

# Latin American naval strategy and policy in the South Atlantic: Collaboration or confrontation?

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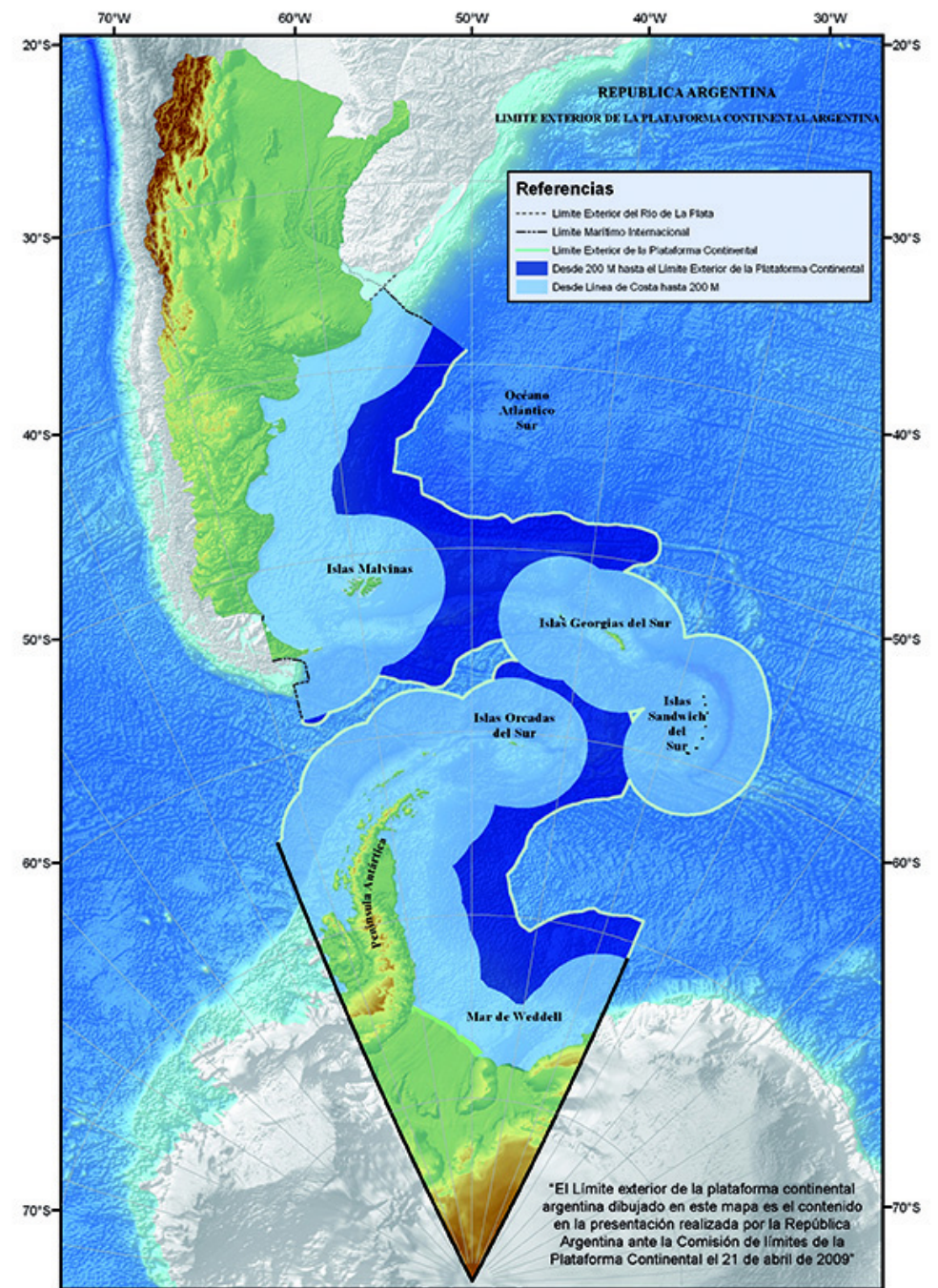
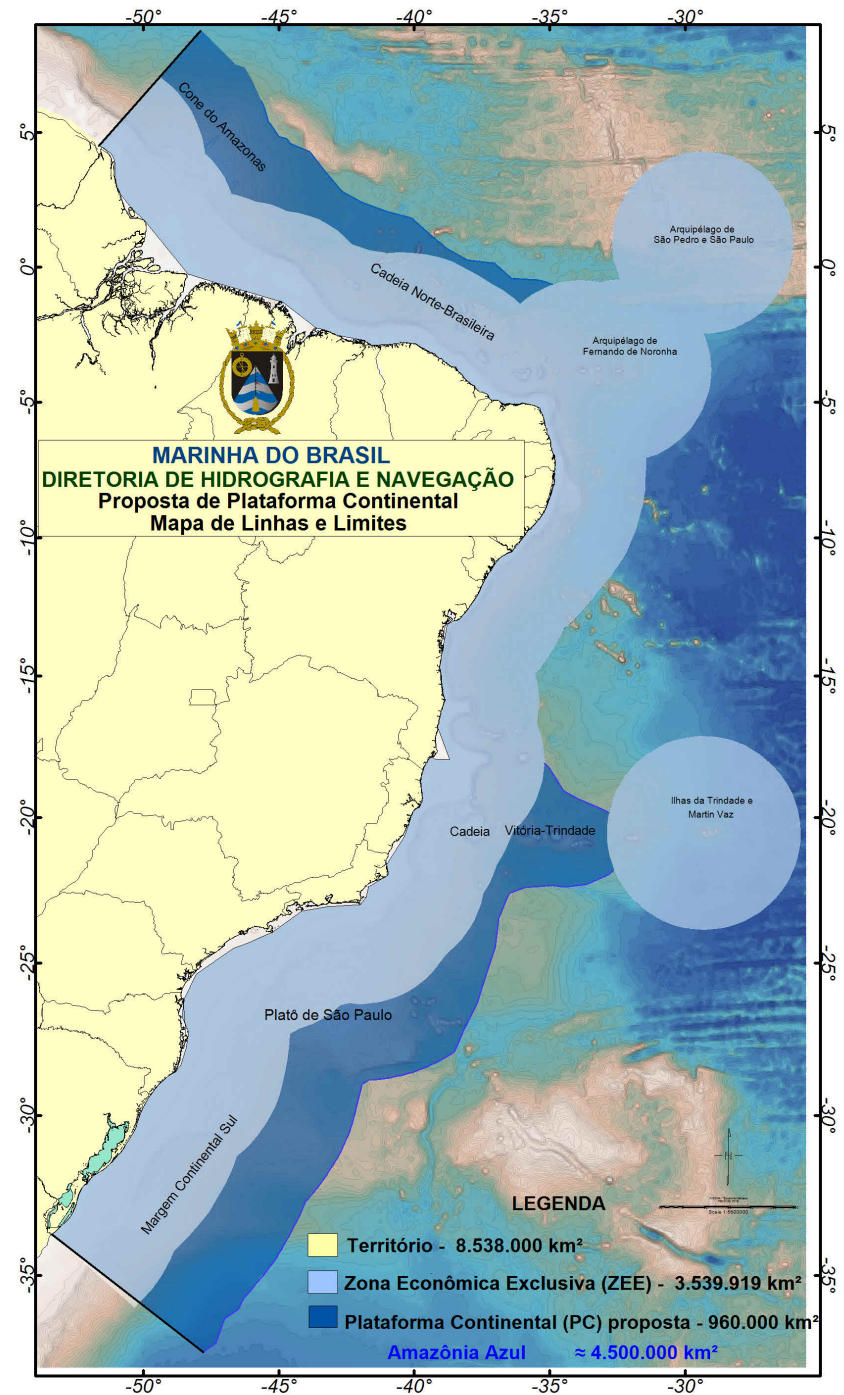
# Introduction

