Copyright statement

This presentation was prepared for use at the IBRU training workshop *Evidence and Archive Research for Boundary Dispute Resolution* held in London on 31 May-2 June 2023.

The content of the presentation is copyright © of the author. The presentation may be used by workshop participants for non-commercial training purposes, subject to acknowledgement of the author and the workshop at which the presentation was originally made. All other uses of the presentation must be approved in advance by the copyright holder.

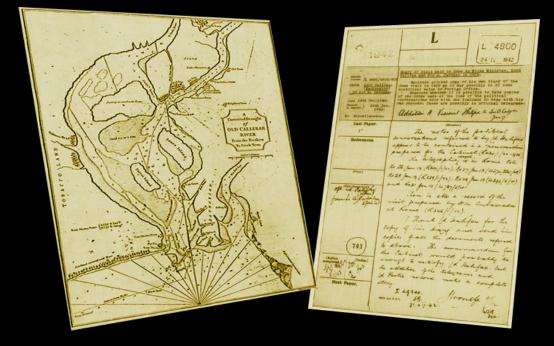
Questions concerning use of this presentation should be directed in the first instance to: Liz Buxton, External Relations & Marketing Manager, IBRU, Department of Geography, Durham University DH1 3LE, UK Tel: +44 191 334 1965 Fax: +44 191 334 1962 Email: e.a.buxton@durham.ac.uk

Thank you.





Evidence & Archive Research for Boundary Dispute Resolution





Training workshop series No. 70

31 May - 2 June 2023



The world political map

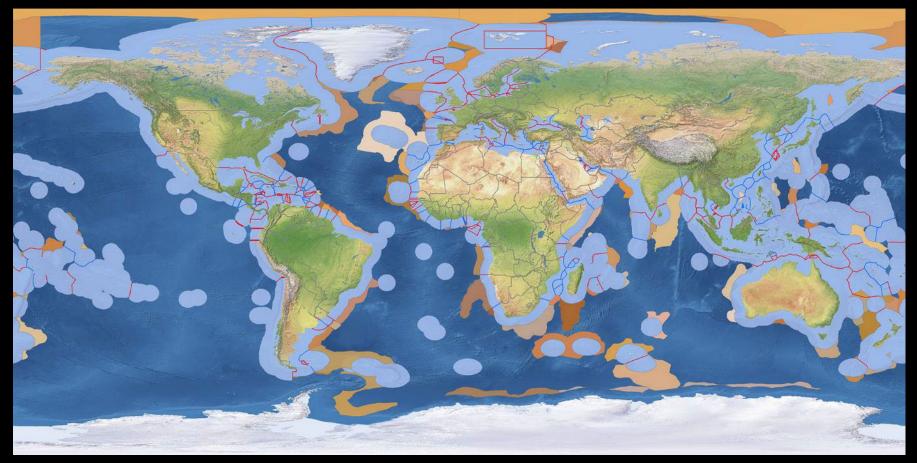


Source: CIA World Factbook

The unstable world political map

- 770 territorial changes 1816-1980 (Goertz and Diehl)
- 31 new states since 1990
- 158 territorial disputes 1950-1997 (Blake)
 Africa 41
 East & Southeast Asia 22
 Americas 25
 Middle East 21
 Central & South Asia 18
 Europe 31
- 39 boundary/sovereignty disputes submitted to third-party adjudication since 1980
- c. 40% of maritime boundaries still to be delimited

The political map of maritime space

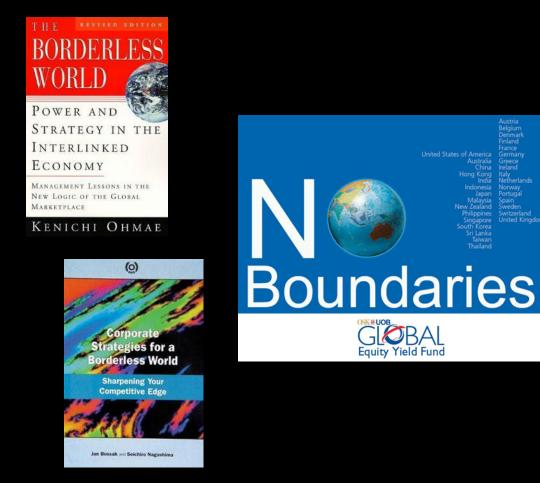


Source: Bordermap Consulting

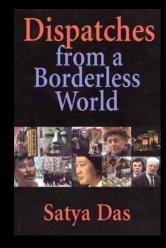
The 'borderless world'

"You live in the age of interdependence. Borders don't count for much or stop much, good or bad anymore."

