



## CZM Objects and Domains

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CZM OBJECTS AND DOMAINS, pursuant to the 1973 EU Council Resolution

Land degradation and soil erosion are critical in coastal areas, putting direct stress on the permanence of encroached land uses. Nevertheless, such specialties of the coastal substratum do not always transpire to land management models. The in-depth problem of Coastal Zone Management, indeed, is that of the arrangement of a erosive substratum.

Nowadays the dispersal of “hierarchical levels of organization” and the lack of common structural devices in Comparative Law are provoking that existing models for coastal areas management varies highly from one to another. Indeed, at the macroscopic level, it is possible to find typologies ranging from discrete models, strictly encompassing protected coastal objects, to continuous ones enveloping multiple heterogeneous elements. However, littoral processes and natural “sediment connectivity” between coastal cells cannot be ignored and models shall be required to integrate practical “up and down scaling” devices merging these different typologies. But a sound analysis shows that behind this apparent typological heterogeneity, many common elements underlie all existing models, even if “the complexity and the large number of relevant interactions” hinder their identification.

In this presentation, this problem will be tackled resorting to the 1973 Council of Europe Resolution on the Protection of Coastal Areas. Regardless to their technical accuracy, it is rather the current dispersal of rational criterion that makes advantageous the introduction of those common sources. Proceeding to an objective review of this instrument, Coastal Zone Management underlying objects will be identified. The heterogeneity of resulting elements will cast “difficulties in linking quantitative and qualitative” knowledge, and for this reason a previous ordering effort into homogeneous dimensions will be carried out. Next, a similar objective review to this instrument will be done to spaces that encompass the harvested objects. Finally, an integrated analysis of CZM objects and spaces will clarify the definition of consistent coastal domains, highlighting those elements that so far are well encompassed and those other that still incorrectly fit in existing models. The boundaries of fundamental coastal natural domains will also arise.