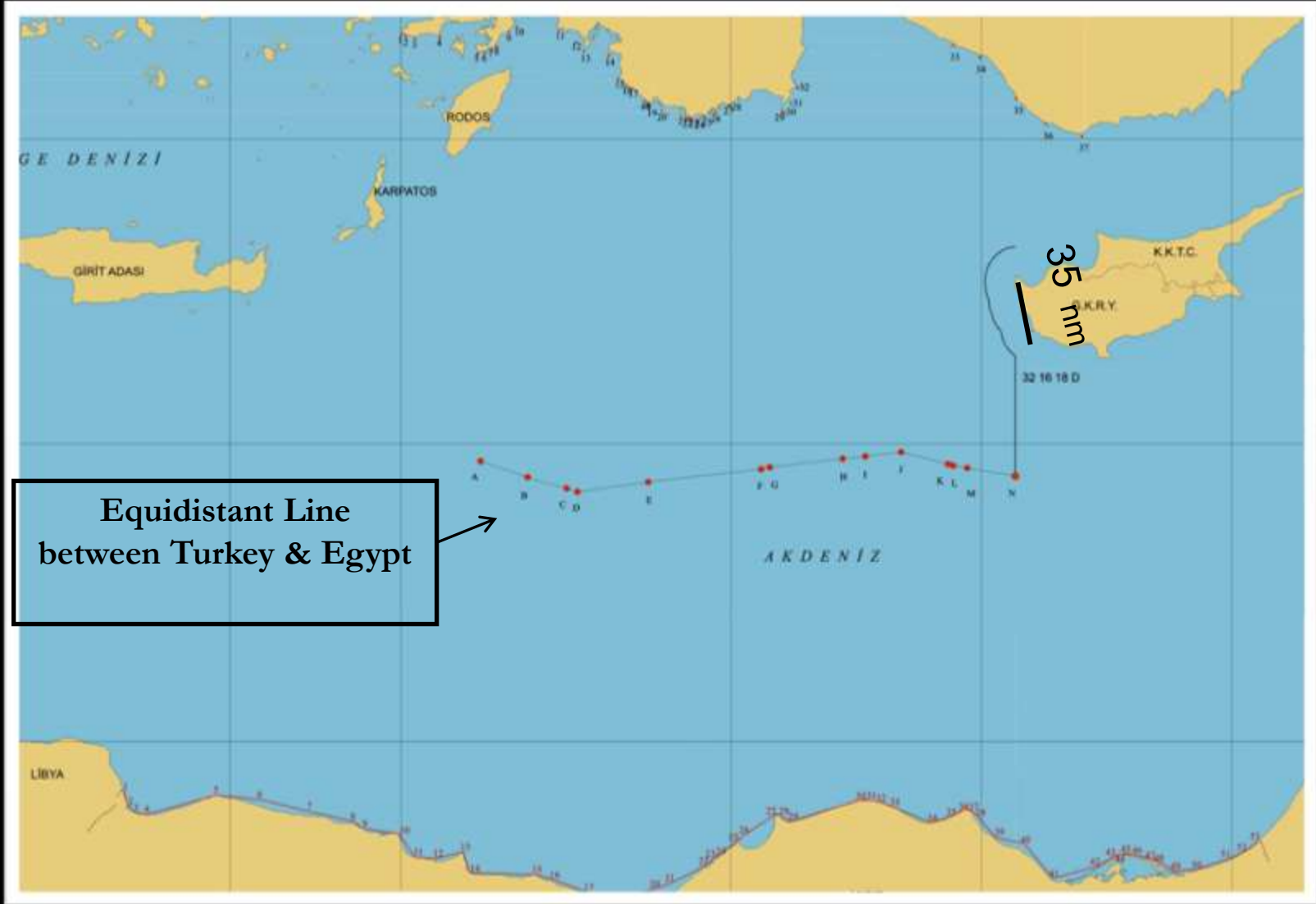


in practice , most imp.
difference is

FISHERIES

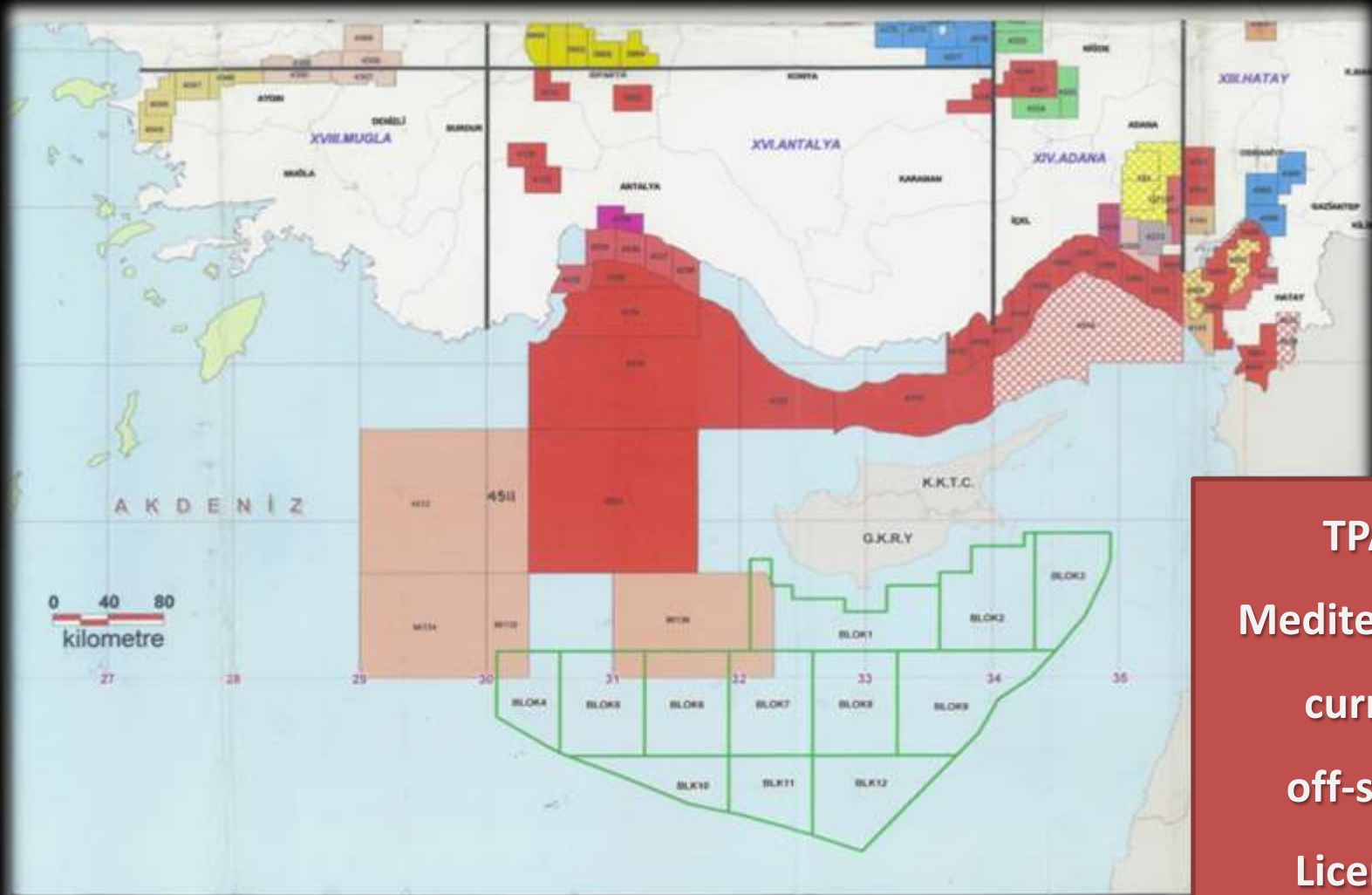


TURKISH CONTINENTAL SHELF



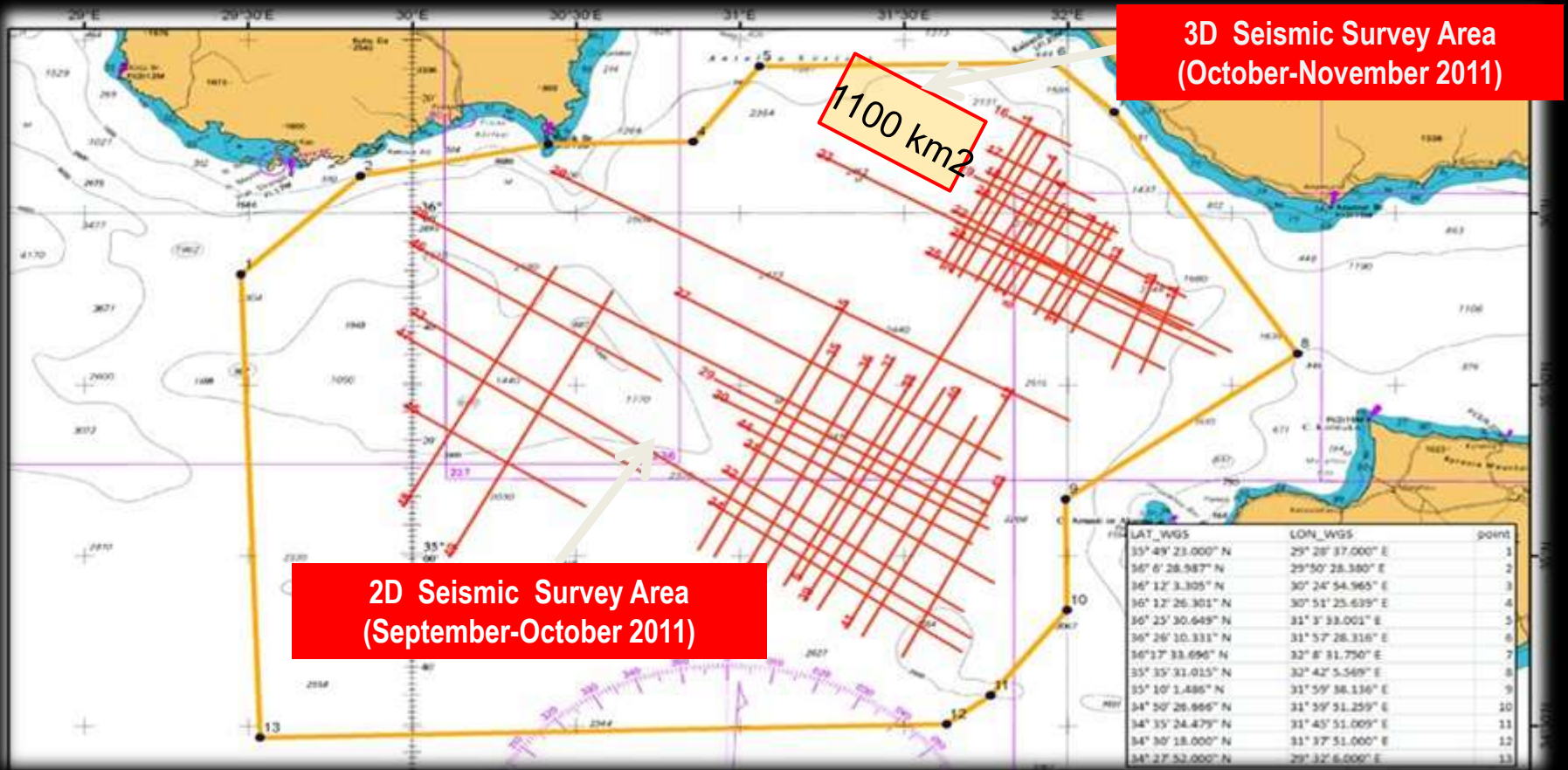
Coastal Lengths : TURKEY 1792 km EGYPT 1062 km (Total)
TURKEY 969 km EGYPT 850 km (West of Cyprus)

Turkish Offshore Licences



TPAO
Mediterranean
current
off-shore
Licenses

