A Global Listing of Sub-National Island Jurisdictions

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To illustrate their geographic dispersion and political diversity, this chapter presents readers with a map and a selected list of Sub-National Island Jurisdictions (SNIJs) around the world. Further information on the islands in the list can be found in the online SNIJ database available from the University of Prince Edward Island, Canada. This online research tool has provided a major resource for the papers presented in *"Pulling Strings"* and deserves a few words by way of background.

During 2004, very significant research activity of unprecedented international scope was unleashed within the Arts Faculty at the University of Prince Edward Island, made possible by the receipt of a generous Standard Research Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). Over the following 18 months during three separate work terms, a dozen or more graduate students, primarily from the fledgling Master of Arts Program in Island Studies, were tasked to develop factual dossiers on each SNIJ. The online database, an important component in the educational process as well as an innovative tool for comparative islands research, was conceived by Godfrey Baldacchino, Canada Research Chair in Island Studies, who led the "Jurisdiction Project". The rationale behind this ambitious project is outlined in more detail in the Baldacchino chapter, "Prince Edward Island as a Sub-National Island Jurisdiction". The articles within this book provide a small glimpse of the valuable outcomes that such research can provide to Prince Edward Island (PEI) and other SNIJs.

Initially, candidates for the database consisted of post-colonial "overseas territories", such as British Virgin Islands or French Polynesia, places which were known to exhibit political competence and capacity for local executive governance beyond simply that of a commune, ward, county or municipality with delegated administrative powers. Added later were provinces and units of federal states which were also islands *in toto*, mainly islands, on islands, or archipelagos. Tasmania in Australia, Hawaii in

the United States, or PEI in Canada come to mind. The number of SNIJs grew as the lead researchers became aware of new instances and varieties of asymmetric power-sharing arrangements. No sufficient rationale could be found for capping island size, either by geography or population, and so only unpopulated sub-national island territories were excluded.

Primary data on a wide range of political, economic, social and demographic variables were either drawn from reliable contacts within the jurisdictions or expert resource persons who were knowledgeable about them. Such data was corroborated where possible by secondary data gleaned from other reliable sources (like news agencies and bureaus of statistics) via web-based search engines. The resulting dossiers are available in the public domain as research tools, and the database will continue to develop as offers for their revision and updating are incorporated.

The list of SNIJs in this chapter has 119 entries which was the number available when the results of the study were first presented to the public at a symposium in Charlottetown, PEI on June 8, 2007. This list is intended to be both illustrative and inclusive, reflecting selected information from the dynamic and expanding SNIJ database now available through the Island Studies website at www.islandstudies.ca. SNIJs exhibit a broad range of jurisdictional capacities, from extremely limited to those exhibiting full sovereignty in everything but name. The table also includes some island territories which have been difficult to classify. Although they may be *de jure* municipalities or equivalent forms of local government, they exhibit some *de facto* capacity for self-governing autonomy, even if only in a single dimension. For example, the Norwegian archipelago of Lofoten, made up of six municipalities within a county, has been declared a petroleum-free zone due to the lobbying efforts of a resident non-governmental organization. Another example is Macquarie Island, part of Huon Municipality in the State of Tasmania, Australia, but declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and run by scientists.

In the table which follows, SNIJs are arranged by the ocean or sea region in which they are situated. Within each region, they are listed by name in English followed by a local or common name where applicable. Additional columns provide: (a) a very brief description of the nature of the autonomy, (b) a ballpark estimate of recent population size, and (c) the Associated Power or Federation. No attempt has been made to define the quality or extent of autonomy that is enjoyed by each jurisdiction.

A three-panel map of the world locating all of the listed SNIJs is next, followed by the SNIJ table.

