

**Contribution from the International Maritime Organization (IMO)
to the Secretary General's report
on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction**

The Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, 1988, the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, and the 2005 Protocols to those instruments, contain an element or building block of universal jurisdiction to the extent they allow for the prosecution by any State Party of an alleged offender on the basis of his or her presence in the territory of that State Party regardless of the lack of any other connection to the offence.

Article 6 of the 1988 Convention reads as follows: *“Each State Party shall take such measures as may be necessary to establish its jurisdiction over the offences set forth in articles 3 in cases where the alleged offender is present in its territory and it does not extradite him to any of the States Parties which have established their jurisdiction in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article.”*

As of 16 April 2014:

- 164 States are Parties to the 1988 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation;
- the 2005 Protocol to the 1988 Convention entered into force on 28 July 2010 and 30 States are Parties to it;
- 151 States are Parties to the 1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf; and
- the 2005 Protocol to the 1988 Protocol entered into force on 28 July 2010 and 26 States are Parties to it.