Bill Clinton, Harvard University, November 2001









BORDERLESS CO-OPERATION OECD GLOBAL FORUM ON INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT

OECD ((

'Schengenland'









The not so borderless world



Israel-Palestine



India-Pakistan



Mexico-USA



Bangladesh-India





South China Sea

Moldova-Romania

Types of boundary-related dispute

- Territorial / sovereignty disputes
- Positional disputes
- Maritime jurisdiction disputes
- Functional disputes
- Resource-related disputes

The importance of archives in boundary dispute resolution

- Need to make a convincing argument that your claim is stronger than your neighbour's, backed up by evidence.
- Requires a clear understanding of the origins and evolution of the dispute often a long and complex story.
- Records of official meetings and correspondence critical.
- Internal discussions can be significant and are almost always illuminating.
- Additional information from maps, personal papers, scholarly studies etc. helps to fill knowledge gaps.

British territorial control and influence

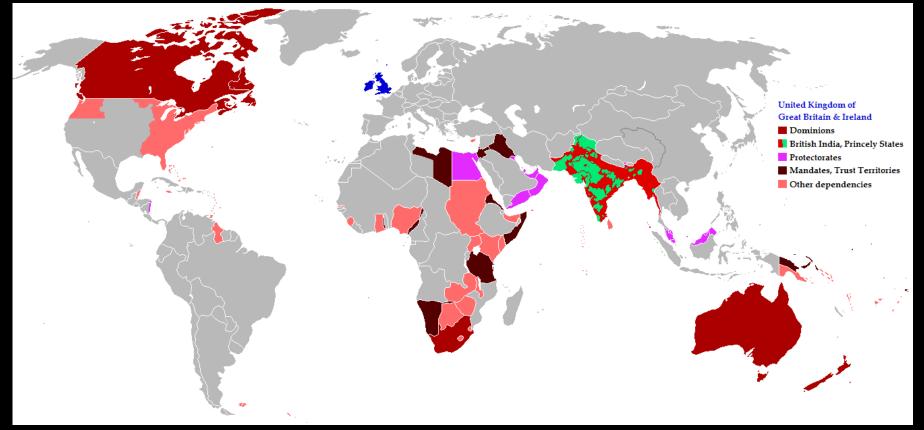
"I wonder, indeed, if my hearers at all appreciate the part that Frontiers are playing in the everyday history and policy of the British Empire. Time was when England had no Frontier but the ocean. We have now by far the greatest extent of territorial Frontier of any dominion in the globe. In North America we have a Land Frontier of more than 3,000 miles with the United States. In India we have Frontiers nearly 6,000 miles long with Persia, Russia, Afghanistan, Tibet, China, Siam, and France. In Africa we have Frontiers considerably over 12,000 miles in length with France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, and the Congo State, not to mention our Frontiers with native states and tribes. These Frontiers have to be settled, demarcated, and then maintained. We commonly speak of Great Britain as the greatest sea-power, forgetting that she is also the greatest land-power in the Universe. Not much is heard of this astonishing development in Parliament; I suspect that even in our Universities it is but dimly apprehended. Nevertheless, it is the daily and hourly preoccupation of our Foreign Office, our India Office, and our Colonial Office; it is the vital concern of the greatest of our colonies and dependencies; and it provides laborious and incessant employment for the keenest intellects and the most virile energies of the Anglo-Saxon race."

Lord Curzon of Kedleston Viceroy of India 1898-1905 and British Foreign Secretary 1919-24



1907 Romanes Lecture, Oxford

British territorial control and influence



Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Anachronous_map_of_the_British_Empire.png

Boundaries created by Britain and France



Source: M. Foucher Fronts et Frontiers

Programme

Wednesday Briefings

- Title to territory and the role of evidence in demonstrating title
- Managing research and building a case
- Map research and maps as evidence
- Boundary tales from the archives

Thursday The National Archives

Friday The Royal Geographical Society