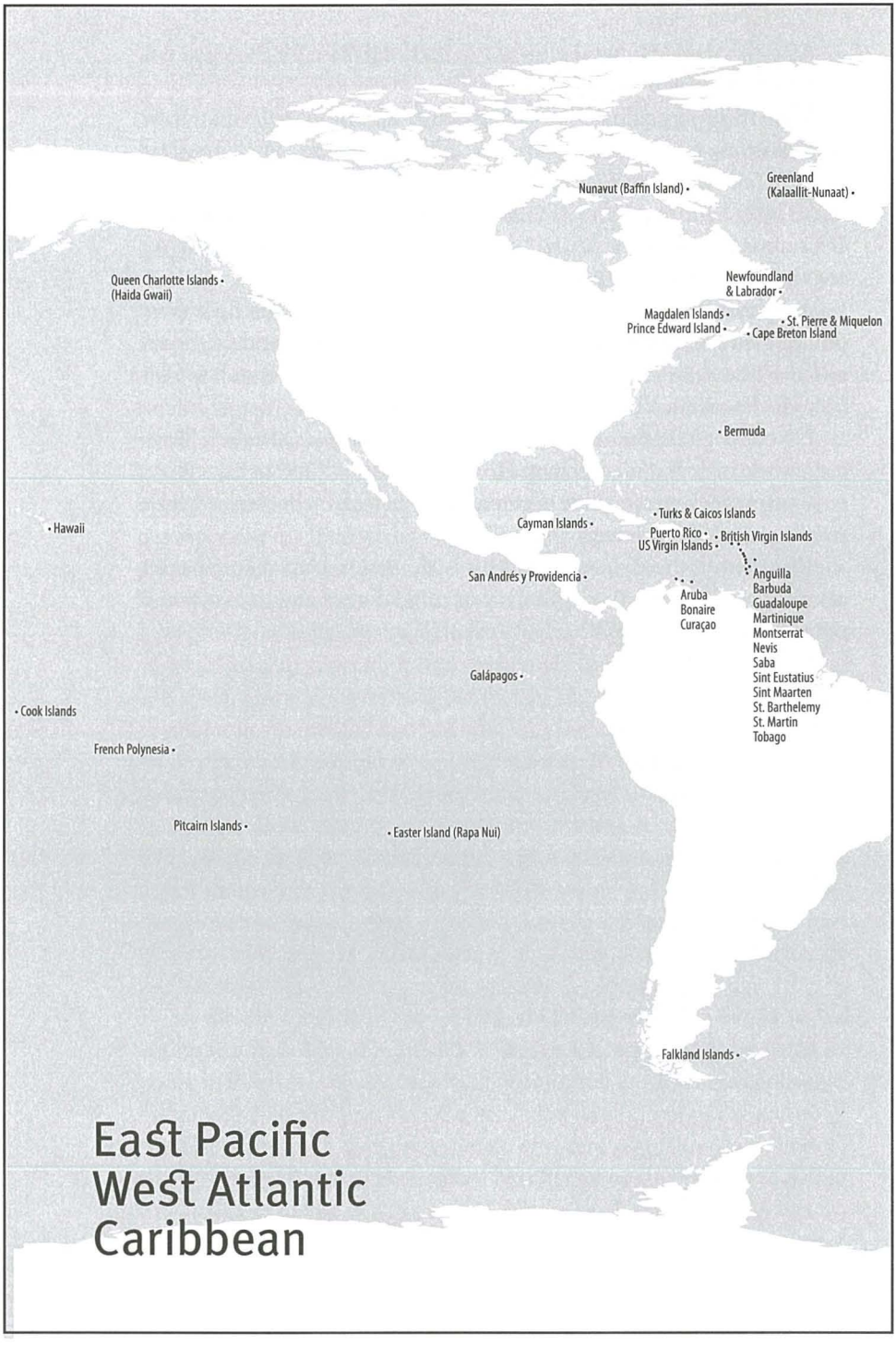
Effective date of compilation of the SNIJ database for the purposes of this manuscript is June 8, 2007.

