Preface and Acknowledgements

The roots for this book can probably be traced back to my (hanseatic) ancestry, not least because of my modest and foresightful parents and grandparents who not only supplied me with the relevant funds but, more importantly, also bestowed upon me the prerequisite perseverance and a curious interest for the (maritime) world. With respect to the subject matter, my studies of the law of the sea at the University of Wales at Cardiff in 1994/1995 and at the University of Washington at Seattle in 1997/1998 have been key steps towards a comprehensive understanding of the issue. Returning to Hamburg in 1998 with my head full of knowledge about the law and marine affairs, I was fortunate enough to find in Professor Lagoni an understanding supervisor for sorting and bringing together the divers patches of information: on his suggestion I dived into the world of marine science and explored its legal frontiers. The findings, compiled and reviewed in the course of some six years at various places in the world, have been reduced to the present book. The work has been challenging and demanding, never tiring, boring, or even frustrating; and I hope that the rewarding part of it for me will find a balance, a favour in return so to speak, in a stimulation of a discussion on a subject, which, in my humble view, warrants a more thoughtful attention by lawyers and decision-makers across the world.

Many people have helped me in the course of the work on this analysis in one way or another, and naturally I cannot list everyone here. Thus, certain of omitting the names of several and hoping that these feel tacitly included, I want to express my gratitude to the following for help and assistance in accessing and discussing documents and information: Craig H. Allen, University of Washington, School of Law and School of Marine Affairs, Patricio
Acknowledgements

Bernal, Executive Secretary Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Assistant Director General of UNESCO, William T. Burke, University of Washington, School of Law and School of Marine Affairs, Mary M. Manous, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Edward Miles, University of Washington, School of Marine Affairs, Alan Simcock, Executive Secretary of the OSPAR Commission and Chair at UNICPOLLOS 2001, Alfred H.A. Soons, Utrecht University, Director of the Institute of Public International Law and the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea, Hjalmar Thiel, University of Hamburg, and Warren W. Wooster, University of Washington, School of Marine Affairs. Also, I want to thank the University of Washington at Seattle for twice accepting me as visiting scholar in the course of my research, the ‘Völkerrechtsseminar’ of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen which afforded me all possible privileges as an extern, and the librarians at various institutions for their help and patience in familiarising me with their respective library systems. I am indebted to H.-H. Reimers and D. Haude for helping me coming to grips with Linux and LATEX 2ε, as well as to J. A. Lacy for reviewing my usage of the English language.

Special thanks go to my first supervisor Rainer Lagoni, University of Hamburg, Director of the Maritime and Law of the Sea Institute, for his valuable advice and guiding commentaries as well as the expedient delivery of his vote; and also, for the second vote, to Peter Ehlers, Director of the German Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency.

Finally, I am grateful to Annebeth Rosenboom and Joeri Coppejans for publishing this work in the Publications on Ocean Development series and guiding me through the editing process.

This analysis was originally accepted by the faculty of law at the University of Hamburg in May 2004 as partial fulfilment of the requirements for a doctorate degree; the text has been updated for publication in March 2005.

Göttingen, March 2005