

Statement by  
H.E. Mr. Abbas Bagherpour Ardekani  
Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
Before  
The Sixth Committee of the  
72<sup>st</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly  
On:

"The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction"

(Agenda Item 85)

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*In the Name of God the Compassionate the Merciful*

in the world to prosecute such crimes, whoever their authors and victims and irrespective of the place where the offender is to be found. Moreover, the president Guillaume as well as majority of judges indicated that universal jurisdiction *in absentia* is unknown to international conventional

law.

Furthermore, whatever the source of universal jurisdiction, what remains to be of concern is its selective application which can prejudice such cardinal principles of international law as equal

**Mr. Chairman,**

In Iran, there is legislative source for universal jurisdiction. Under article 9 of the new Iranian Penal Code "Perpetrators of crimes who are prosecuted, under a special law or international treaties, in any country in which they are found, shall be prosecuted and punished in accordance with the criminal laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran if such perpetrators are found in Iran." Under this