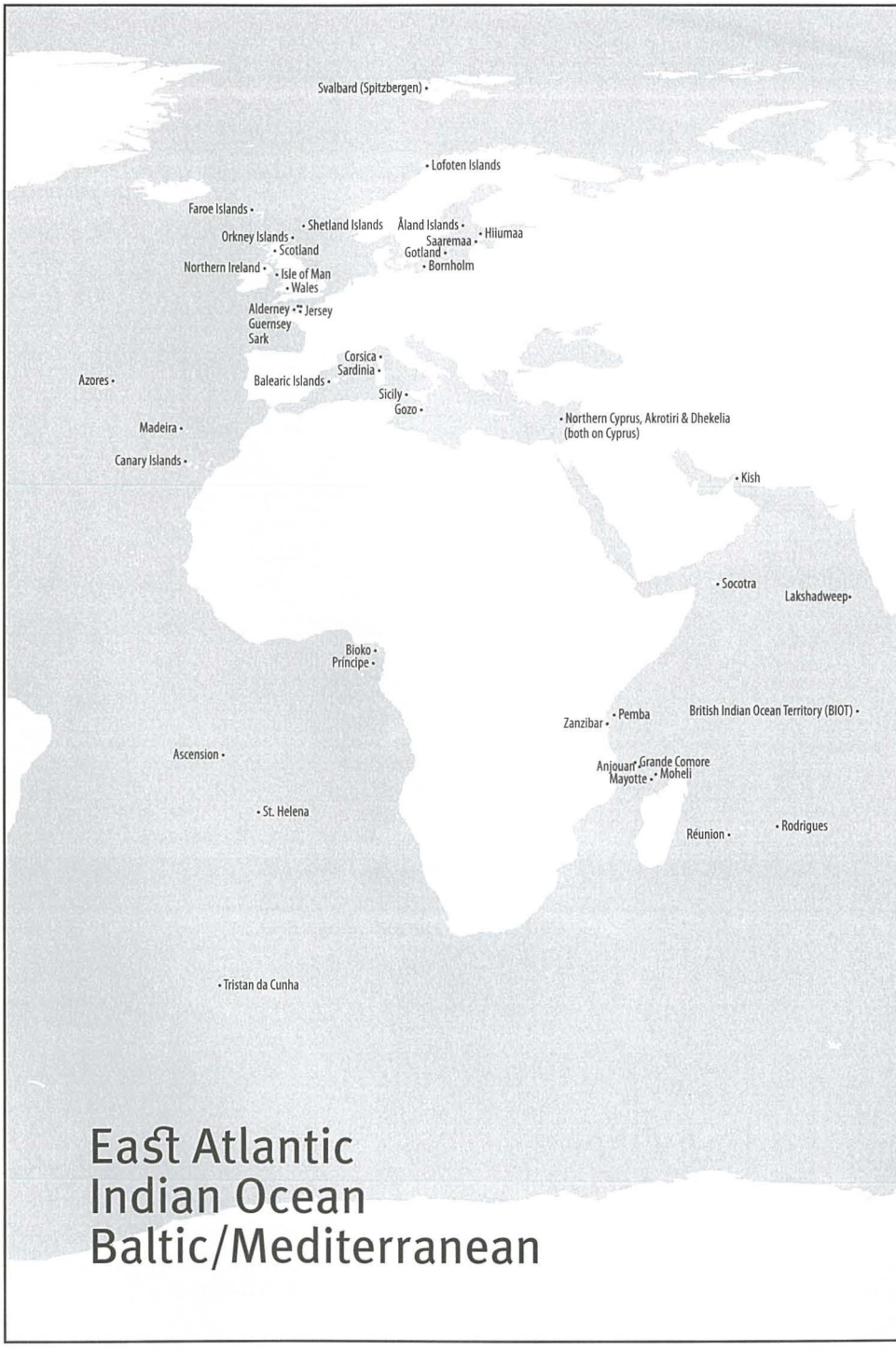
The following graduate student assistants are acknowledged for their contributions towards populating the SNIJ Database. They are Faiz Ahmed, Jean-Louis Arsenault, Ryan Boulter, Douglas Deacon, Joy Elliott, Laura Fanning, Heather Gushue, Lin Ma, Margaret Mizzi, Ryan O'Connor, Janice Pettit, Ariana Salvo and Karen Smith. Special thanks are also expressed to Kent Villard for technical assistance.