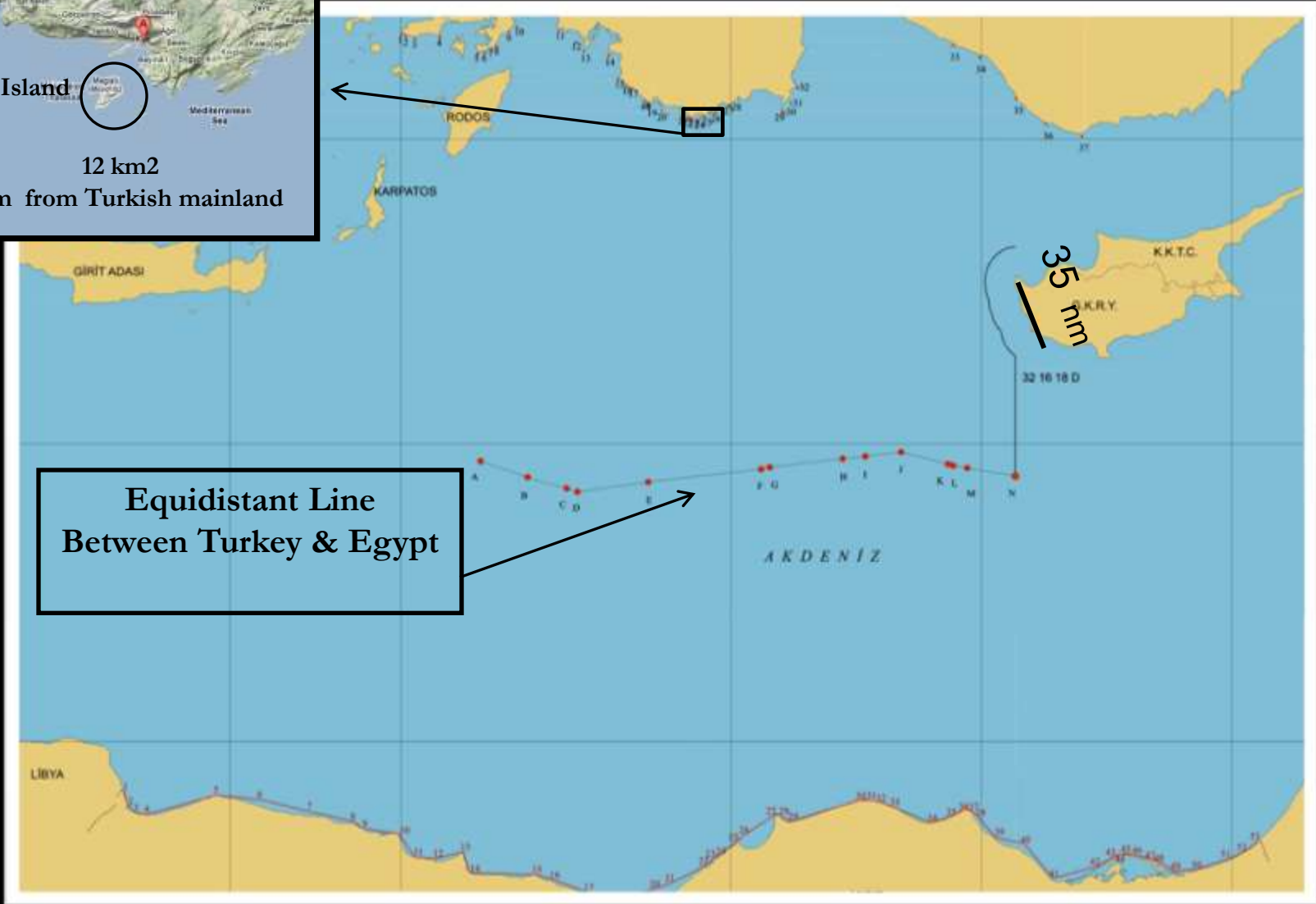
TPAO 2011 surveys



GREEK & GCs CLAIM



GREEK CLAIM



Coastal Lengths : TURKEY 1792 km EGYPT 1062 km (Total)
TURKEY 969 km EGYPT 850 km (West of Cyprus)

Role of Islands in CS/EEZ Delimitation

Islands do not generate full maritime zones when they are competing directly against continental land areas.

Median / Equidistance line is not applied.

