

**Presidential Decree No. 781 Concerning Submerged Continental  
or Insular Shelf of 1 August 1947**

1. To declare that national sovereignty and jurisdiction can be extended to the submerged continental or insular shelf adjacent to the continental or insular shores of national territory, whatever the depth and extension of this shelf may be.
2. National sovereignty and jurisdiction are to be extended over the sea adjoining the shores of national territory whatever its depth and in the extension necessary to reserve, protect, maintain and utilize natural resources and wealth of any kind which may be found in or below those waters.
3. As a result of previous declarations the State reserves the right to establish the limits of the zones of control and protection of natural resources in continental or insular seas which are controlled by the Peruvian Government and to modify such limits in accordance with future changes which may originate as result of further discoveries, studies or national interests which may arise in the future and at the same time declares that it will exercise the same control and protection on the seas adjacent to the Peruvian coast over the area covered between the coast and an imaginary parallel line to it at a distance of 200 (two hundred) nautical miles measured following the line of the geographical parallels. As regards islands pertaining to the Nation, this demarcation will be traced to include the sea area adjacent to the shores of these islands to a distance of 200 (two hundred) nautical miles, measured from all points on the contour of these islands.
4. The present declaration does not affect the right to free navigation of ships of all nations according to international law.