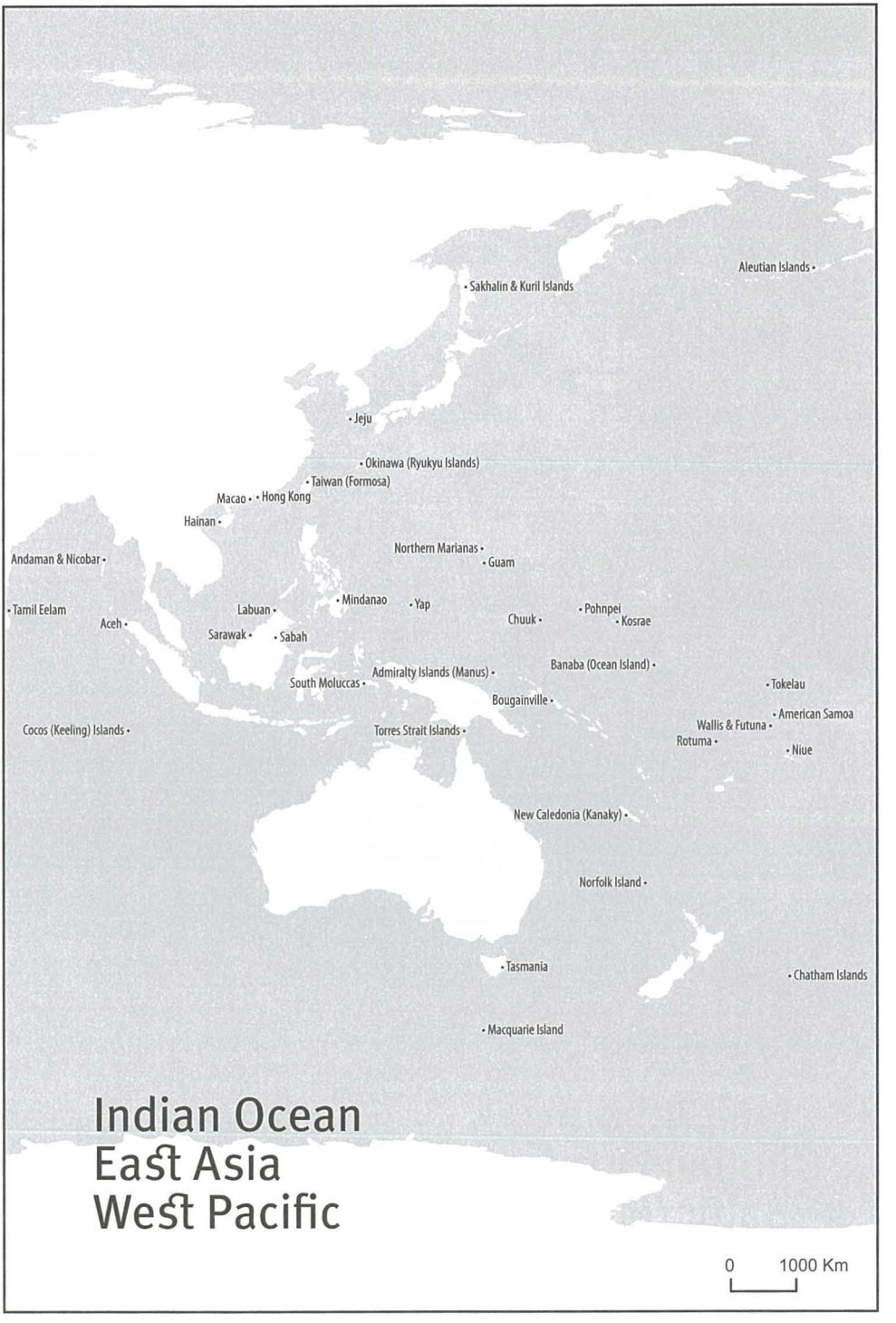
Acknowledgement is particularly made to the *World FactBook* (various editions) at www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/ and the Island Jurisdictions website moderated by attorney-at-law Dan MacMeekin at www.macmeekin.com.