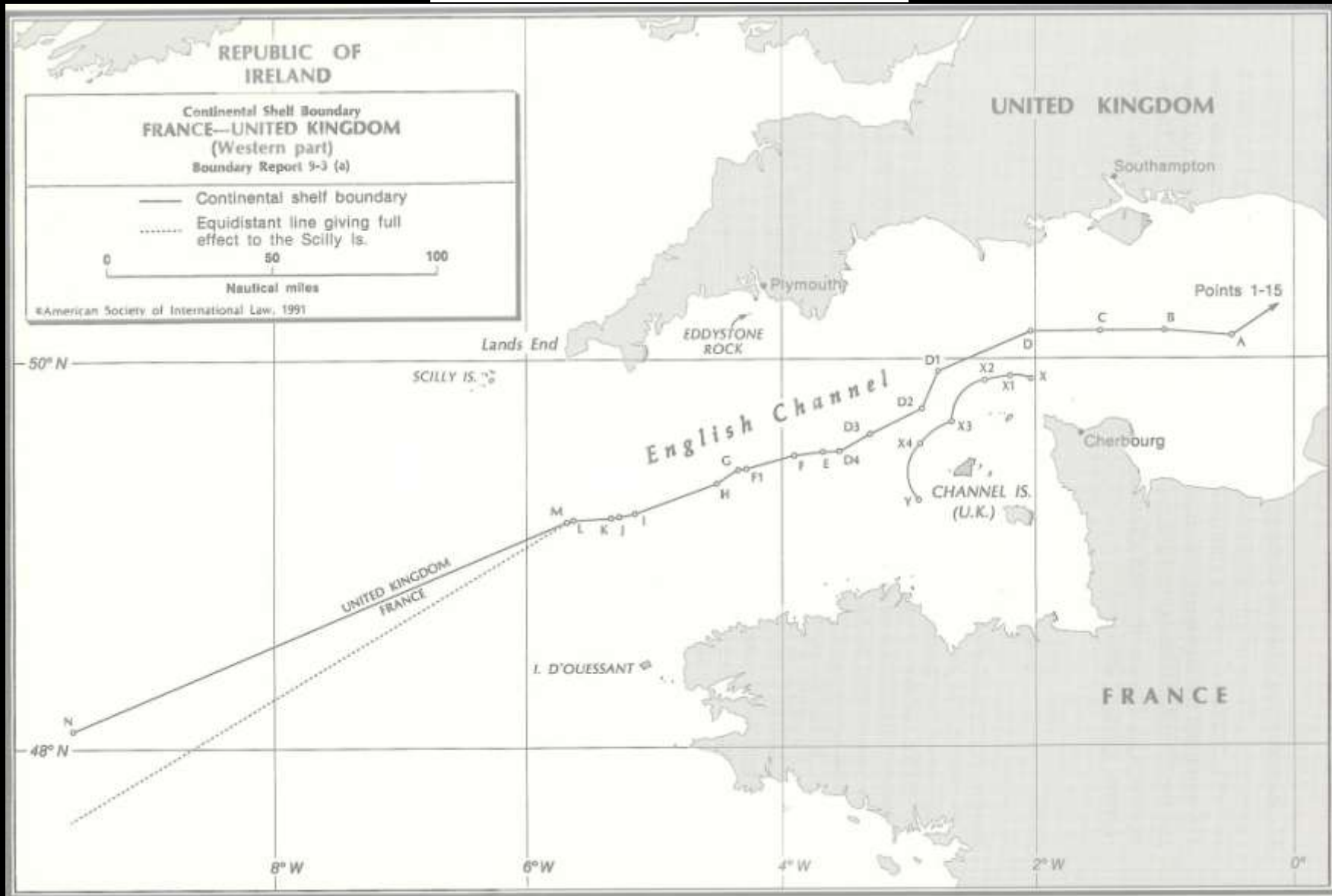
(Islands receive partial or no effect / are enclaved or partially enclaved)

Number of examples in jurisprudence and state practice

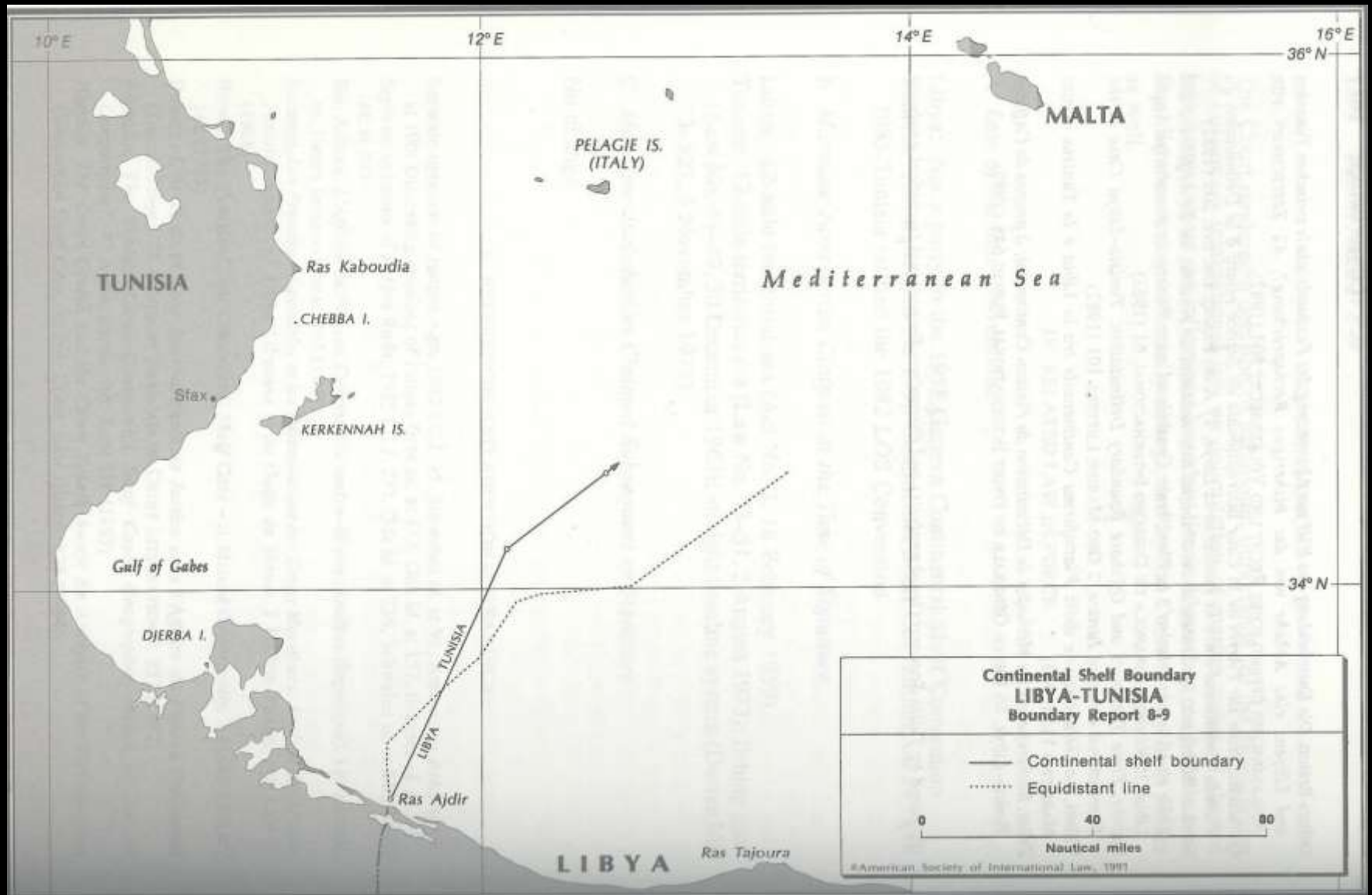
ITALY / TUNISIA CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT: 1971

