THE INTERNATIONAL AREA OF THE SEABED AND OCEAN FLOOR

Exploitation of the bed and subsoil beyond sovereignty and jurisdiction of the coastal State (UNCLOS arts. 133-155)

It was declared to be heritage of mankind. No State shall claim or exercise sovereignty or sovereign rights over any part of the Area or its resources, nor shall any State or natural or juridical person appropriate any part thereof. No such claim or exercise of sovereignty or sovereign rights nor such appropriation shall be recognized

These resources are not subject to alienation

No State or natural or juridical person shall claim, acquire or exercise rights with respect to the minerals recovered from the Area

The Area shall be open to use exclusively for peaceful purposes by all States, whether coastal or land-locked, without discrimination and without prejudice to the other provisions of this Part

All objects of an archaeological and historical nature found in the Area shall be preserved or disposed of for the benefit of mankind as a whole, particular regard being paid to the preferential rights of the State or country of origin, or the State of cultural origin, or the State of historical and archaeological origin