

The EU and international ocean governance

Experience and commitment towards sustainable and multilateral management



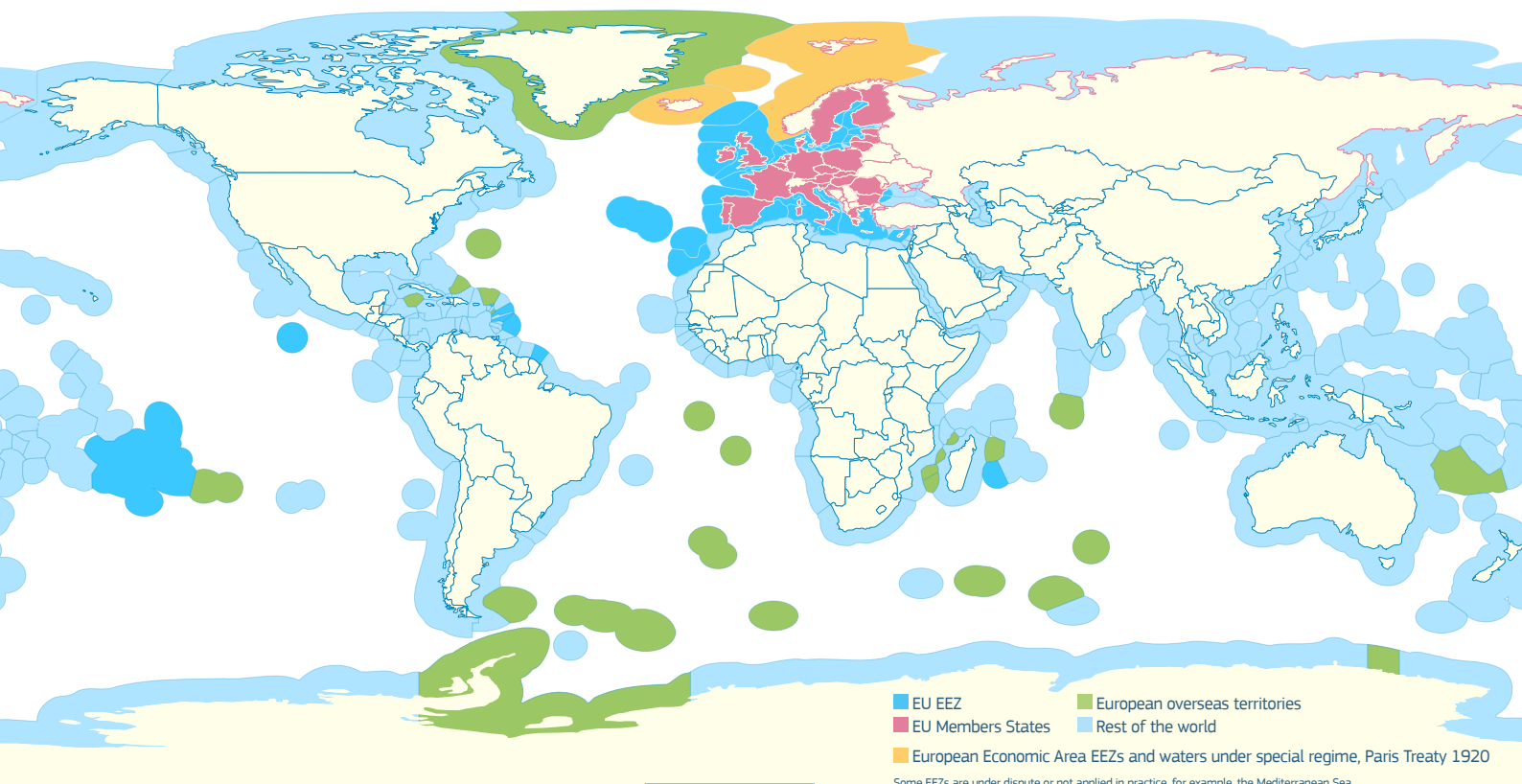
The EU depends on clean, safe and secure oceans, relying on the seas for trade, energy, seafood, telecommunications, tourism and territorial cohesion.

The EU embodies a firm belief in, and commitment towards, improving international governance and multilateral management.

The EU's Integrated Maritime Policy is a benchmarking tool to manage all marine and maritime issues in a holistic and comprehensive way, across borders and sectors throughout the whole maritime domain.

The EU's Blue Growth strategy is a firm political programme to unleash growth based on the sustainable management of marine and maritime resources. The EU has the will and the capacity to lead the change together with other partners towards improved Ocean Governance and inclusive Blue Growth on a global level.

EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE (EEZs)

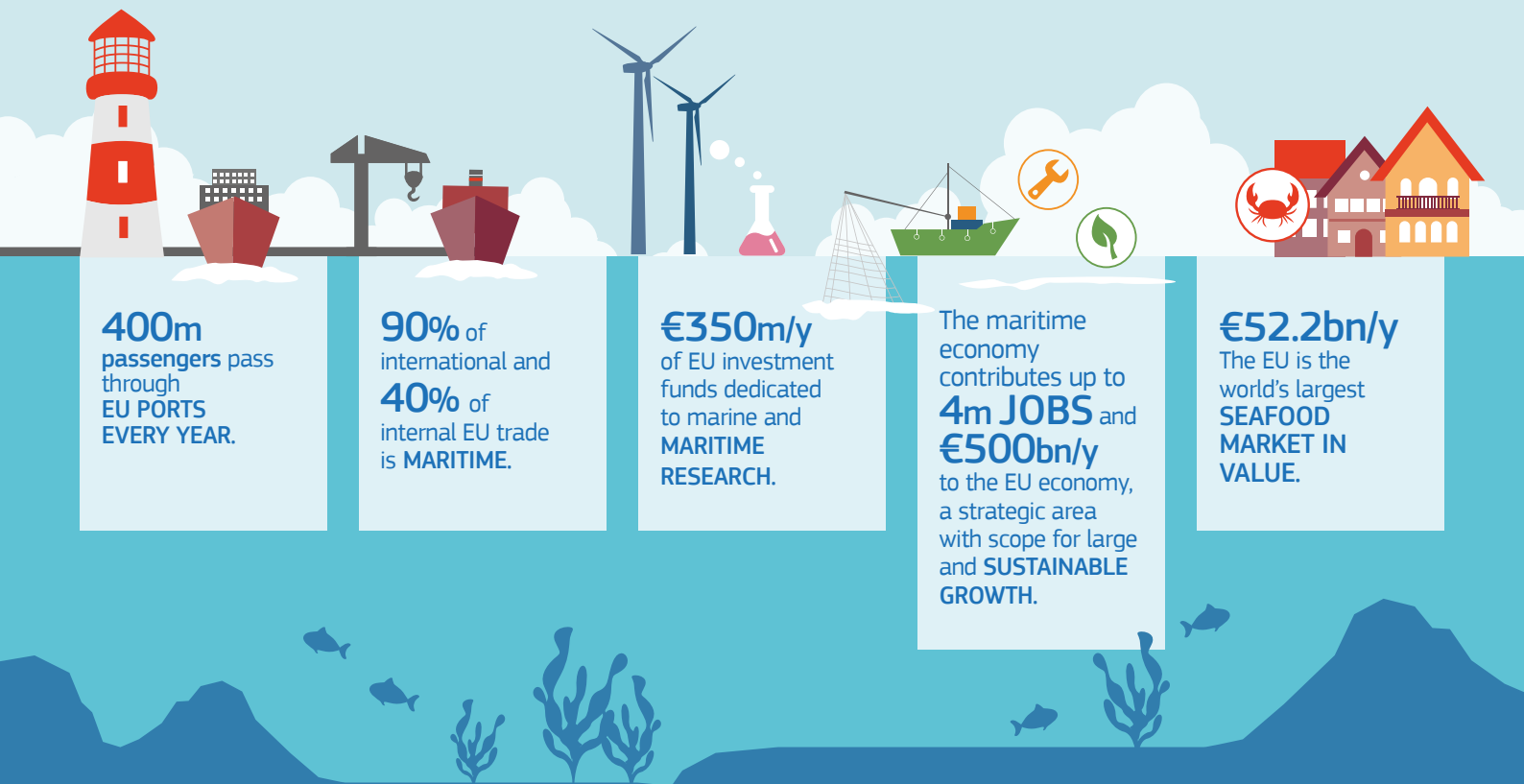


Some EEZs are under dispute or not applied in practice, for example, the Mediterranean Sea.

20m km²
is the total area of the combined
Exclusive Economic Zone of the EU Member States.
This marine territory is around 380% larger than its land counterpart, and is the world's largest.



The EU has
the world's
largest EEZ.



Seas and oceans around the globe show increasing signs of **ecological deterioration** and an alarming occurrence of **illegal and damaging activities**.

This affects everybody, everywhere, because it damages the capacity of marine systems to provide economic, social and environmental services that are fundamental for developed and developing nations alike.

The **EU** is fully committed to reversing this situation and improving **collaborative, sustainable and more efficient ocean governance** on a local and global scale, playing a leading role in international and multilateral fora.

Leading EU contributions in this context include the Integrated Maritime Policy, the reformed Common Fisheries Policy, and the EU's partnerships for cooperative development around the world.

The EU is determined to contribute with political leadership and scientific knowledge, international cooperation, and funding instruments towards more sustainable and effective international ocean governance, following the same principles at home and abroad.
