

PERMANENT MISSION OF AUSTRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
MISSION PERMANENTE DE L'AUTRICHE AUX NATIONS UNIES

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The Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to Note LA/COD/5 of the General Assembly resolution 68/117 of 16 December 2013 entitled "The principle of universal jurisdiction", has the honor

According to Section 64 of the Austrian Penal Code, Austrian courts have jurisdiction concerning organized crime, besides the already applicable law if certain Austrian interests are affected. Under this provision, Austrian courts are also competent concerning crimes committed outside Austria regardless of locally applicable law if Austria is under an obligation to prosecute under international treaties.

In the last two years the number of crimes listed in Section 64 of the Austrian Penal Code has been increased. This section now also includes crimes of rape, coercion and torture.

According to Section 65 of the Austrian Penal Code, Austrian courts have jurisdiction concerning other crimes committed outside Austria if the perpetrator is caught on Austrian territory and cannot be extradited.

The Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations would like to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 24 April 2014