

26 April 2024

Translated from Arabic

Observations of Qatar concerning General Assembly resolution 78/113 The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction

The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction is an important and sensitive item. It presupposes an absolute belief in the need to achieve the stated or assumed purpose of the item, namely, to develop a viable mechanism for universal justice. However, States continue to raise a number of concerns, which centre on the differences in their domestic legal and legislative systems. As a result, there are divergent views regarding the principle.

It is important to strike a balance between, on the one hand, the progressive development of the principle of universal jurisdiction and, on the other hand, respect for the Charter of the United Nations, including the principle of the sovereign equality of all States Members of the United Nations, not to mention other provisions of international

- Act No. 3 (2004) concerning counter-terrorism, as amended by Act No. 11 (2017)
- Act No. 11 (2004) promulgating the Criminal Code, as amended by Act No. 20 (2020)
- Act No. 23 (2004) promulgating the Code of Criminal Procedure
- Act No. 20 (2019) promulgating the Anti-Money-Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism Act
- Act No. 15 (2011) on combating trafficking in persons.

2. International instruments related to the principle of universal jurisdiction

Qatar has acceded to the following international instruments:

- The 1949 Geneva Conventions
 - Protocol I additional to the Geneva Conventions and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflict
 - Protocol II additional the Geneva Conventions and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts
 - The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
 - The United Nations Convention against Corruption
 - The International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999).
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