PhD project: The influence of International, EU, national and regional legislation in the development of offshore wind farms. The case of Galicia (Spain)

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Summary: The main objectives of this research work are:

1. To study the many coastal and marine interest protected by international, EU, national and regional law (such as the conservation of biodiversity, the achievement of a good environmental status of the marine environment, the safety of navigation, the protection of the marine landscape, the recovery of fish stocks…) that can be affected by the installation of offshore wind farms, taking the Region of Galicia as a case of study. Then, the best locations to install such devices under a legal, meteorological and technical point of view will be mapped.

2. To study the main legal issues that are hampering the development of offshore wind farms in Spain, with a strong focus on the long and complex consent process that is necessary to obtain licenses for installing such devices. Thus, a comparative analysis of Spanish system and the various licensing procedures of the leading European Countries in terms of the development of offshore wind will be carried out and proposals for streamlining Spanish licensing procedures will be elaborated.