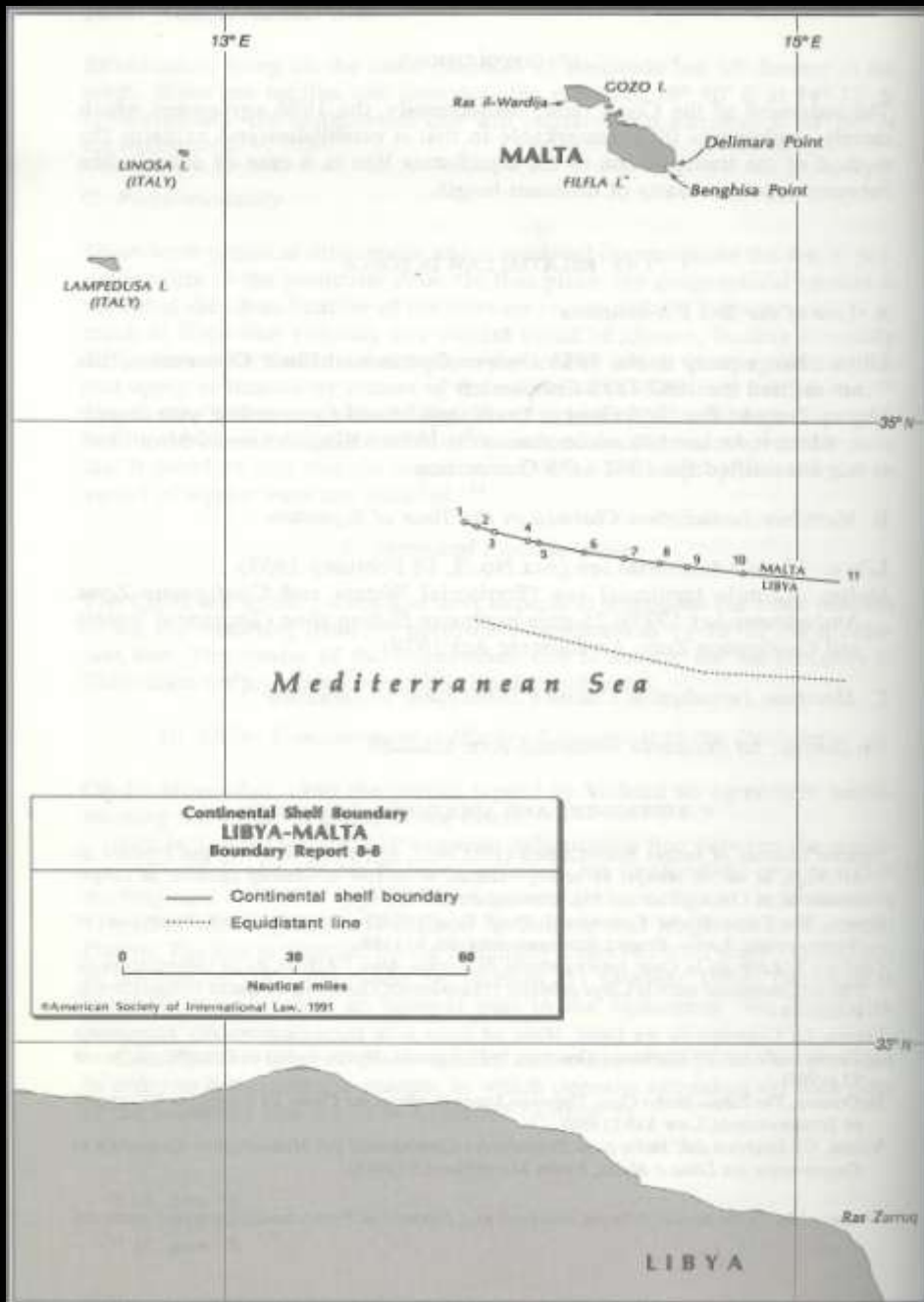


FRANCE / UNITED KINGDOM CONTINENTAL SHELF BOUNDARY AWARD: 1977



**TUNISIA - LIBYA
ICJ CONTINENTAL SHELF
BOUNDARY JUDGMENT: 1982**





**LIBYA - MALTA
ICJ CONTINENTAL SHELF
BOUNDARY JUDGMENT: 1985**

Merzator Projection

ROMANIA / UKRAINE ICJ JUDGMENT: 2009



DELIMITATION METHOD IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

In state practice and in jurisprudence of international courts pertaining to CS/EEZ delimitation, equidistance line is modified/adjusted by giving due account to a number of circumstances in order to produce an equitable result

Circumstances taken into account for DELIMITATION

GEOGRAPHICAL CIRCUMSTANCES

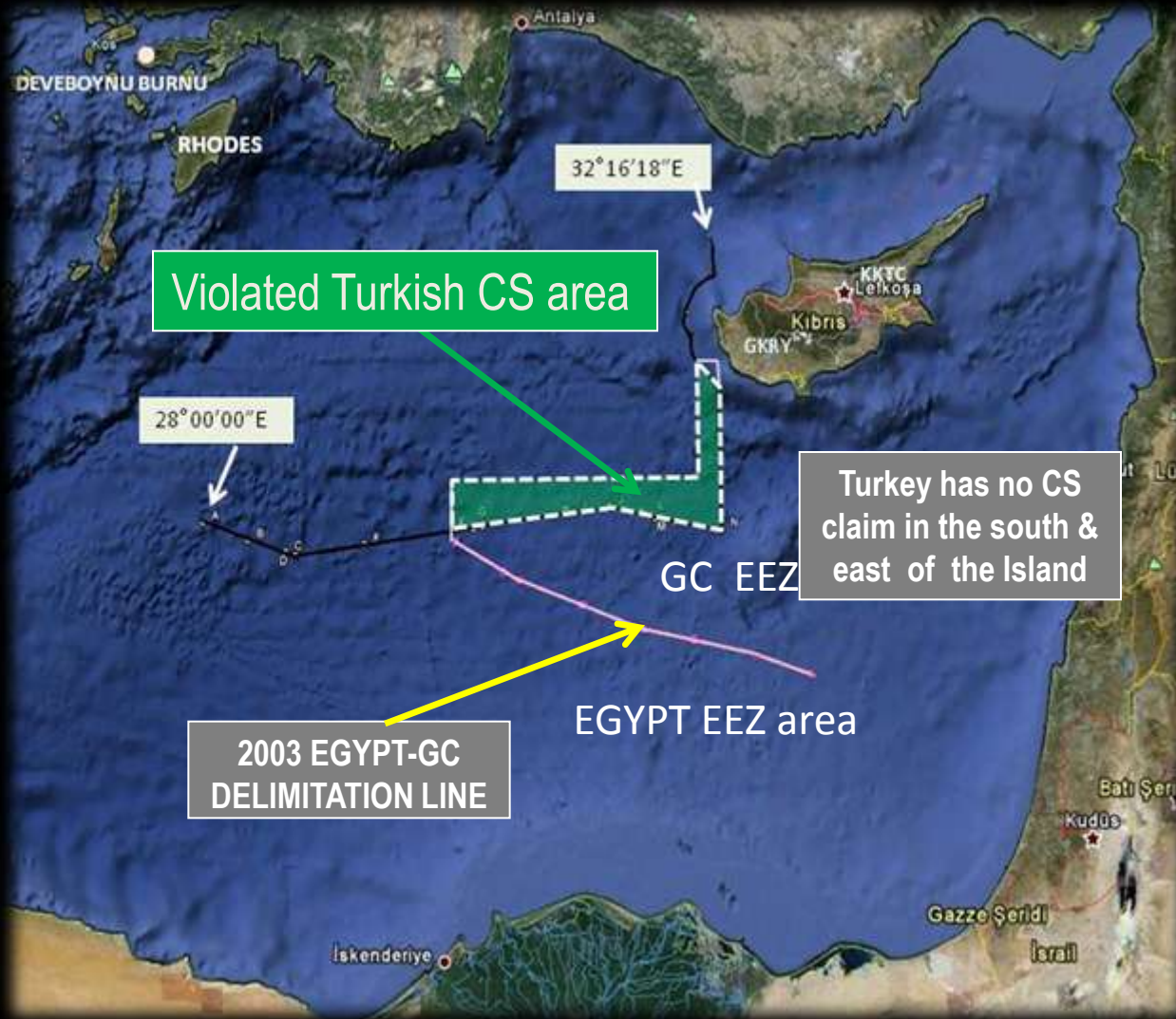
- ❑ general configuration of the coasts,
- ❑ location of the coasts and their relationship (oppositeness and adjacency)
- ❑ the length of the coastlines
- ❑ distance between the respective coasts
- ❑ the location of the land frontier/its direction towards seaward extension
- ❑ the presence of islands and their size and positions

Circumstances taken into account for DELIMITATION

NON- GEOGRAPHICAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- ❑ geological and geomorphological factors
- ❑ fishing resources and history of fishing
- ❑ environmental facts
- ❑ navigational rights and interests
- ❑ defense and security interests
- ❑ economic circumstances
- ❑ historical rights
- ❑ common mineral deposits and history of oil/natural gas development in the area

CYPRUS CASE



2003 Egypt-GC Agreement

TURKEY REGISTERED ITS OBJECTION TO UN & THE STATES IN THE REGION

WHY ?

- (1) To protect Turkey's CS rights**
- (2) To protect Turkish Cypriot's rights (Cyprus Issue)**