- Competition for resources
- UNCLOS: es might right?
- Main actors: Argentina & Brazil











# Structure

- Threat
- Foreign policy
- Defence policy
- Functions of navies
- Public support

# Nature of the threat

- Competition for resources
- New 'great game'
- Recent UNCLOS rulings disregarded

# Natural resources

- Oil & Gas
- Seabed minerals
- Fisheries

# Oil

‘Golden triangle’:

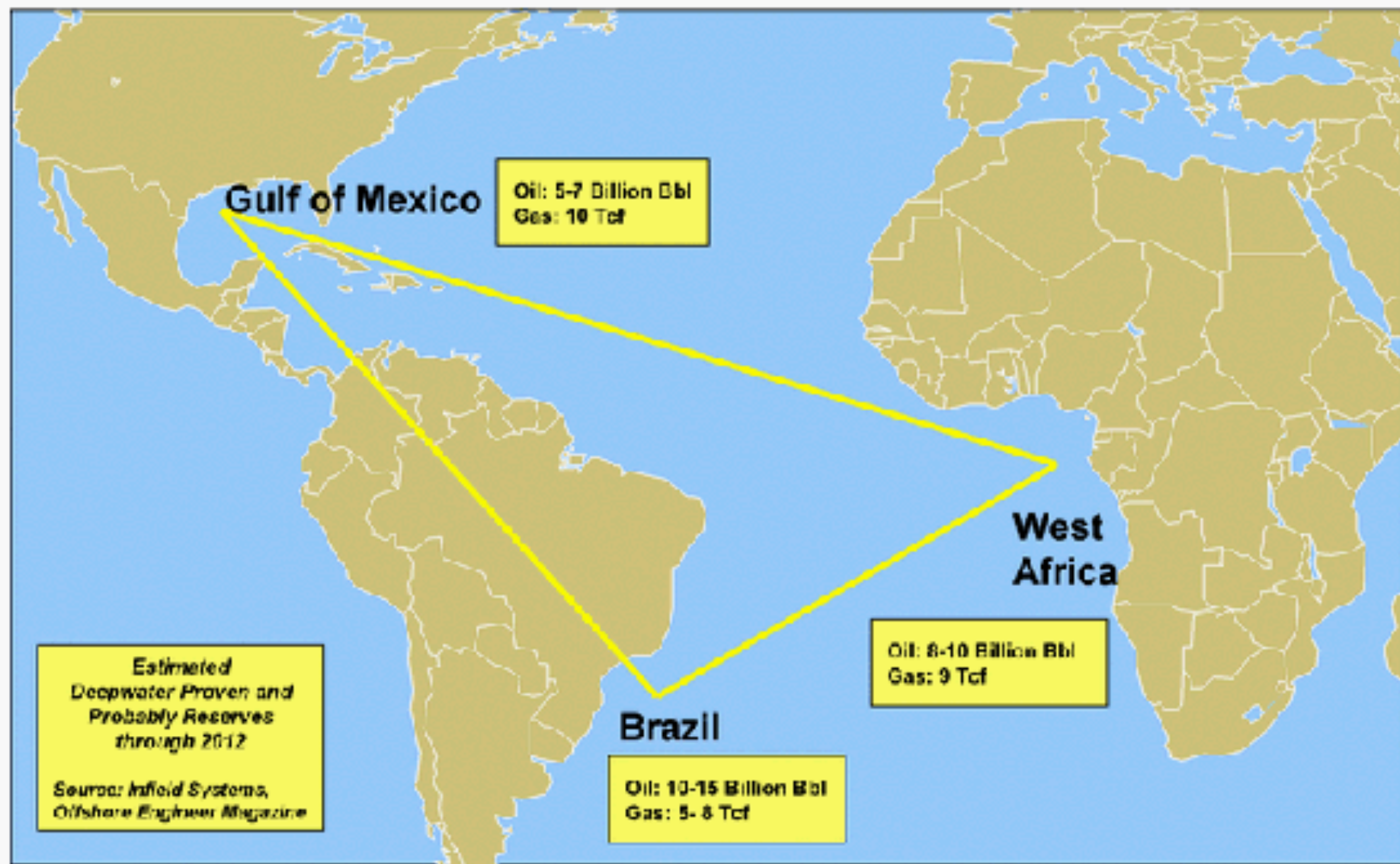
- Gulf of Mexico
- Gulf of Guinea
- Brazil

