

Pollution control will assuredly be one of the crucial problems to be resolved by the Law of the Sea Conference. Extensions of coastal state jurisdiction automatically mean restrictions on some of the freedoms still cherished by many of the sea-faring nations. But given the precariousness of the marine environment and the disastrous consequences unchecked abuses could have on everyone's life, it would seem imperative that such freedoms as have existed heretofore be balanced by obligations. It is equally true that there should be guarantees on the part of coastal states not to overreact, not to over-control, so as not to interfere unduly with legitimate activities.

Marine Scientific Research

The general Canadian position on coastal state management of marine resources requires the exercise of effective controls to ensure that the results of research related to such resources are used for the benefit of Canada as well as to acquire greater knowledge of its resources and environment. The Canadian position does not envisage that scientific research in the oceans be arbitrarily restricted, but rather that coastal states should facilitate such research in so far as possible by, for example, extending port facilities to research vessels, their crews and scientific staff.

It must, however, be recognized that a good deal of research is conducted for national reasons, including in particular for economic and military purposes; accordingly, within areas under their resource and environmental jurisdiction, coastal states should have the right to control and, where necessary, disallow such activities by foreign states or their nationals. Coastal states must have the right to participate in research conducted in areas adjacent to their coasts by foreign states and must have access to data and samples collected, through prompt and full reporting of results and their effective dissemination.

However, the difficulties in reaching agreement on such provisions, owing to non-scientific factors, should not be underestimated. While generally similar provisions are already embodied in the 1958 Convention on the Continental Shelf, their application even in that more limited context has given rise to considerable