



UNGA 73: Sixth Committee: The Scope and Application of the Principle of Universal Jurisdiction (Agenda item 87)

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I have the honour of speaking today on behalf of Canada and Australia, as well as my own country, New Zealand.

CANZ welcomes the opportunity to once again engage in a dialogue on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction. We thank Member States for their contributions to the Secretary-General's annual report and look forward to a robust discussion in the Working Group during this seventy-third session.

CANZ recognises universal jurisdiction as a well-established principle of international law, which provides a legal basis for States to prosecute and punish the most serious crimes of international concern, regardless of where the conduct occurred and the nationality of the perpetrator.

Universal jurisdiction provides an important mechanism to ensure that the perpetrators of the most serious international crimes do not receive safe haven anywhere in the world. It offers