56% drilling ships & platforms

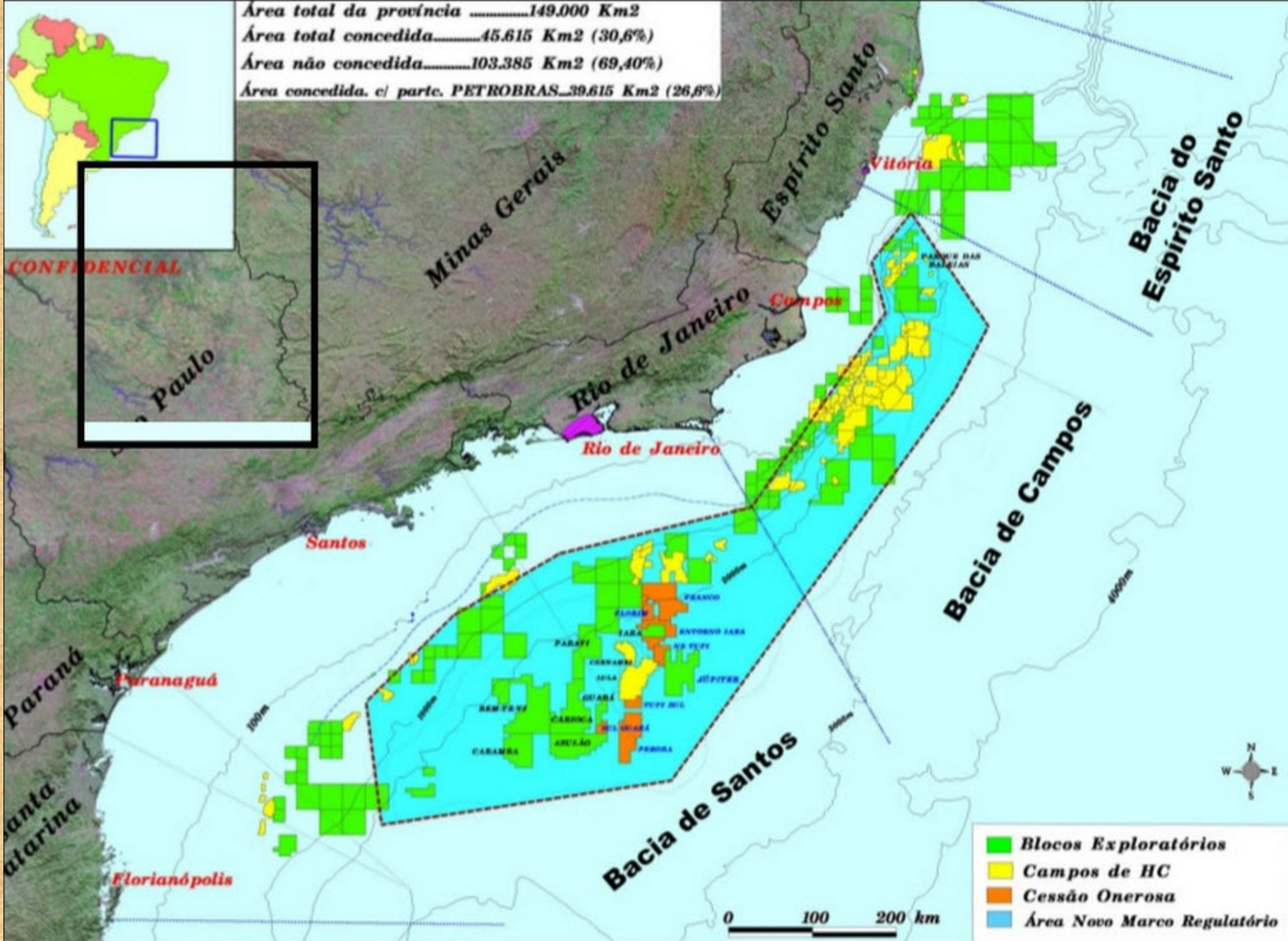
Brazil's Polygon    175 B barrels reserves