CYPRUS CASE

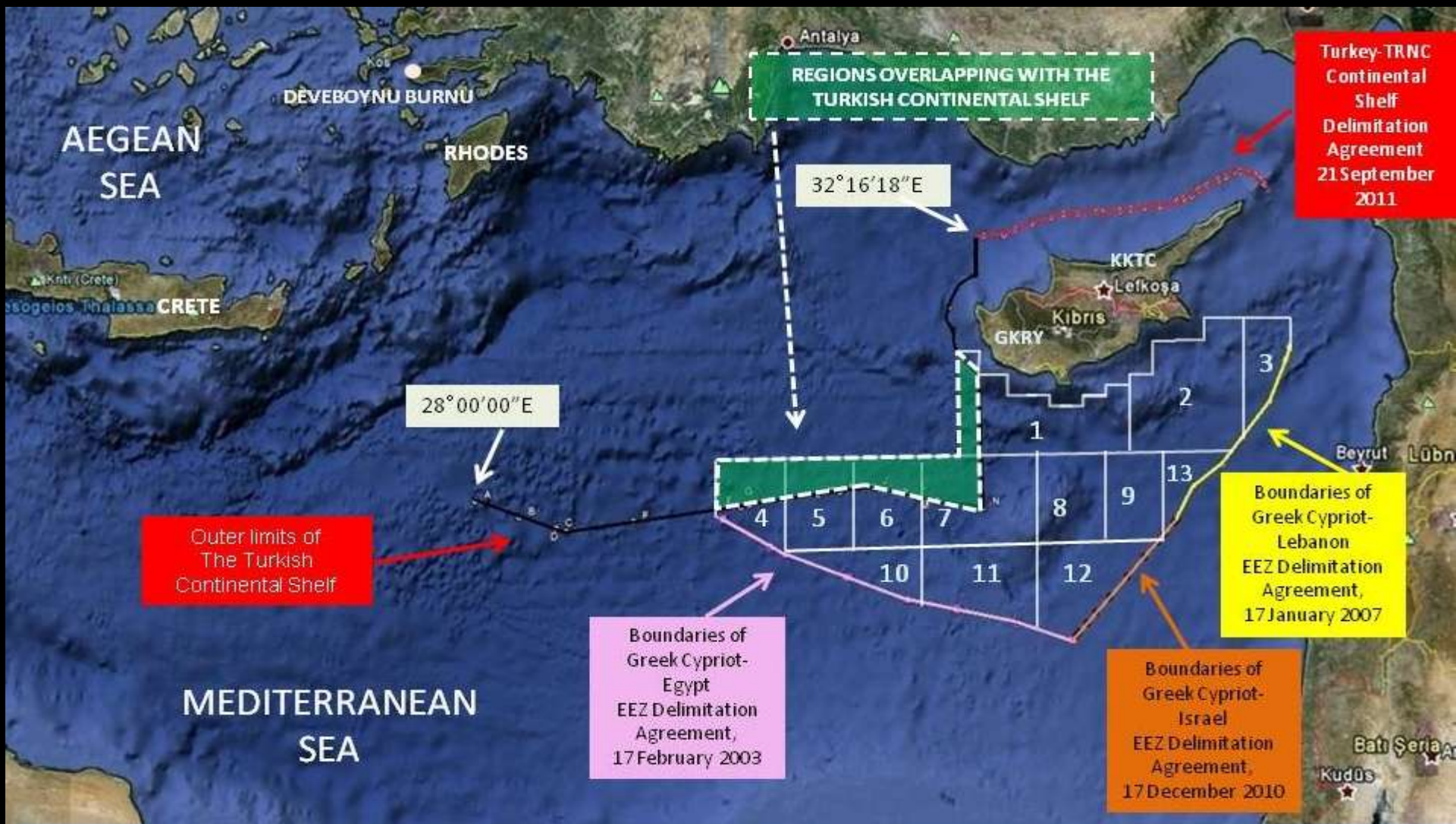
GREEK CYPRIOTS

2007 established off-shore licence areas & opened international tender

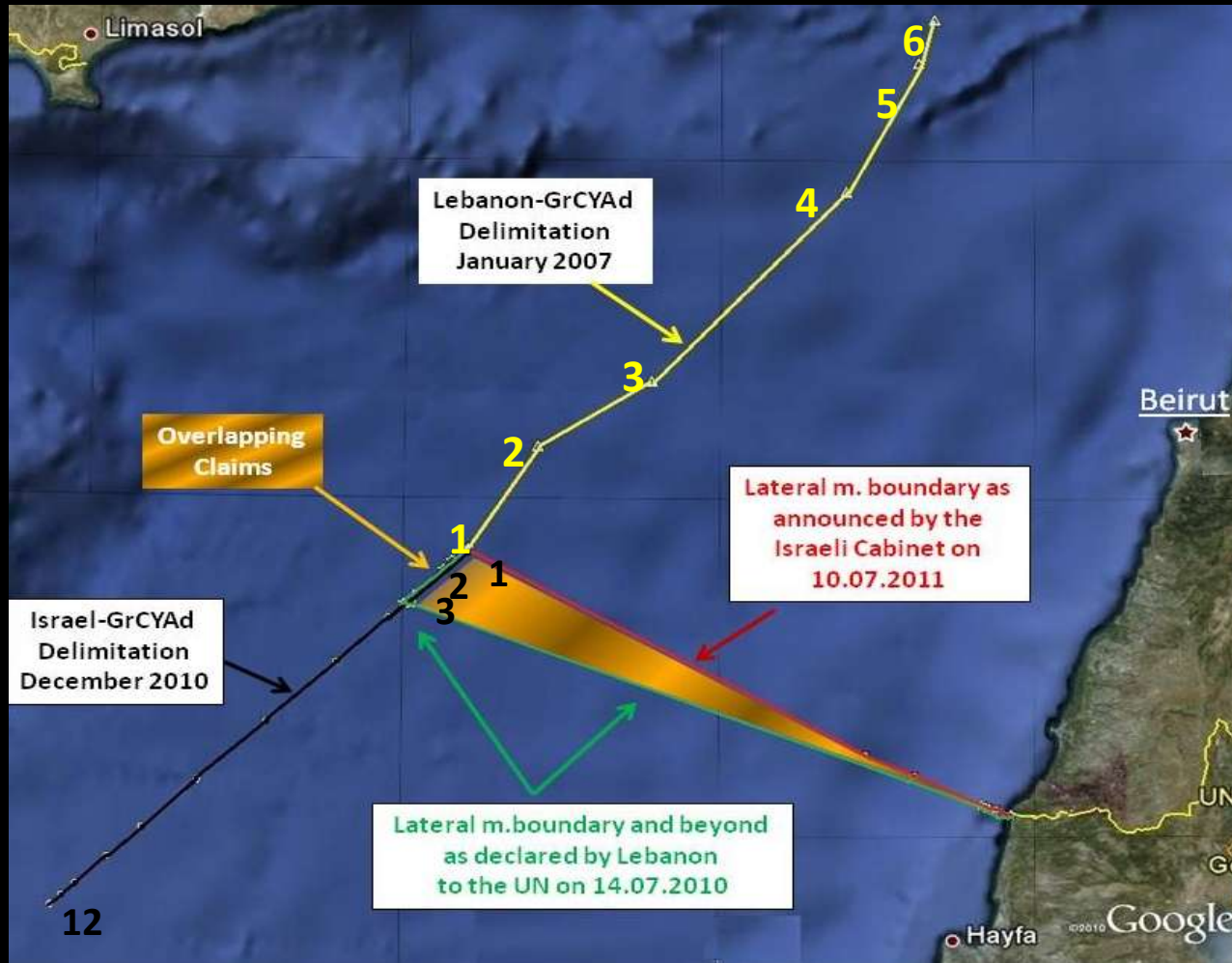
2007 signed an EEZ Delimitation Agreement with **LEBANON**

2010 signed EEZ Delimitation Agreement with **ISRAEL**

CYPRUS CASE

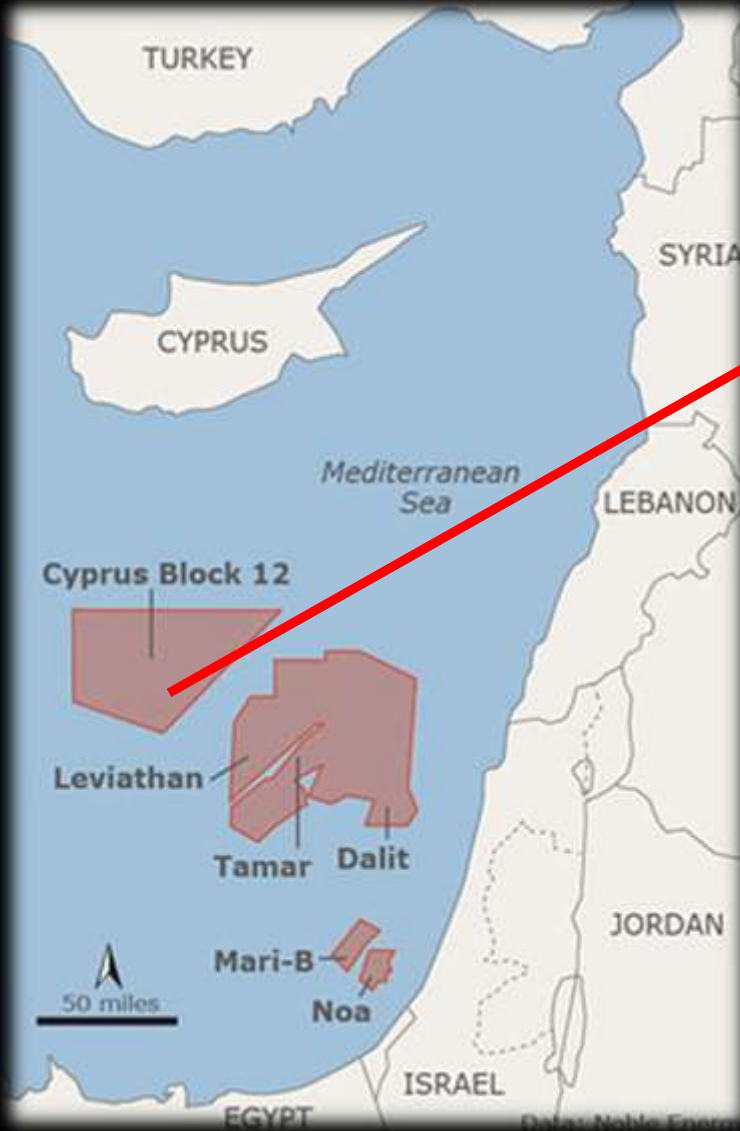


ISRAEL-LEBANON CONFLICT



The starting point of GCs& Israel delimitation line coincides with end point (southernmost) of Lebanon-GC agreement.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

