Appendix (to be available online)

1. Terms used for the estimation of the seeded topic models

2. Seeded topic models

3. Regression models with interaction effects

1. Terms used for the estimation of the seeded topic models

Table A1: Key terms used for the estimation of the seeded topic models

Frequency	Biodiversity	Climate change	Fisheries	Pollution
1	biodiversity	climate	fish stocks	pollution
2	biological diversity	acidification	sustainable fisheries	land-based
3	species	sea-level	fisheries management	waste
4	living resources	carbon	illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing	oil
5	living marine resources	warming	IUU	nuclear
6	coral	greenhouse	tuna	radioactive
7	genetic resources	adaptation	catch	debris
8	marine protected areas	temperatures	fishing practices	plastic
9	reefs	mitigation	RFMOs	Global Programme of Action
10	habitats	temperature	overfishing	hazardous
11	marine areas	extreme weather	drift-net fishing	atomic
12	BBNJ		trawling	plastics
13			by-catch	dumping
14			discards	wastes

Note: These terms were selected on the basis of their frequency in the statements made in UNGA annual reviews between 1993 and 2020 (the order of the terms reflects their exact frequency in the statements).

2. Seeded topic models

The following tables show the topics contained in the estimated topic models. For each topic, a table displays 40 words that have the highest probability of association with the respective topic (the words are ordered by their probability). The words in bold are those that signify the given topic.

Table A2: Seeded topic models (1993-2009)

1. Pollution	2. Fisheries	3. Biodiversity	4. Climate	5. Unclear topic I.
marine	**fisheries**	marine	world	process
developing	**fishing**	international	us	general
countries	**fish_stocks**	maritime	ocean	assembly
states	**conservation**	security	many	issues
development	states	piracy	new	also
oceans	**management**	safety	**change**	one
environment	agreement	navigation	**climate**	meeting
sustainable	oceans	**areas**	resources	must
pollution	united	**beyond**	can	informal
also	year	measures	challenges	particular
island	draft	also	impact	time
protection	resolution	ships	however	take
regional	regional	efforts	must	within
coastal	organizations	**biodiversity**	potential	many
small	measures	including	one	like
integrated	**sustainable**	**environment**	given	need
programme	nations	armed	recent	group
need	resolutions	**ecosystems**	possible	report
support	high	issue	challenge	years
coordination	**highly**	robbery	per	can
consultative	pacific	**national**	major	state
assistance	process	well	problems	delegations
resources	**migratory**	cooperation	practices	opportunity
community	issues	imo	task	two
region	ensure	use	find	fact
area	organization	relevant	forward	provides
activities	important	coastal	years	aspects
particularly	action	within	developed	already
caribbean	implementation	assessment	role	last
member	consultative	straits	much	debate
scientific	seas	**biological_diversity**	now	place
continue	marine	capacitybuilding	critical	jurisdiction
ocean	**straddling**	framework	people	today
action	work	state	collective	continue
agenda	**fisheries_management**	**protect**	addressing	work
therefore	pleased	like	difficult	areas
global	including	passage	yet	statement
technology	forward	**jurisdiction**	still	ambassador
fund	**sustainable_fisheries**	**living_marine_ resources**	able	including
capacity	global	working	experience	manner

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Table A2: Seeded topic models (1993-2009) - cont.

6. UNCLOS institutions	7. Unclear topic II.	8. Unclear topic III.	9. Disputes and security	10. Resources
states	draft	sea	international	convention
commission	law	law	sea	agreement
sea	resolution	international	countries	part
international	sea	convention	**south**	nations
parties	convention	nations	maritime	force
law	states	oceans	**chinese**	law
tribunal	provisions	cooperation	**viet**	**seabed**
authority	united	resources	**nam**	conference
continental	nations	seas	region	united
convention	international	united	**disputes**	provisions
shelf	like	development	community	new
work	delegation	delegation	rights	entry
limits	paragraph	legal	government	universal
affairs	however	ocean	declaration	implementation
year	item	economic	nations	international
report	contained	importance	**peaceful**	**xi**
secretarygeneral	general	countries	conduct	adoption
made	agenda	efforts	treaty	community
seabed	make	order	country	secretarygeneral
important	adopted	role	negotiations	sea
meeting	relating	implementation	**territorial**	**common**
division	made	great	also	consultations
session	based	marine	**delimitation**	now
note	document	maritime	**asean**	regime
number	assembly	national	made	**heritage**
also	certain	regard	norms	participation
institutions	regard	government	**peace**	**mankind**
relating	upon	important	**sovereignty**	relating
assembly	national	among	islands	legal
established	wishes	framework	situation	since
united	efforts	country	**exclusive**	possible
ocean	able	environment	concerned	interests
importance	entitled	necessary	**security**	years
comprehensive	position	use	**zones**	**authority**
general	can	protection	landlocked	**mining**
rules	become	also	states	instrument
information	remain	effective	principles	november
members	system	reports	**stability**	future
may	parties	area	transit	well
respect	us	well	two	ratification
	case		delegation	

Table A3: Seeded topic models (2010-2020)