No copyright to the reproduced SNIJ information is asserted. Moreover, while information is believed to be accurate, neither such accuracy nor currency of information is guaranteed, especially because circumstances can and do change.

Inclusion in this dynamic SNIJ list is also not to be construed as an act of acknowledging the legitimacy or otherwise of any jurisdictional powers, *de jure* or *de facto*.


Nunavut (Baffin Island)
Greenland (Kalaallit-Nunaat)
Queen Charlotte Islands (Haida Gwaii)
Newfoundland & Labrador
Magdalen Islands
Prince Edward Island
St. Pierre & Miquelon
Cape Breton Island
Bermuda
Turks & Caicos Islands
Hawaii
Cayman Islands
Puerto Rico
US Virgin Islands
British Virgin Islands
San Andrés y Providencia
Aruba
Bonaire
Curaçao
Anguilla
Barbuda
Guadaloupe
Martinique
Montserrat
Nevis
Saba
Sint Eustatius
Sint Maarten
St. Barthelemy
St. Martin
Tobago
Galápagos
Cook Islands
French Polynesia
Pitcairn Islands
Easter Island (Rapa Nui)
Falkland Islands
East Pacific
West Atlantic
Caribbean


Svalbard (Spitzbergen)
Lofoten Islands
Faroe Islands
Shetland Islands
Åland Islands
Hiiumaa
Orkney Islands
Saaremaa
Scotland
Gotland
Northern Ireland
Bornholm
Isle of Man
Wales
Alderney
Jersey
Guernsey
Sark
Corsica
Sardinia
Azores
Balearic Islands
Sicily
Gozo
Northern Cyprus, Akrotiri & Dhekelia
(both on Cyprus)
Madeira
Canary Islands
Kish
Socotra
Lakshadweep
Bioko
Principe
Pemba
British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)
Zanzibar
Ascension
Anjouan
Grande Comore
Mayotte
Moheli
St. Helena
Réunion
Rodrigues
Tristan da Cunha
East Atlantic
Indian Ocean
Baltic/Mediterranean


Aleutian Islands
Sakhalin & Kuril Islands
Jeju
Okinawa (Ryukyu Islands)
Taiwan (Formosa)
Macao
Hong Kong
Hainan
Northern Marianas
Guam
Andaman & Nicobar
Tamil Eelam
Aceh
Labuan
Mindanao
Yap
Pohnpei
Chuuk
Kosrae
Sarawak
Sabah
Banaba (Ocean Island)
Admiralty Islands (Manus)
South Moluccas
Tokelau
Bougainville
American Samoa
Cocos (Keeling) Islands
Torres Strait Islands
Wallis & Futuna
Rotuma
Niue
New Caledonia (Kanaky)
Norfolk Island
Tasmania
Chatham Islands
Macquarie Island
Indian Ocean
East Asia
West Pacific
0
1000 Km

Sub-National Island Jurisdictions (SNIJs)