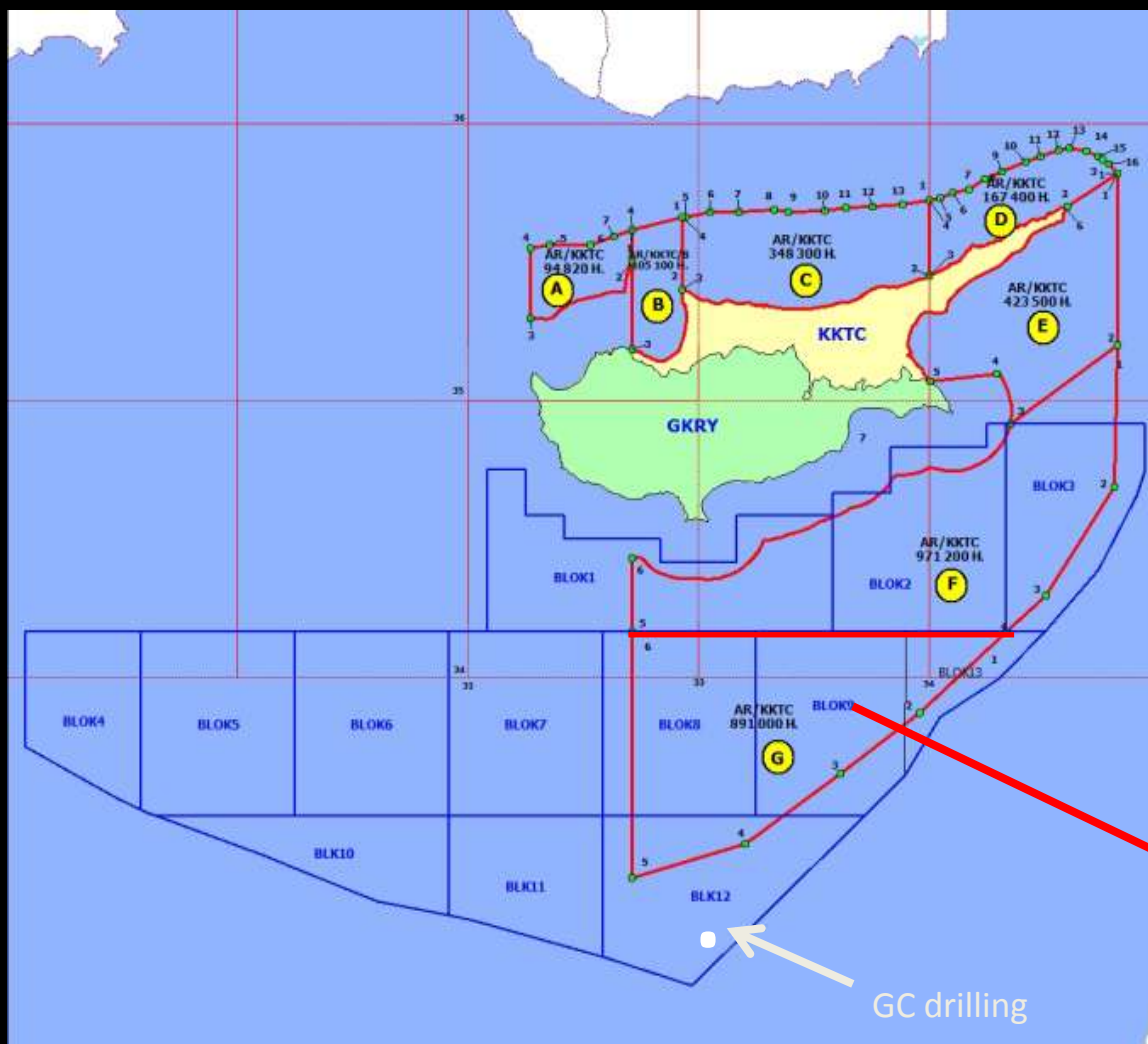


GC's started off-shore
drilling
on **19 September 2011**

**TURKEY-TRNC SIGNED
CS DELIMITATION
AGREEMENT
ON 21 SEPTEMBER
2011**

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

TRNC ISSUED OFF-SHORE LICENCES to TPAO in all 7 Blocks
on 22 SEPTEMBER 2011

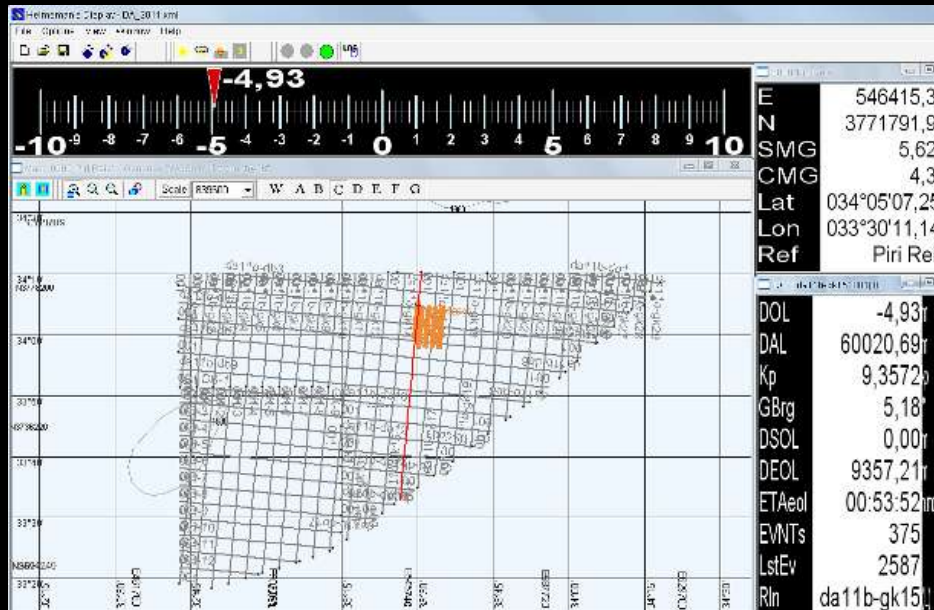
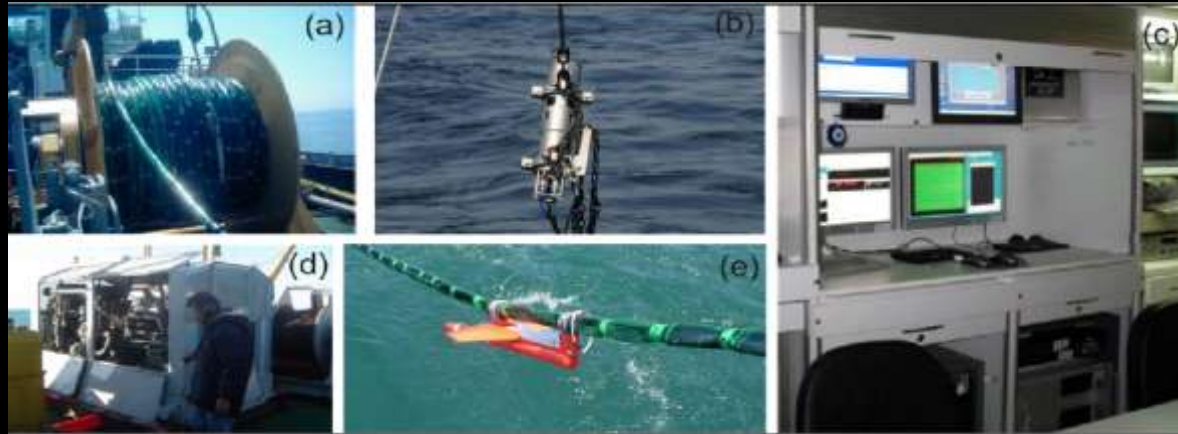


R/V Piri Reis conducted 2D
Seismic Survey
Between
27 Sept.-1 Nov.
in Block G



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

3680 km high res. seismic data collected & is being analyzed by TPAO



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

PROPOSAL OF THE TRNC PRESIDENT TO UN SECRETARY-GENERAL & GC
24 SEPTEMBER 2011

off-shore activities of TCs & GCs be ceased simultaneously until the settlement

OR

both sides should determine jointly the future course of off-shore oil/gas activities, including revenue sharing and funding of a possible settlement.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

COMMERCIAL CONTRACT SIGNED BETWEEN TRNC & TPAO 2 NOVEMBER 2011

TPAO New PSC

TPAO and the regional authorities (TRNC) signed on 2 Nov 11 a PSC for an onshore and 6 offshore blocks around the island of Cyprus, locations of which may present an overlapping issue as shown on the official map below. The contract was approved by the TRNC Council of Ministers and gazetted on 23 November. All operations costs will be borne by TPAO.

