

Law No. 70 of May 7, 2026

Promotion of Marine Resources. (26G00091)

Note: Effective date of the measure: May 10, 2026

(Official Journal No. 106 of May 9, 2026)

Art. 3

Establishment of the Contiguous Zone

1. In accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, adopted at Montego Bay on December 10, 1982, ratified and brought into force pursuant to Law No. 689 of December 2, 1994, the establishment of the contiguous zone is hereby authorized.

2. The contiguous zone shall be established, in accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of this law, by decree of the President of the Republic, following a resolution of the Council of Ministers, upon a proposal by the President of the Council of Ministers or the Minister Delegate for Maritime Policy and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, in consultation with the Ministers of Economy and Finance, Defense, the Interior, Health, and Infrastructure and Transport, to be notified to the States whose territory is adjacent to or faces the territory of Italy.

Art. 4

Extension of the contiguous zone

1. The contiguous zone shall not extend beyond 24 nautical miles from the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured.

2. If the extension of the contiguous zone overlaps with the maritime areas of another State, the outer boundary of the contiguous zone shall be defined through agreements with the States concerned, subject to the ratification authorization procedure provided for in Article 80 of the Constitution. Until the date of entry into force of such agreements, the outer limits of the contiguous zone shall be established in such a way as not to compromise or hinder the final agreement.

Art. 5

Exercise of Rights in the Contiguous Zone

1. In the contiguous zone, Italy may exercise the rights conferred by applicable international law, including those relating to the completion of inspections necessary to:

- a) prevent violations of customs, tax, health, or immigration regulations within Italian territory, internal waters, or territorial sea;
- b) punish violations of the provisions referred to in subparagraph (a), committed within the territory, internal waters, or territorial sea;
- c) ensure the protection of underwater cultural heritage in accordance with the procedures and within the limits provided for by applicable international law.

2. The inspections referred to in paragraph 1 shall be carried out within the limits provided for by applicable sector-specific regulations and in accordance with the current institutional framework and division of responsibilities established for the sectors indicated therein.

Art. 6

Rights of Other States within the Contiguous Zone

1. The establishment of the contiguous zone shall not affect the exercise, in accordance with the provisions of general international law and treaty law, of the freedoms of navigation, overflight, and the laying of submarine pipelines and cables, as well as other rights provided for by applicable international law.

Art. 7

Baselines

1. In order to take into account changes in the coastal morphology, while implementing the provisions of Articles 7, 9, and 10 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, adopted in Montego Bay on December 10, 1982, ratified and brought into force pursuant to Law No. 689 of December 2, 1994, and taking into account the ETRS89 reference system, pursuant to the provisions in the decree by the Minister for Public Administration and Innovation of November 10, 2011, published in the Ordinary Supplement No. 37 attached to Official Journal No. 48 of February 27, 2012, containing the adoption of the National Geodetic Reference System, the

straight baselines and the closing baselines of natural and historical bays, which are relevant for measuring the extent of Italy's territorial sea, are drawn in accordance with the list of geographic coordinates of the points set forth in Annex 1, which forms an integral part of this law. Where straight baselines are not drawn, the baselines shall be deemed to be normal baselines, as depicted on the official state cartography currently in force.

2. Presidential Decree No. 816 of April 26, 1977, is hereby repealed.

3. Nautical charts showing the baselines of the Italian territorial sea, together with a list of the geographical coordinates of the points through which said lines pass, shall be posted by the maritime authorities in all ports and landing places of the Republic.