# Deepwater Golden Triangle

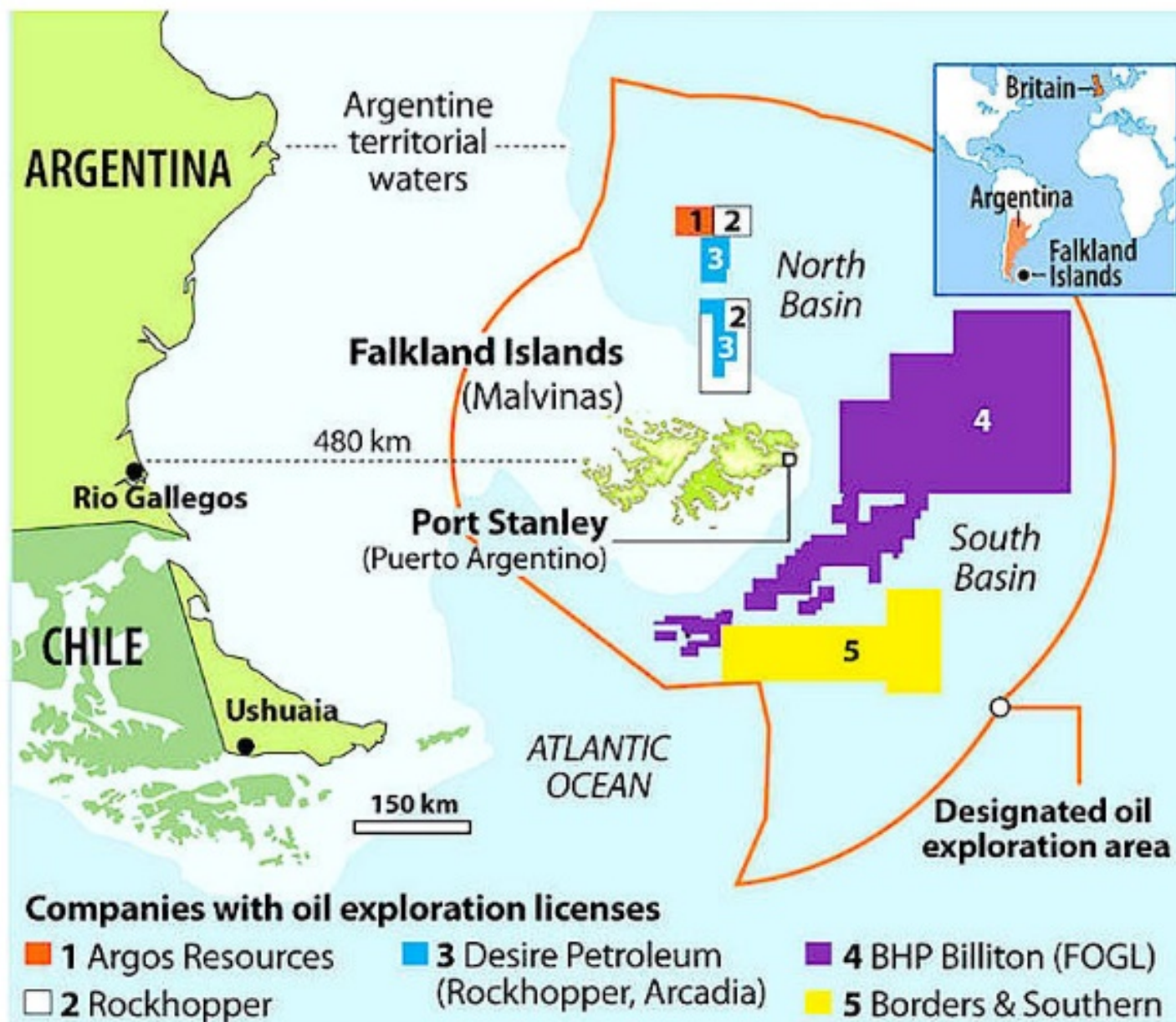








# Falklands oil fields



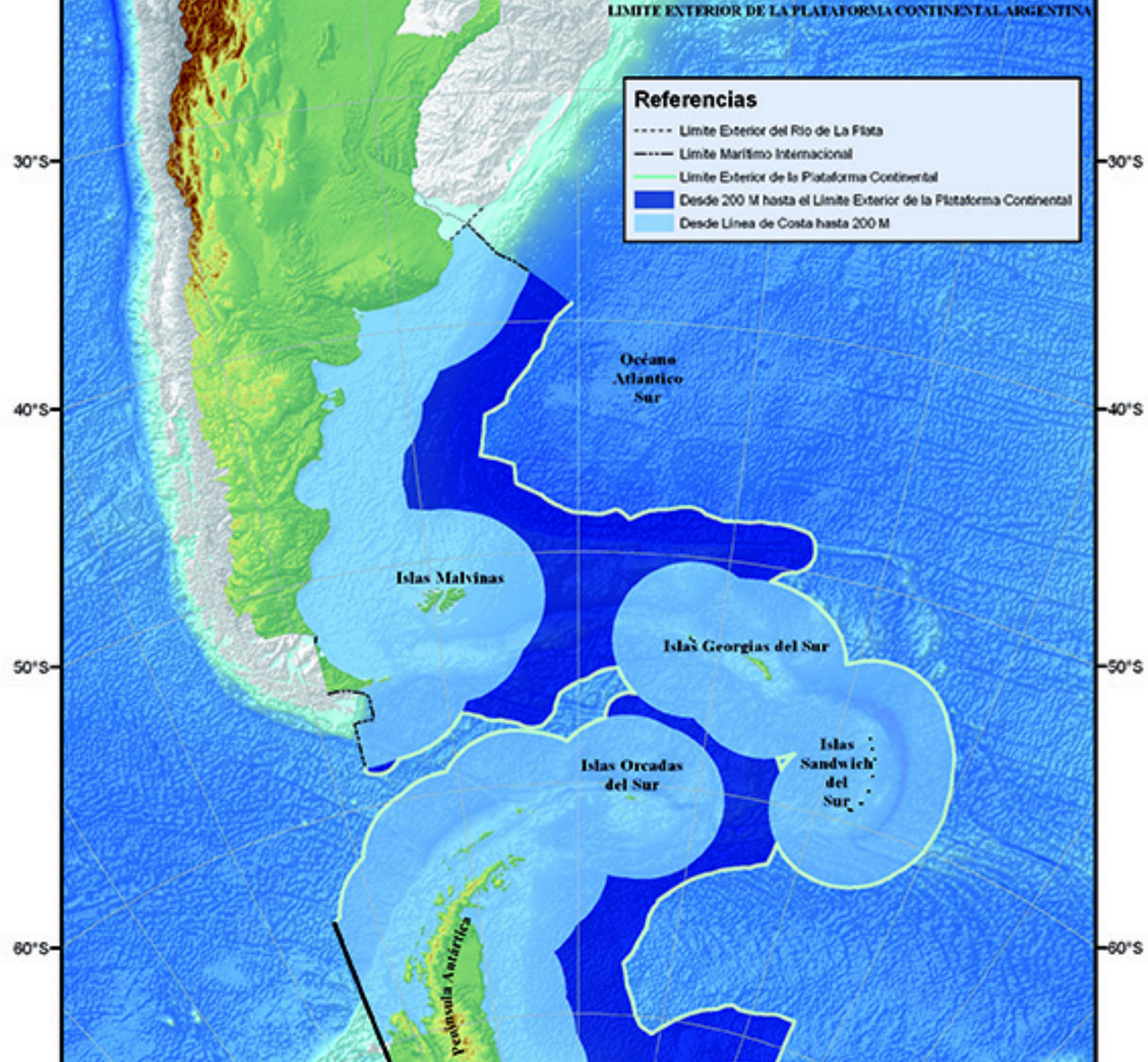
SOURCES: Falklands government, oil companies

AFP

# Overfishing (IUU)

- Off Patagonian coast
- Ca. 4000 ships hovering at the limit of EEZ
- Squid fishing highly contaminating
- 15 years 69 ships captured, mostly Chinese