It is recalled that Cyprus gave a green light also on 23 November for the launch of the country's 2nd offshore round comprising 12 blocks, and that Noble is drilling Aphrodite-1 in block 12 near the Israeli border, with preliminary results expected shortly.

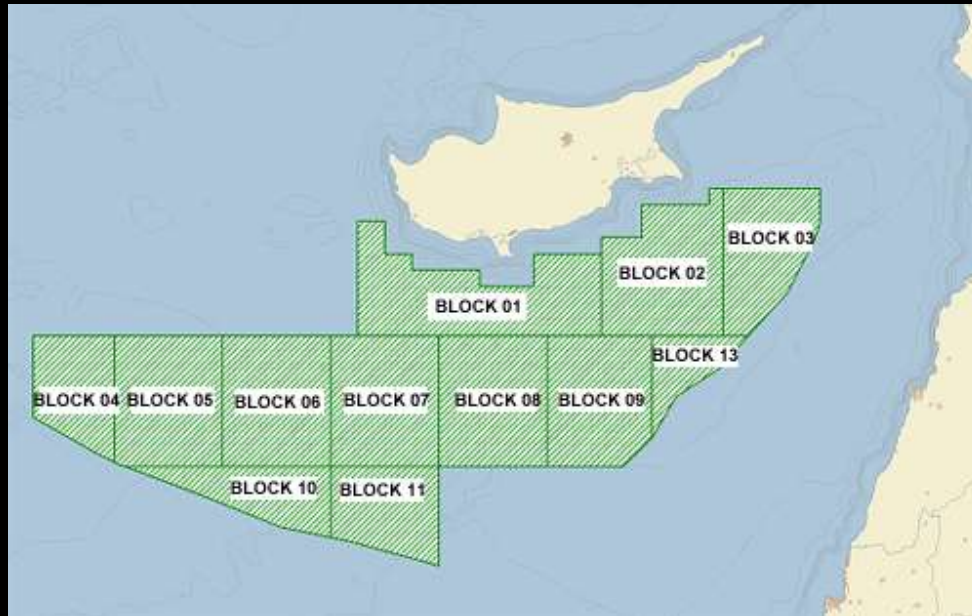


RECENT DEVELOPMENTS – GCs Int.Bid Round

Despite all warnings and without agreement with TCs

GCs opened international bid round for 12 offshore blocks
on **11 February 2012**

Turkey and TCs strongly reacted on **15 February 2012**



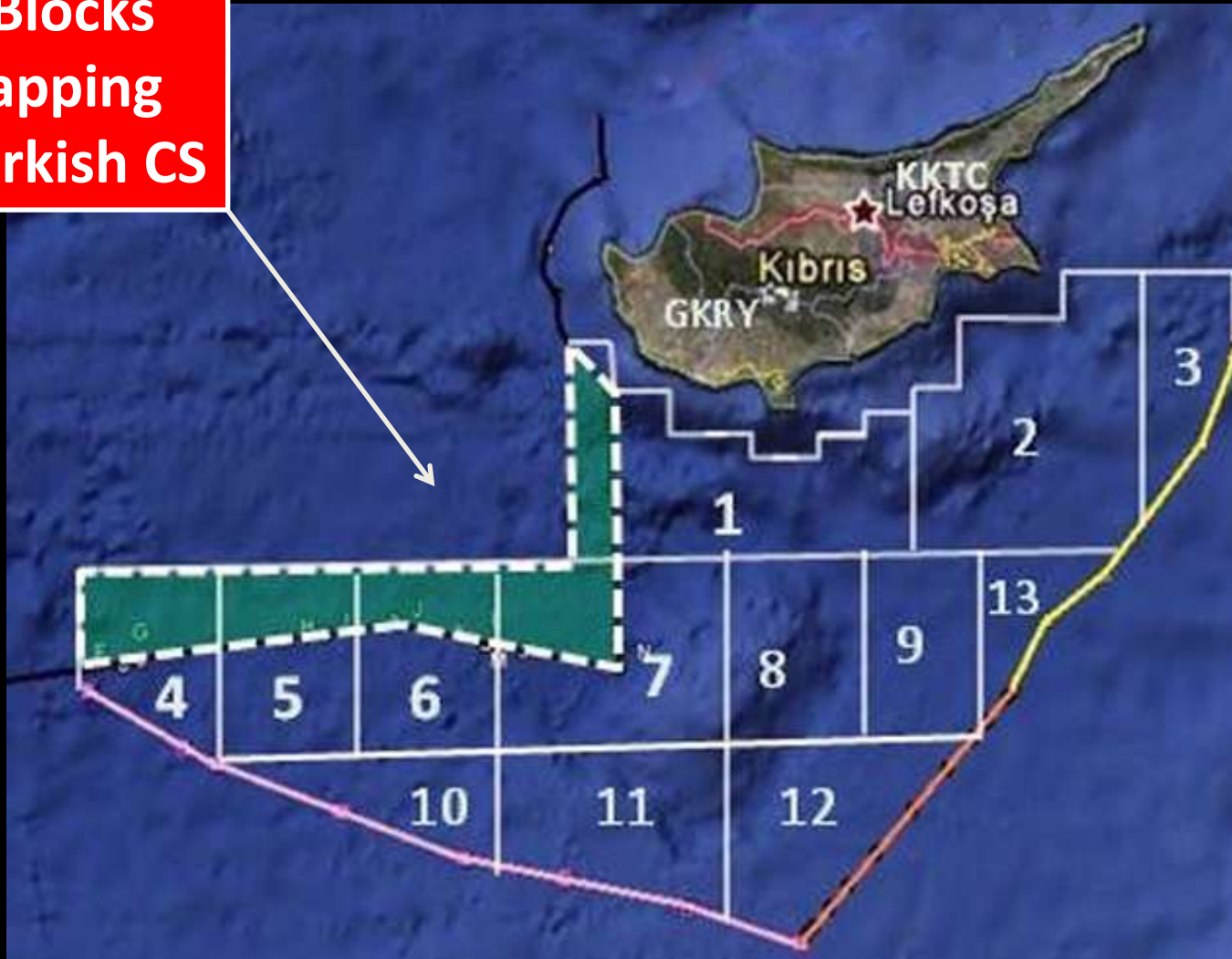
Some GCs blocks violate Turkey's CS in the Eastern Mediterranean

Turkey will not allow under any circumstances foreign oil companies to conduct unauthorized oil/natural gas exploration and exploitation activities in these overlapping areas.

Turkey will protect its rights and interests in the maritime areas falling within its continental shelf.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS – GCs Int.Bid Round