SNIJ	Description	Population	Associated Power
South Pacific			
Admiralty Islands (Manus)	Province (2 representatives to PNG parliament)	32,800	Papua New Guinea
American Samoa	Territory admin by US Office of Insular Affairs	57,900	USA
Banaba/Ocean Island	Municipal administration by Rabi Council of Leaders and Elders on Rabi in Fiji	300 + 5,000 in Rabi	Kiribati
Bougainville (North Solomons)	Autonomous Province (4 reps to PNG parliament) in transition (Peace Treaty 2001)	185,000	Papua New Guinea
Chatham Islands	Local Council	750	New Zealand
Chuuk (Truk)	Island state of FSM, a sovereign fed state in free association with US	53,600	Fed. States of Micronesia
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Territory (unicameral Shire Council, 7 seats)	600	Australia
Cook Islands	Associated state in free association with NZ	21,200	New Zealand
Easter Island (Rapa Nui)	First governor (1984); Council of Elders (1988); World Heritage Site (1996)	3,500	Chile
French Polynesia (Tahiti, Society Is.)	Overseas Collectivity (5 admin divisions, 130 islands); own President, Legislative Assembly	259,800	France, EU
Galápagos	Province of Republic; World Heritage Site	17,000	Ecuador
Kosrae	Island state of FSM, a sovereign fed state in free association with US	7,700	Fed. States of Micronesia
Macquarie Island	UNESCO World Heritage Site; part of Huon Municipality, State of Tasmania	30	Australia
New Caledonia (Kanaki, Kanaky)	"Sui generis collectivity" (overseas territory): 3 prov (incl autonomous Kanak region)	213,700	France, EU
Niue	Self-governing in free association with NZ at request of Niue	2,150	New Zealand
Norfolk Island	Territory with Commonwealth responsibilities administered by Australia	2,100	Australia
Pitcairn Islands	United Kingdom Overseas Territory, (local government Council, 10 seats)	46	UK, EU
Pohnpei	Island state of FSM, a sovereign fed state in free association with US	34,500	Fed. States of Micronesia
Rotuma	Administered by district officer; Rotuma Council	2,600	Fiji
Tasmania	State within federal Commonwealth	456,700	Australia
Tokelau	Self-administered territory moving towards free association	1,400	New Zealand
Torres Strait Islands	Torres Strait Regional Authority, admin by Queensland for 18 local and island councils	8,100	Australia
Wallis and Futuna	Territorial Collectivity; two island groups, 3 traditional chiefdoms; Territorial Council & President	15,500	France, EU
Yap	Island state of FSM, a sovereign fed state in free association with US	11,200	Fed. States of Micronesia

SNIJ	Description	Population	Associated Power
East Asia/North Pacific/South Asia			
Aleutians	Unorganized borough of Alaska; US military presence; natural resources administered by US govt.	8,200	USA
Guam	Territory admin by US Office of Insular Affairs	166,100	USA
Hainan	Province	8,180,000	China
Hawaii	State; homeland compact with US govt	1,210,000	USA
Hong Kong	Special Administrative Region, semi-autonomous	6,855,000	China
Jeju (Cheju-do)	Special self-governing province	543,000	South Korea
Labuan	Intl Offshore Finance Centre; Federal Territory admin by fed govt	78,000	Malaysia
Macao	Special Administrative Region, semi-autonomous	520,400	China
Mindanao (Muslim)	6 Provinces in Mindanao & Sulu Archipelago; autonomous region, economically dependent	2,803,800	Philippines
Northern Marianas	Self-governing Commonwealth in political union with US	78,300	USA
Okinawa (Ryukyu Islands)	Prefectures (Sakashima Islands/Okinawa Islands/Amami Islands)	1,292,000	Japan (US military base)
Queen Charlotte Is. (Haida Gwaii)	Council of Haida Nation (CHN) to protect, assert Aboriginal Title and land claims	5,000	British Columbia, Canada
Sabah (North Borneo)	State (on Borneo, divided island)	1,760,000	Malaysia
Sarawak (North Kalimantan)	State (on Borneo, divided island)	1,846,000	Malaysia
Sakhalin & Kurile Islands	Part of Sakhalin Regional Duma	608,000	Russian Federation
South Moluccas (Maluku)	Province; militant separatist movement since 1999	1,313,000	Indonesia
Taiwan (Formosa)	Disputed: declared Republic of China; claimed by People's Republic of China	21,336,000	independent; unrecognized
Tamil Eelam	Disputed and unrecognized state; Tamil separatist movement in north and eastern Sri Lanka	1,871,500	Sri Lanka
East Atlantic / Mediterranean			
Azores	Autonomous Region, regional legislative assembly	232,000	Portugal, EU
Akrotiri & Dhekelia	Two military bases on Cyprus; admin by UK Base Commander	3,500 mil/ 5,000 civil.	UK, EU
Balearic Islands	Autonomous Province; 4 Island Councils: Majorca, Minorca, Ibiza, Formentera	842,000	Spain, EU
Bioko	Two Provinces (also known as Eri, Fernando Poo)	101,000	Equatorial Guinea
Canary Islands	Autonomous Region	1,643,000	Spain, EU
Gozo	Ministry for Gozo	23,800	Malta, EU
Madeira	Autonomous Region	284,000	Portugal, EU