# Where Chinese Vessels Fish

Estimated average annual catch by region, in metric tons, 2000-2011

West Africa: 64% of total

Asia (excl. Japan, South Korea): 21%

Other: 15%



West Africa:  
2.9 million tons  
\$7.15 billion

Asia (excl. Japan,  
South Korea):  
948,000 tons  
\$2.45 billion

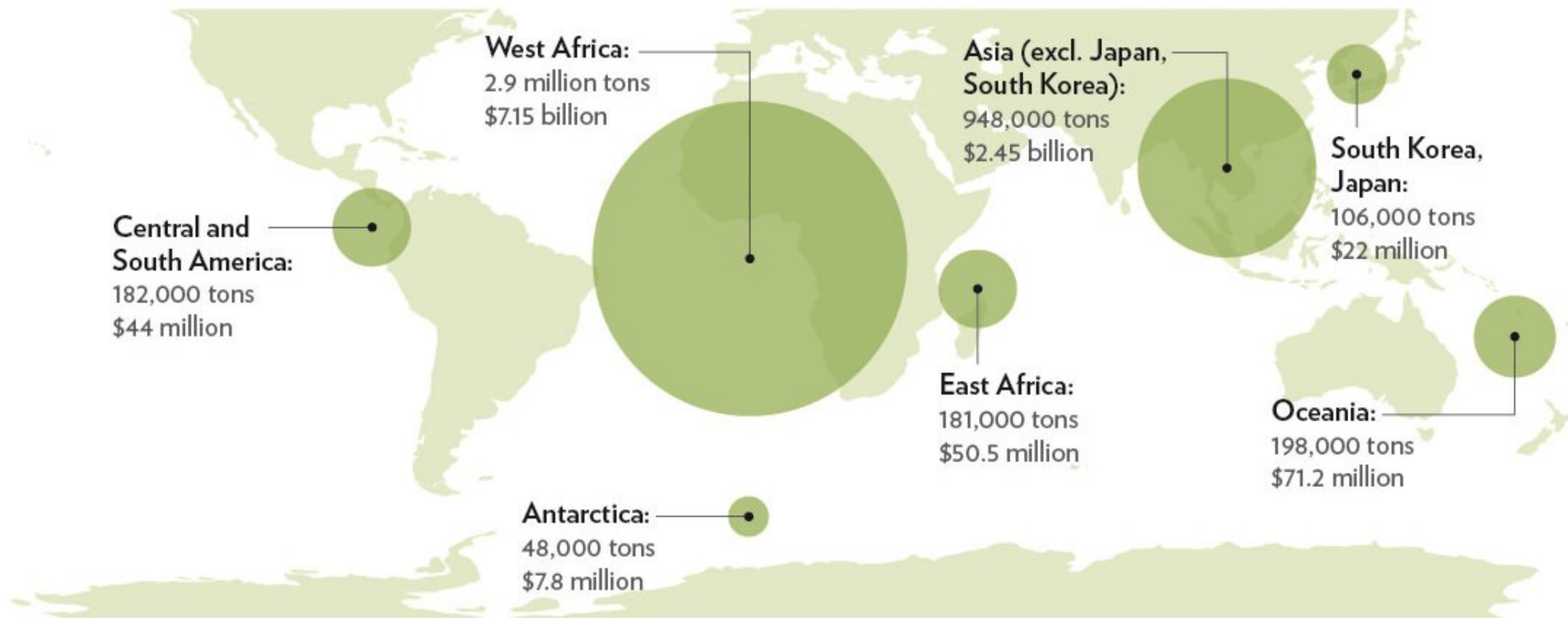
South Korea,  
Japan:  
106,000 tons  
\$22 million

Central and  
South America:  
182,000 tons  
\$44 million

East Africa:  
181,000 tons  
\$50.5 million

Oceania:  
198,000 tons  
\$71.2 million

Antarctica:  
48,000 tons  
\$7.8 million



# MAIN ACTORS



# Comparative statistics 2015

	Argentina	Brazil
Population m	42,4	205
GDP	437	1769
Defence spending m \$	5342	31954
Defence spending % GDP	0,9	1,4

# Brazilian foreign policy

- Leading power in S Atlantic
- Influence in West Africa
- Keep out or balance foreign powers



# Argentine foreign policy

- Pacific reivindication of islands
- “Legitimate and imprescriptible sovereignty”
- Claims on Antarctica

# President Macri

- Better relations with Britain
- Peace, democracy and free trade



## Common aims

- Exploit natural resources
- Protect reserves
- Keep foreign powers out

## Particular aims

- Argentina: overfishing, islands & Antarctica
- Brazil: Oils & seabed resources



# Argentine defence policy

- Military capability inexistent
- Macri bent on restoring
- No public support

# Brazilian defence policy

- Independence from foreign suppliers
- Navy as main support of Foreign Policy
- Ambitious programme



# Brazilian navy functions

- Internal security and state-building
- Maritime policing
- Diplomacy
- Deterrence

# Brazilian naval policy

- PROSUB: 4 + 1 submarines
- PROSUPER: 5 frig + 5 OPB + 1 repl.
- Refit of carrier *Sao Paulo*
- PRONAE: 2 aircraft carriers



## Public support: Brazil

- Armed forces no priority spending
- Focus on territorial development
- Demand for increased internal security
- *Amazonia Azul* campaign

# CONCLUSIONS

- Threat not immediate
- Brazil regional power
- UNCLOS at stake