1. Pollution	2. Fisheries	3. Biodiversity	4. Climate	5. Disputes and Security I.
well	resolution	marine	ocean	international
also	states	**sustainable**	**climate**	maritime
member	agreement	oceans	development	sea
important	**fish_stocks**	use	oceans	states
coastal	**management**	resources	developing	convention
regional	**fisheries**	international	sustainable	**commission**
part	**conservation**	seas	island	law
session	**sustainable_fisheries**	must	**change**	**seabed**
agreement	resolutions	conservation	small	**authority**
scientific	**fishing**	importance	pacific	countries
one	measures	**biodiversity**	nations	**shelf**
pollution	implementation	cooperation	action	**continental**
area	convention	efforts	economic	**piracy**
new	law	**biological_diversity**	fisheries	parties
like	**highly**	**protection**	**acidification**	**limits**
adoption	like	order	world	**tribunal**
protect	regard	national	united	cooperation
concern	including	security	conference	developing
human	adopted	within	need	**security**
trade	nations	global	management	state
necessary	united	call	impacts	including
research	food	made	effects	**peace**
done	general	like	fishing	area
organization	assembly	committed	ensure	**order**
today	recommendations	**species**	health	seas
organizations	relating	take	region	**legal**
measures	**fisheries_management**	challenges	us	efforts
focus	relevant	legally	critical	**disputes**
since	organizations	**environmental**	goal	relevant
existing	regional	**environment**	economy	work
programme	**migratory**	regard	per	**safety**
particularly	**ecosystems**	therefore	future	role
yet	review	goals	cent	**settlement**
energy	**illegal_unreported_and_unregulated_fishing**	**ecosystems**	sids	exploration
political	**straddling**	achieve	countries	affairs
information	marine	change	many	management
undertaken	consensus	contribute	agenda	ensure
initiatives	therefore	context	look	activities
develop	ensure	illegal	support	support
fish	continental	strengthen	forward	ships

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Table A3: Seeded topic models (2010-2020) - cont.

6. Disputes and Security II.	7. Unclear topic I.	8. Resources	9. Unclear topic II.	10. BBNJ treaty
sea	development	convention	law	draft
rights	international	states	sea	work
law	oceans	**resources**	convention	sea
international	community	countries	nations	year
unclos	implementation	years	united	resolution
jurisdiction	first	world	unclos	also
must	environment	today	oceans	marine
south	meeting	**common**	international	law
economic	continue	one	legal	oceans
tribunal	activities	therefore	development	united
exclusive	number	like	delegation	states
maritime	held	**humankind**	country	**beyond**
article	report	however	provisions	ocean
assembly	world	**heritage**	seas	process
zone	appreciation	**principle**	national	**areas**
coastal	consultations	challenges	sustainable	issues
shelf	secretarygeneral	high	framework	nations
states	view	way	also	**jurisdiction**
convention	three	contribution	party	assembly
sovereignty	continues	become	resources	conference
respect	attention	ambassador	state	including
can	actively	allow	future	general
peaceful	together	time	related	important
disputes	remains	part	principles	**national**
one	many	parties	republic	**working**
sovereign	past	based	activities	welcome

rules
established
dispute
territorial
declaration
obligations
general
statement
zones
vessels
court
application
pv
balance

june
concerned
regular
delegations
promote
two
express
hoc
time
bodies
trust
fund
governance
president
caribbean
last

indeed
benefit
special
participation
always
right
general
even
upon
still
provide
adopted
take
achieved

instrument
universal
agenda
item
instruments
relating
various
set
negotiations
regime
economic
adoption
december
established
commitment

thank
group
informal
sustainable
support
issue
pleased
use
division
particular
importance
framework
resolutions
global

3. Regression models with interaction effects

The tables report only the models in which both the main factor and its interaction effect are statistically significant (or close to being significant at the 0.1 level).

Table A4: Regression models with interaction effects, 1993-2009

	Climate	Fisheries	Fisheries	Pollution	Pollution
Marine territory	-0.127	0.663**	0.614**	-0.083	-0.163
	(0.083)	(0.198)	(0.193)	(0.146)	(0.146)
Marine/land territory	1.075***	0.474	0.426	1.103**	1.534***
	(0.196)	(0.435)	(0.435)	(0.326)	(0.365)
Development	-0.274	0.660	0.365	-0.999'	-1.017'
	(0.301)	(0.720)	(0.697)	(0.512)	(0.527)
Democracy	0.267	0.873'	0.975'	0.333	0.222
	(0.212)	(0.494)	(0.491)	(0.365)	(0.373)
Multilateralism	-0.009	-0.061*	-0.053*	-0.022	-0.023
	(0.009)	(0.023)	(0.022)	(0.016)	(0.017)
Statements	0.000	0.000**	0.000***	-0.000	0.000
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Marine territory*Development		0.224*			
		(0.102)			
Marine territory*Democracy			0.225*		
			(0.093)		
Marine/land territory*Development				0.661**	
				(0.235)	
Marine/land territory*Democracy	-0.181*				
	(0.084)				
Marine/land territory*Multilateralism					0.011
					(0.008)
Constant	5.850***	8.709***	8.643***	7.603***	8.115***
	(0.294)	(0.656)	(0.655)	(0.494)	(0.498)
Observations	106	106	106	106	106
R2	0.311	0.335	0.342	0.271	0.229

Note: 'p<0.1; *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001

Table A5: Regression models with interaction effects, 2010-2020

	Climate	Fisheries
Marine territory	-0.051 (0.282)	0.603* (0.266)
Marine/land territory	1.620** (0.585)	-0.505 (0.434)
Development	-0.231 (0.899)	0.722 (0.861)
Democracy	0.248 (0.587)	0.498 (0.535)
Multilateralism	-0.069* (0.032)	-0.027 (0.029)
Statements	-0.000 (0.000)	0.000** (0.000)
Marine territory*Development		0.235 (0.160)
Marine/land territory*Multilateralism	-0.031* (0.013)	
Constant	9.141 (0.831)	7.023*** (0.740)
Observations	82	82
R2	0.441	0.175

Note: 'p<0.1; *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001