SNIJ	Description	Population	Associated Power
Northern Cyprus (Turkish Republic of)	Democratic secular republic with executive, legislative and judicial branches of govt; state recognized only by Turkey	264,200	Turkey
Príncipe	Autonomous Province	5,400	São Tomé y Príncipe
Sardinia	Autonomous Region - cultural (4 provinces) (Sard language legalized in 1991)	1,677,000	Italy, EU
Sicily	Autonomous Region - cultural (9 provinces)	5,151,000	Italy, EU
Indian Ocean			
Andaman & Nicobar	Union Territory admin by national government	356,200	India
Anjouan (Ndzuwani)	Island sub-jurisdiction within union (federation); constitution under development	189,000	Comoros
British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)	United Kingdom Overseas Territory; (inhabitants expelled); Diego Garcia leased to US military	1,500 mil/ 2,000 civil.	UK, EU
Grande Comore (Ngazidja)	Island sub-jurisdiction within union (federation); constitution under development	234,000	Comoros
Kish	Kish Free Zone Organization, a company with an autonomous legal status	20,000	Iran
Lakshadweep	Union Territory admin by national government	60,600	India
Mayotte	Territorial Collectivity; also claimed by Comoros	186,000	France, EU
Moheli (Mwali)	Island sub-jurisdiction within union (federation); constitution under development	24,000	Comoros
Pemba	Dependency of autonomous province of Zanzibar	186,000	Tanzania
Reunion	Overseas Department (site of administration for 5 islands)	766,200	France, EU
Rodrigues	Autonomous Island Region of Mauritius; agitation for full sovereignty	36,000	Mauritius
Socotra	Part of Aden Governorate (province); conservation and development program area (SCDP)	44,000	Yemen
Zanzibar (Unguja)	Autonomous province	981,800	Tanzania
Northwest Atlantic			
Cape Breton Island	Island territory within mainland Province of Federation	147,500	Nova Scotia, Canada
Magdalen Islands	Island territory within mainland Province of Federation	13,000	Quebec, Canada
Newfoundland & Labrador	Province (island and mainland territory) within Federation	505,000	Canada
Nunavut (Baffin Island)	Self-governing territory (Baffin Island and mainland); Inuit homeland	23,000	Canada
Prince Edward Island	Province within Federation	138,000	Canada
St. Pierre & Miquelon	Territorial Collectivity (2 communes)	6,100	France, EU

