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**cover:** Northeast-looking view of the Strait of Gibraltar from space, with the Iberian Peninsula to the left and Northern Morocco to the right. See Real's editorial in this issue of *Frontiers of Biogeography* (10.3-4, [e41756](#)) for an overview of the biogeographical significance of this width strait. Picture by NASA, available at [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:STS059-238-074\\_Strait\\_of\\_Gibraltar.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:STS059-238-074_Strait_of_Gibraltar.jpg) under a public domain license.