GCs' Blocks overlapping with Turkish CS



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS – GCs Int.Bid Round

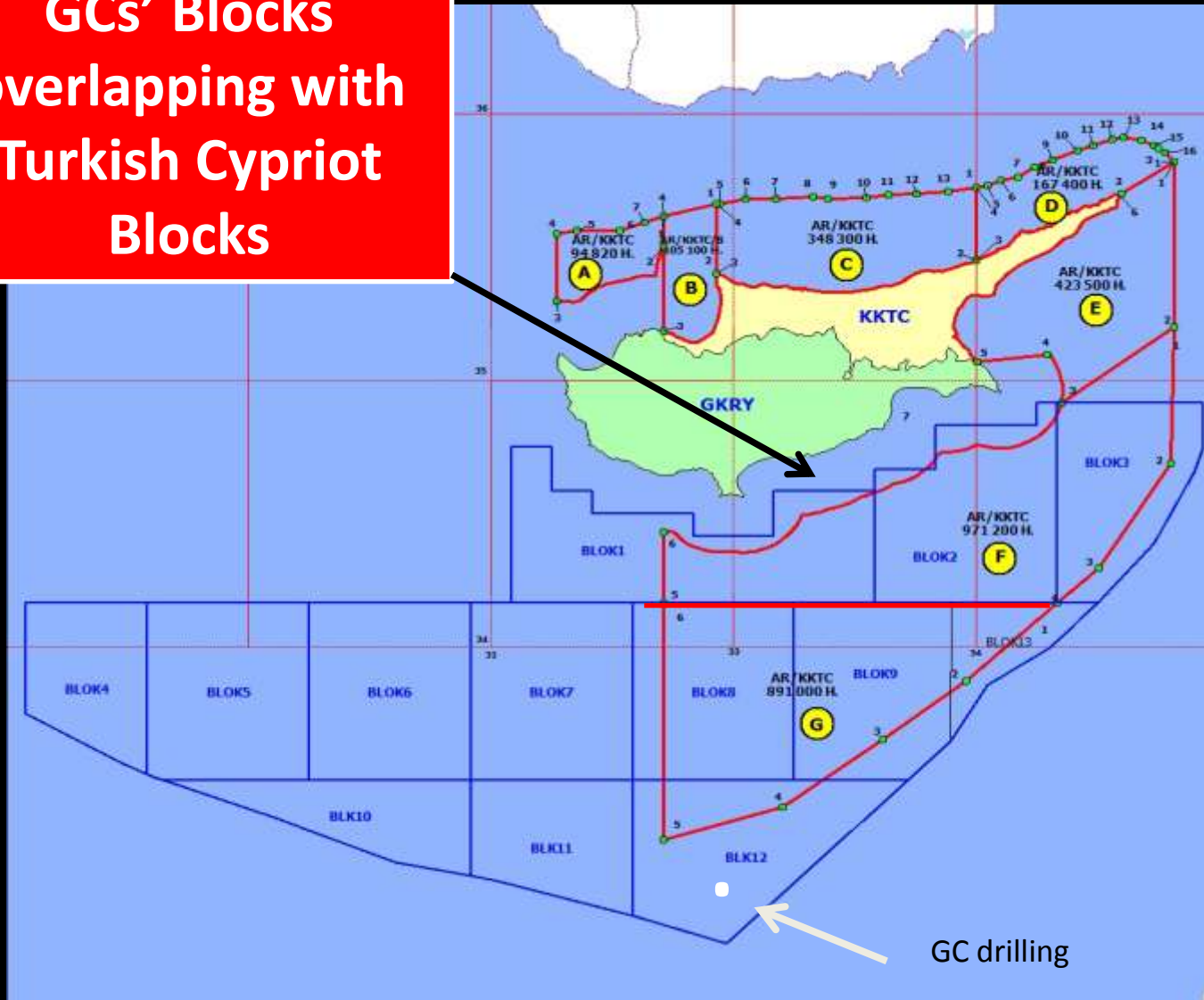
Some GCs blocks overlap with the TCs blocks granted to the TPAO by the TRNC on 22 September 2011

This situation would also bring international companies that might be interested in bidding into confrontation with the TRNC and the TPAO.

Turkey will give every support to the TRNC to prevent possible violations of TC concession blocks and to protect their rights and interests in maritime areas.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS – GCs Int.Bid Round

**GCs' Blocks
overlapping with
Turkish Cypriot
Blocks**



THE WAY AHEAD

- ❖ The situation in the area is fragile and prone to new crisis if it is left unchecked.
- ❖ International efforts are needed to turn this looming crisis into an opportunity.
- ❖ International community acknowledges the rights of the TCs to benefit from off-shore resources of the Island. This is a commendable approach yet not result oriented. It should be translated into action.

THE WAY AHEAD

- ❖ **TC's proposal of 24 September 2011 to the UN Secretary General is therefore a tool which can be built upon .**
- ❖ **The UNSG, the TCs and GCs should be encouraged to sit together immediately in order to determine jointly the future course of off-shore oil/gas activities**
- ❖ **If achieved, this would also boost the ongoing Cyprus talks towards a comprehensive settlement.**
- ❖ **If not, TCs will protect their rights and continue off-shore exploration/exploitation activities in the south of the Island with the help of Turkey.**

THE WAY AHEAD

**IT SHOULD ALSO BE BORN IN MIND THAT
TURKEY IS THE SAFEST, MOST FEASIBLE AND
PROFITABLE
GATEWAY TO THE EUROPEAN OIL/GAS MARKETS
IN THE REGION
AS IT HAS THE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE IN
PLACE**

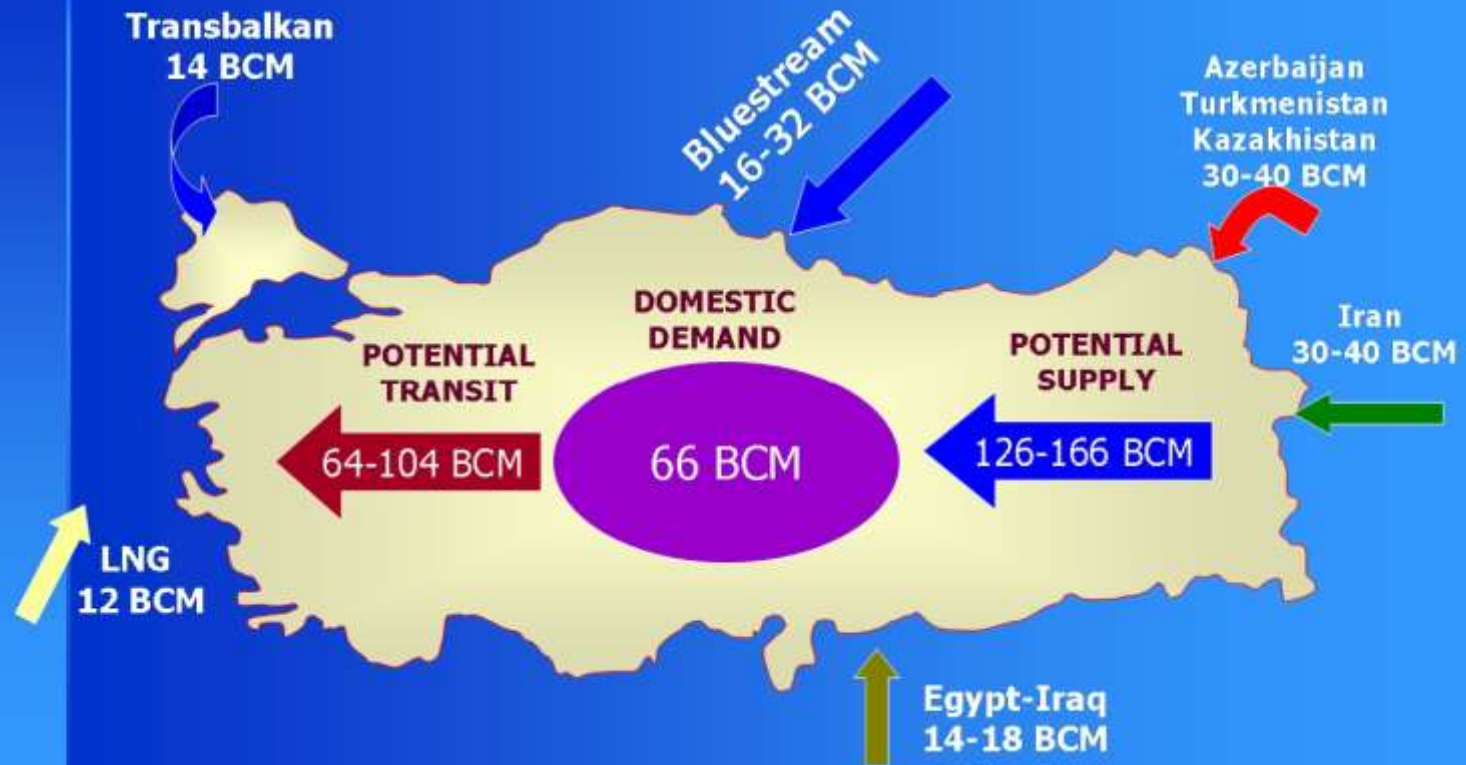
TURKEY HAS THE INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLACE

NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECTS OF TURKEY



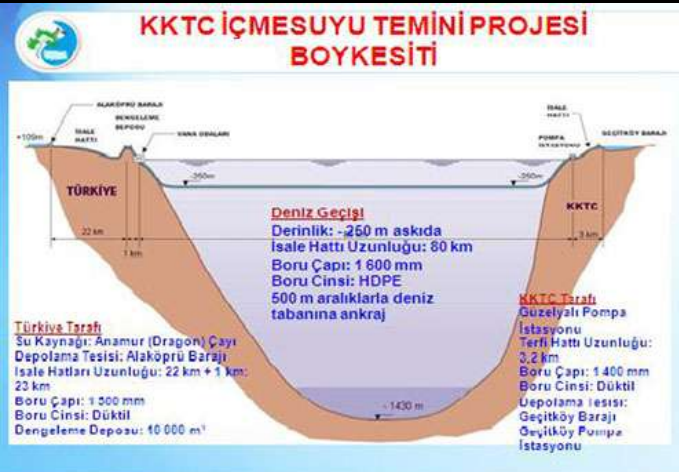
TURKEY HAS THE INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLACE

GAS SUPPLY & TRANSIT POTENTIAL (2020)



THE WAY AHEAD

- ❖ Turkey and the TRNC will complete by 2014 a pipeline project which will bring 75 million cubic meters of water to the Island
- ❖ This amount can be increased tenfold, and that would be equal to double the water need of the entire Island.
- ❖ Water and gas are new parameters that could be used right now as an incentive for a comprehensive solution.





Thank you
Questions
???