SNIJ	Description	Population	Associated Power
North Atlantic/Baltic (related to Scandinavia)			
Åland Islands	Autonomous Region (via international agreement)	26,200	Finland, EU
Bornholm	Regional Municipality, single-tier local government	43,000	Denmark, EU
Faroe Islands	Autonomous dependency, not in EU	46,000	Denmark
Gotland	Single-tier local government (municipality); pilot project on decentralization (1996-2002)	58,000	Sweden, EU
Greenland (Kalaallit-Nunaat)	Autonomous dependency, not in EU	56,000	Denmark
Hiiumaa	Hiiumaa County Council	11,000	Estonia, EU
Lofoten Islands	Archipelago of 6 municipalities; declared temporary petroleum-free zone (2003)	24,500	Norway
Saaremaa	Saaremaa County Council	40,000	Estonia, EU
Svalbard (Spitzbergen)	Territory admin by Norwegian Polar Dept of Ministry of Justice; governor in territory	2,750	Norway
Atlantic (related to United Kingdom)			
Alderney	Possession of the British Crown, not in UK or EU; has own legislature	2,400	Guernsey, Bailiwick of
Ascension Island	Dependency of St. Helena; has own local Council, laws	1,100	St. Helena, UKOT
Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)	United Kingdom Overseas Territory; claimed by Argentina	3,000	UK, EU
Guernsey, Bailiwick of	Crown dependencies Alderney, Guernsey, Herm, Sark; has own Parliament; not in EU	65,000	British Crown
Isle of Man (Mannin)	Crown dependency (autonomous state); not in EU but free access to European market	72,000	British Crown
Jersey, Bailiwick of	Crown dependency, largest of Channel Is.; not in EU; has own Parliament	90,500	British Crown
Northern Ireland	Home Nation	1,685,000	UK, EU
Orkney Islands	United Kingdom's smallest local authority; has Island Council; one rep in Scottish Parliament	20,000	Scotland, UK, EU
Sark	Possession of the British Crown; feudal state with hereditary seigneur; appointed legislature	600	Guernsey, Bailiwick of
Scotland	Home Nation; has own parliment	5,116,900	UK, EU
Shetland Islands	Island Council: 22 wards/councillors; two reps to devolved Scottish Parliament	43,000	Scotland, UK, EU
St. Helena	United Kingdom Overseas Territory (incl. Ascension, Tristan da Cunha as dependencies)	7,400	UK, EU
Tristan da Cunha	Dependency of St. Helena (United Kingdom Overseas Territory); has own local Council, laws	275	St. Helena, UKOT
Wales	Home Nation	2,958,600	UK, EU

SNIJ	Description	Population	Associated Power
Caribbean/West Atlantic			
Anguilla	United Kingdom Overseas Territory; internal self-government	13,000	UK, EU
Aruba	Associated State within the Kingdom of the Netherlands	71,200	Netherlands, EU
Barbuda	Special status within Antigua & Barbuda (local Council, 11 members)	1,500	Antigua & Barbuda
Bermuda	United Kingdom Overseas Territory; internal self-government	64,900	UK, EU
Bonaire	Special Municipality of the Netherlands	13,000	Netherlands, EU
British Virgin Islands	United Kingdom Overseas Territory; internal self-government	22,200	UK, EU
Cayman Islands	United Kingdom Overseas Territory; internal self-government	43,100	UK, EU
Curaçao	Associated State within the Kingdom of the Netherlands	152,000	Netherlands, EU
Guadaloupe	Overseas Department	422,500	France, EU
Martinique	Overseas Department	381,400	France, EU
Montserrat	United Kingdom Overseas Territory; extensive UK aid due to active volcano	9,200	UK, EU
Nevis	State within Federation	38,800	St. Kitts & Nevis
Puerto Rico	Self-governing Commonwealth in free association with US	3,676,000	USA
Saba	Special Municipality of the Netherlands	1,400	Netherlands, EU
San Andrés y Providencia	Department dominated by executive branch of government; disputed by Nicaragua	59,500	Colombia
Sint Eustatius (Statia)	Special Municipality of the Netherlands	2,700	Netherlands, EU
Sint Maarten	Associated State within the Kingdom of the Netherlands	42,700	Netherlands, EU
St. Barthelemy (St. Barths)	Territorial Collectivity; unicameral Territorial Council with President; laws of France	6,850	France, EU
St. Martin	Territorial Collectivity; unicameral Territorial Council with President; laws of France	33,100	France, EU
Tobago	Ward of Republic, 15-member House of Assembly	58,400	Trinidad & Tobago
Turks & Caicos Islands	United Kingdom Overseas Territory; internal self-government	20,000	UK, EU
US Virgin Islands	Territory admin by US Office of Insular Affairs	108,800	USA