

*Official translation*

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Response of the Republic of Cuba pursuant to United Nations General Assembly resolution 68/117 entitled " The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction"

The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction is a matter within

The application of the principle of universal jurisdiction should be duly limited by absolute respect for the sovereignty, national jurisdiction and legal systems of States. The application of universal jurisdiction should be supplementary to the actions and national jurisdiction of each State, and under no circumstances should preference be given to universal jurisdiction over national jurisdiction. The application of universal jurisdiction should be limited to exceptional situations and to circumstances in which there is no other way to prevent impunity.

In addition, the scope of the principle of universal jurisdiction cannot be so far-reaching as to undermine the immunity granted under international law to Heads of State and/or Government, diplomatic personnel and other high-ranking officials. The immunity attached to those offices must not be called into question.

Universal jurisdiction cannot be used as a pretext to disparage and discredit the integrity, values and legality of different legal systems. The principle of universal jurisdiction should not be applied in order to diminish