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New FIG Publication

The new FIG Publication No. 59, *International Boundary Making*, elaborates on the boundary-making process. Its purpose is to propose a comprehensive methodology for establishing a boundary-making process between two states that wish to constructively and fairly settle their international boundary together. It begins with preparations for a boundary agreement and continues with the boundary delimitation, the boundary demarcation, boundary documentation and boundary maintenance, including considerations regarding long-term boundary maintenance and administration.

This publication provides comprehensive documentation and guidance on a specialist topic of surveying that has been lacking up until now. It is a very good reference publication for all those involved or interested in international boundaries and fills a gap both in surveying and international boundary literature.

The methodological part includes a model for initiating a boundary-making process, an order of precedence of boundary delimitations, and a model for the boundary chapter in a peace/boundary agreement.

Practical cases of delimitation of international boundaries are then presented. Many lessons can be learned from these diverse cases regarding disputes and regarding the models and mechanisms used for dealing with the issues. The publication focuses on land boundaries between states. The presented practical cases refer to such boundaries, including the

following international boundaries: the Israel-Jordan boundary; the Iraq-Kuwait boundary; the Ethiopia-Eritrea boundary; the Cameroon-Nigeria boundary; the Sudan-Abeyei (today South Sudan) boundary; and the Nepal-China and Nepal-India boundaries. From the presented problems, one can also learn about the various considerations that should be taken when preparing an international boundary for long-term maintenance and administration, in order to achieve stability along the boundary line.

This FIG publication may serve as a guide to decision-makers, legal advisors and geospatial experts dealing with international boundaries. It may help geopolitical experts and anyone who wants to learn more about the subject of international boundary making.

This FIG publication has been prepared by senior practical professionals with expertise in boundary delimitation. Three of them served as director generals of national surveying and mapping organisations (William Robertson in New Zealand, Dr Haim Srebro in Israel and Buddhi Shrestha in Nepal) and one served as head of the UN Cartographic Section (Miklos Pinther).

FIG extends its gratitude to the United Nations Cartographic Section for its contribution to this publication, in particular the peer review carried out by Ms Ayako Kagawa, Mr Ghassan Mkhaimer and Mr Kyoung-Soo Eom, and to the New Zealand Institution of Surveyors for its valuable assistance, including among other things supporting the printing of the publication. It is hoped that this publication will

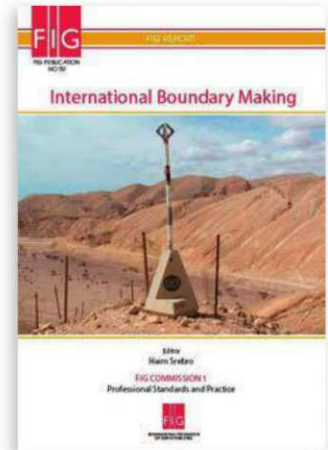


FIG Publication No. 59, International Boundary Making.

enhance information and the sharing of methodological knowledge and practices regarding the delimitation of international boundaries and will help to promote peace throughout the world.

FIG Congress 2014 – still possible to register at early-bird rate

Do not miss the FIG Congress 2014 from 16-21 June 2014 in Malaysia. Register now for this outstanding event and please note that the early-bird registration closes on 27 February. For more information visit the FIG website. ◀

MORE INFORMATION

www.fig.net/pub/figpub/pub59/figpub59.htm
www.fig.net/fig2014